



MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST. COLUMBAN

Sharing Gospel Joy



Travel to China with Columbans

100 years on...

October 8 - 19, 2018

Itinerary

*Missionary Society of St Columban in co-operation with
Sino-Immersion Pty Ltd.*





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Day 1 Monday October 8, 2018

Australia to Hong Kong

Pilgrims will be accompanied throughout their journey by Sino-Immersion staff. At Hong Kong Airport pilgrims will take the Airport Express to Kowloon Station and then transfer to their hotel in Kowloon.

Meals included on plane.

Day 2 Tuesday October 9, 2018

Hong Kong

Today is a free day around Hong Kong. There is also an optional extra cultural tour to Macau. We catch a jetcat and then visit the Church of St Paul's and its shrine to the martyrs of Japan and Vietnam, St Dominic's Church and Museum of Religious Art, the Old Protestant Cemetery and the Museum of Macau. Lunch will be at a restaurant that specializes in Macanese food and afternoon tea will be espressos and Portuguese tarts. We return to Hong Kong in the evening.

Breakfast included and is at the hotel.

Other meals are at one's own discretion.

Day 3 Wednesday October 10, 2018

Hong Kong

This day is spent visiting the Columban General Offices and hearing about various ministries sponsored by the Columbans, both within China and in Hong Kong. Mass will also be celebrated. *(Organisation of the activities of this day is to be co-ordinated by Janette's team; Sino-Immersion will assist with the logistics).*

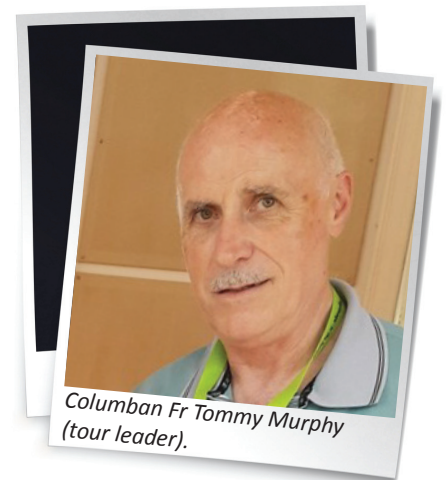
Breakfast and lunch included. *Breakfast at the hotel, lunch is organized through the Columban Office, but Sino-Immersion will pay the Office at \$35 per head. Dinner is at one's own discretion.*

Day 4 Thursday October 11, 2018

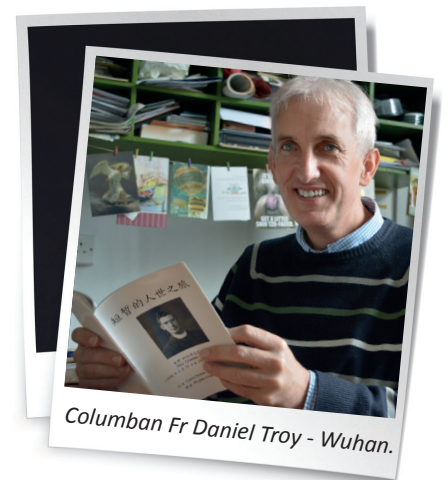
Hong Kong to Wuhan

Catch the 11:30 am plane from Hong Kong to Wuhan. We check out at 9:00 am and then are taken by bus from the hotel to the airport in time for the plane. We then have a bus that transfers us to our hotel in Wuhan. We subsequently have time in the afternoon to engage in some activities around the old Hankou, Hanyang/Wuchang districts. This includes seeing the Yangtze.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. *Breakfast is at the hotel in Hong Kong, lunch is on the plane and dinner is in a local restaurant near our hotel.*



Columban Fr Tommy Murphy
(tour leader).



Columban Fr Daniel Troy - Wuhan.



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Day 5 Friday October 12, 2018

Wuhan

This is a full day exploring the historical sites and visiting modern works. Columban Fr Dan Troy will accompany us on this day and be the local guide. We will also visit a group of religious women whose congregational history goes back to Bishop Galvin. Mass will also be celebrated. Depending on the timetable we will have a bus for our use or will use the excellent metro system.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. Breakfast is at the hotel.

Day 6 Saturday October 13, 2018

Wuhan - Xiantao for day

We have a full day of exploring rural China today, escorted by our own bus and by Columban Fr Dan Troy who will liaise with members of the local church, including hopefully Fr Joseph Li, who studied in Ireland for four years. The main part of our day will be visiting a rural area of Hanyang Diocese. This is where several Columbans lived between 1920 and 1953. They were exposed to the rural life and the life of the church in this area. We most likely will be able to attend a Saturday vigil mass in Xiantao at one of the smaller churches.

After our bus returns us to Wuhan, there is free time for wandering around the banks of the Yangtze and the old parts of the three towns that straddle the mighty river.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. Breakfast will be at the hotel in Wuhan and then meals will be in local establishments.



Columban Bishop Edward Galvin in China.



Columban Bishop Edward Galvin and Fr Frank McDonald with the native sisterhood, founded by Bishop Galvin - Suwan, Hanyang 1933.



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Day 7 Sunday October 14, 2018

Wuhan to Nanfeng

Ideally, we will join a local parish for early morning Sunday mass somewhere in Wuhan before we take a 10:50 am train to Nancheng. It is a three and a half hour trip. We then have our own bus waiting at the station which will allow us to see parts of Nancheng, including the cathedral before taking us on to Nanfeng. We will visit areas of local interest, including the churches of former Columban parishes. We will also pray at the grave of Fr Tim Leonard (d.1929), the first Columban martyr and the grave of Fr Jeremiah Buttimer (d. 1948).

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. *Breakfast is at our hotel in Wuhan, lunch is on the train and then dinner is at Nanfeng.*

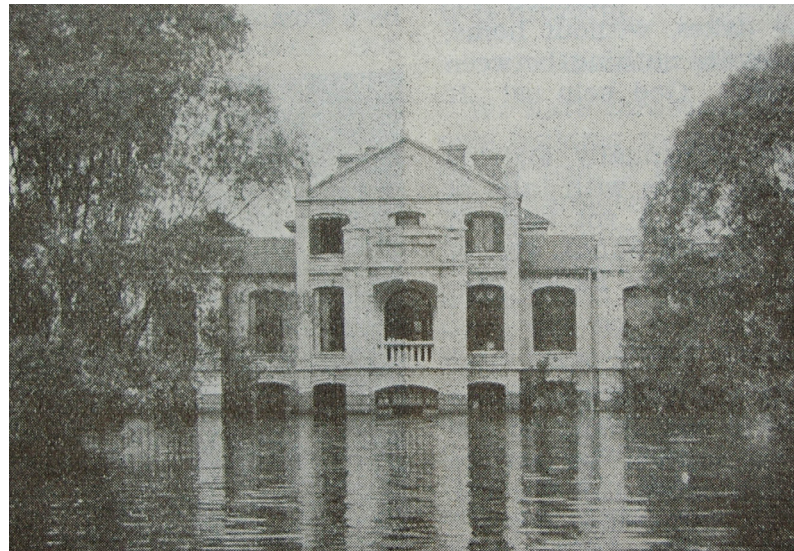
Day 8 Monday October 15, 2018

Nanfeng to Shanghai

We have some time in the morning around Nanfeng and can visit Catholic sites. Later our bus takes us for two hours to Nanchang airport for an afternoon plane to Shanghai (*leaving 2:30 pm arriving 4:10pm*).

We then will have a bus take us in to our hotel, and in the evening will have a chance to take a river cruise, wander the Bund and the Nanjing Road Pedestrian precinct, finishing with a nightcap at one of the rooftop bars flanking the river. The buildings we walk past include buildings that Bishop Galvin and the other missionaries gazed at from their boats on the river.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included.



In 1931 the Yangtze River flooded leaving more than 40 million people homeless.

Day 9 Tuesday, October 16

Shanghai to Beijing

We have the chance to join a local parish community in worship at St Joseph's Church, in the old French Concession. Pilgrims can then wander through the streets of the old Chinese City before we are taken to one of Shanghai's high speed train stations for our train to Beijing. This journey takes four and a half hours, and as we traverse the northern plains we also cross two of China's great rivers, the Yangtze and the Yellow River.



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A bus will take us to our hotel, and then after people have settled in we will venture into Beijing for a banquet of Beijing Duck and visit the St Joseph's Church along the main shopping street, Wangfujing.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included. *Breakfast at Shanghai, lunch on the train and then a Beijing duck dinner.*

Day 10 Wednesday October 17, 2018

Beijing

Early morning mass in Beijing, for those who are up to it. Then our own bus takes us to the Mutianyu section of the Great Wall (*which has the option of a cable car*), and then in the afternoon to the Temple of Heaven. There will be free time in the afternoon and then we will venture out later for a hotpot dinner and for strolling down the hutongs (*Beijing laneways*) near the Drum and Bell Tower districts.

It is possible for there to be some input from one of our speakers on Columban works in China as we make our way to/from the Wall (*about one and a half hours*).

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included.

Day 11 Thursday October 18, 2018

Beijing

For the adventurous and energetic we will attend the dawn flag raising, then after breakfast walk to St Michael's Church, Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City. After lunch, next to Jingshan Park, we will take a hutong alley tour. Optional later afternoon tour to the Ancient Observatory where Jesuit missionaries worked in the seventeenth century and a visit to the markets at Silk Alley.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included.

DAY 12 Friday October 19, 2018

Beijing

Morning mass for those up early enough then to the Stone Carving Art Museum, which has a collection of famous missionary tombstones of members of the Society of Jesus and the Vincentians. Afterwards we will visit the South Church, built on the site of the first Church built in Beijing by Matteo Ricci, followed by a dumpling lunch.

Free time in the afternoon and early evening (*depending on plane departure time*).

Breakfast and lunch included.

Dinner is to be at people's own discretion.

A bus will transfer everyone to the airport.



Beijing supper.

Photo: Sino-Immersion Pty Ltd



Tiananmen Square.

Photo: Sino-Immersion Pty Ltd



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Costings

The approximate cost will be:

14 pilgrims \$6,999 Twin Share

20 pilgrims \$6,599 Twin Share

30 pilgrims \$6,199 Twin Share

Single Supplement \$700

Inclusions

- International economy airfare, Australia-Hong Kong, Beijing-Australia.
- All transfers from hotels to airports and train stations (*only for Sino-Immersion organized flights and journeys*).
- Domestic flights (Hong Kong to Wuhan and Nanchang to Beijing) and two long distance fast speed trains.
- All accommodation in at least 3.5 star hotels, in locations central to our activities and close to cultural sites.
- All meals, except where stated otherwise in the itinerary.
- Full-time accompaniment during the whole pilgrimage by Mandarin speaking Dr Jeremy Clarke, Director of Sino-Immersion Pty Ltd and an expert in Chinese Catholic history. If the group is more than 20 pilgrims Sino-Immersion will also bring along another Mandarin speaking staff member.
- Hosted by Columban Fr Tommy Murphy. Irish Born, Fr Tommy Murphy, previous Columban Superior General, is a scholar in Celtic Spirituality (out of which St Columban came). Fr Tommy spent many years in Korea and later in China. In 2010 he led 36 young Columbans on a three week pilgrimage following in the footsteps of our patron, St Columban. Columban Fr Tommy Murphy is currently the Vice-Co-ordinator of The China Mission Unit.
- Local bi-lingual tour guides in the various cities.
- All entry tickets to activities, cultural sites and locations specified in the itinerary, as for instance the Great Wall, Forbidden City and Temple of Heaven.
- Private tour coaches reserved for our exclusive use.
- All tipping and gratuities in hotels, restaurants and other locations.

Exclusions

- Meals not included in the itinerary, and snacks and drinks in-between meal times.
- Alcohol.
- Visa application fees.
- Travel insurance (*all travellers must purchase insurance prior to travel*).
- Personal expenditure incurred during the pilgrimage, such as laundry fees, mini bar items.
- Souvenirs and personal purchases.
- Any items not listed in the inclusions.



Columban Bishop Edward Galvin in China.



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IMMERSIONS

入乡随俗

