

Rev. Fr. Pfuti was our Guest Speaker at our 13th General Meeting on January 21, 2020. Fr. Pfuti is the parish priest of The Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tai Po. He spoke to us on “My Personal Vocation and Promotion of Priestly Vocation.”

[Download here for a summary of the talk]

The guest speaker Rev. Fr. Pfuti was briefly introduced by Serran Derek. He is originally from Congo, Africa. He spoke on “My Personal Vocation and Promotion of Priestly Vocation”.

(A) Personal Vocation

Rev. Fr. Pfuti came from BOMA, Congo. He was an altar server at his own parish church and wished to become a priest with encouragement from both parents. He joined the Minor Seminary where he received his secondary school education. His class has 40 minor seminarians with 10 finishing the training and 2 finally ordained as priests.

CICM (The Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary) was founded in Belgium in 1862 by Fr. Theophiel Verbist, a priest of the Archdiocese of Mechelen – Brussel. He committed himself totally to the ideal of “preaching the faith to the Chinese people”. On 25th August 1865, after CICM had accepted the mission of Inner Mongolia, he and his companions left Belgium for China. He passed away 3 years later in China. However, CICM and its mission continued, and eventually some 680 CICM missionaries would serve in Mainland China, next to another 70 who were sent directly to Hong Kong and Taiwan. On 1st January 2011 CICM counted 892 members in 21 countries all over the world.

Rev. Fr. Pfuti studied Theology in Cameroon and was scheduled to be sent to serve in the U.S.A. However, after the 911 incident in the U.S.A., he was re-scheduled for Hong Kong. He learned English in the Philippines Islands and then learned Chinese in Hong Kong. He was ordained a deacon in Hong Kong by Bishop Joseph Zen (before he became a Cardinal) and was ordained a priest in his home parish in Congo.

(B) Promotion of Priestly Vocations

Rev. Fr. Pfuti found the following precepts in life that he deemed essential for a priest:-

(i) Prayer and the Bible

“O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes (Psalm 119:05). A priest must always study the Bible to know God better.

(ii) Time Management and Change in Life

Time management is important in life. A person may be rich or poor, has good health or poor health – but every person has 24 hours in a day. With time, everyone is equal.

A person grows and changes from day to day. We cannot control “growth”, but we can control the “changes” in us. One must prepare for growth and change and cannot waste time. See Book of Job 14: 4-6.

(iii) Forgive

God always forgives us and so we must also forgive others. If someone has done you a wrong and you always remember it – it will

only do you harm. Learn to accept what has happened and forget and forgive. The one who benefits from this is yourself. This is especially true if we live in a community.

(iv) Tolerance: Patience

What cannot be changed must be tolerated with Patience. This is how a person grows and matures and learns to be wise.

This interesting talk was followed by sharing from Serrans Michael Lau, Francisca Lo and Albert Li.