

200
Birth Anniversary
1823-2023
Theophile Verbist

Braving the Red Sea

On Commemoration of the 200 anniversary of the birth of CICM founder
Father Theophile Verbist, cism (1823 – 1868)

2023 Symposium
(Chinese-English simultaneous translation)

Nov. 11, 2023 (Saturday) | St. Paul Hall, Academia Catholica (DG410)

This year the Verbiest Foundation Leuven (VF) joins CICM in commemorating the 200th anniversary of its Founder Theophile Verbist, a diocesan priest of Malines Archdiocese, Belgium.

We remember how, some 160 years ago, Theophile Verbist founded CICM as a congregation for missionaries to go to China. Inspired by the founder's spirituality, almost a thousand priests and brothers continue his work all around the world.

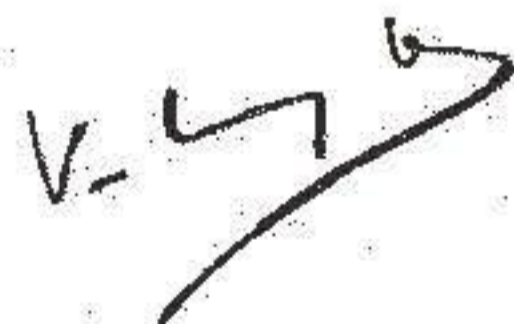
Verbiest Foundation is happy that Fr. Charles Phukuta, who is Superior General of the congregation of CICM, is also vice-chairman of Verbiest Foundation. Unfortunately Fr. Phukuta cannot be present at the conference, two delegates from the Verbiest Foundation board will be present: Dr. Hugo Vanheeswijck, General Secretary of VF, and Ms. Elisa Weng, General Treasurer. If Fr. Jeroom Heyndrickx's health allows, he will be happy to join them to attend the conference and to introduce our new VF Team to our friends in Taiwan.

Verbiest Foundation Leuven recently published, at the request of CICM, a book on the life of Founder Theophile Verbist. During this conference, the life story of Theophile Verbist, the difficult task that fell upon the first cism fathers after his death, and the founder's spirituality are further discussed.

The versatility of the members of the congregation is further put into picture by lectures on how the Beijing Verbist Academy was instrumental in developing academic research, by a report on the initial development of the congregation in Taiwan, and by an insight in how the cism fathers made use of Church music in their evangelization work.

We invite you to get to know the beautiful and sometimes dramatic story of CICM in China throughout an exhibition of old and new pictures on 18 panels, prepared by Verbiest Foundation, which will be put on display during the session.

Dr. Hugo Vanheeswijck



General Secretary Ferdinand Verbiest Foundation

Prof. John Selvamani



Dean, Fu Jen Academia Catholica, FJCU

Organizer : Ferdinand Verbiest Foundation Leuven, Fu Jen Academia Catholica, Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (CICM) Asia Province Sino-Mongol District (SM)

Co-organizer : Chinese Ferdinand Verbiest Cultural Exchange Association, Friends of Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (FOC)



Symposium schedule

Time : Nov. 11, 2023 (Saturday)

Venue : St. Paul Hall, Academia Catholica (DG410)

9:00-9:30	Registration
9:30-9:45	Opening Ceremony
9:45-10:30 Keynote Speech	Speaker : Fr. Andre De Bleeker, CICM (General Archivist of the CICM Congregation in Rome) Topic : Theophile Verbist: His life and Missionary Vision
10:30-10:45	Tea Break
10:45-11:15 Lecture I	Speaker : Fr. Patrick Taveirne, CICM (The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Department of History Adjunct Associate Professor) Topic : The CICM “risorgimento” after Verbist 's demise - the contribution of Frs. J. VanAertselaer & J. Rutten.
11:15-11:45 Lecture II	Speaker : Fr. Frans De Ridder, CICM (Parish Priest at Wan Ta Rd. Holy Rosary Church) Topic : A country with a missionary culture will produce missionaries
11:45-12:05	Q&A
12:05-13:30	Group photo and Lunch
13:30-14:00 Lecture III	Speaker : Dr. Wong Yee Ying Bibiana (Postdoctoral research fellow, Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica) Topic : Beijing Verbist Academy: A Blueprint for the CICM’s Cultural Apostolate
14:00-14:30 Lecture IV	Speaker : Prof. Chen Fangzhong (Department of History Professor and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, Fu Jen Catholic University) Topic : Fr. Ivo Stuyck: The Financial Helmsman of the CICM in Taiwan.
14:30-15:00 Lecture V	Speaker : Prof. Li-Xing Hong (Associate Research Fellow, Academia Catholica, Fu Jen Catholic University) Topic : The Contribution to Sacred Music of Scheut Missionaries in China.
15:00-15:20	Q&A
15:20-15:30	Tea Break
15:30-16:00	Time for open discussion and sharing of conclusions
16:00	Closing ceremony

How to register:

Pre-registration will be accepted from now on, according to the registration order, until seating capacity completed.

Website : <http://www.verbiestfoundation.org> (Verbiest Foundation)

Email : vftaipei@seed.net.tw



For online registration, please scan QR-Code



For more details please scan the QR-Code