聖神修女會在基隆港的福傳 SSpS Mission in the harbor city Keelung



1964 年 8 月 12 日張茂貞修女和彭志義修女抵達 基隆市,開始我們在此港的傳教工作。同年 9 月 2 日 孫炳善修女也加入了此陣營。是新竹的一位本堂神 父,錢志純神父,向基隆聖心堂的姚宗鑑本堂神父推 薦本會修女,而長上也認為這與我們的福傳使命很配 合,新葡萄園就此揭幕。

三位修女很快地忙於這大本堂的服務 - 拜訪家庭、組織婦女聚會、與教友一起祈禱、開慕道班等等。不久已有一些人願意準備領洗。當時的街道又窄又長,山坡路崎嶇不平,頻繁的雨水使路況更糟;但天主降福修女們的努力奉獻,本堂教務不斷成長。

孫炳善修女是一位護士,開始在聖物室一角落為身體不適者服務。消息傳開,幾星期後病人增加,因為他們信任修女。對貧窮的病患,孫修女更以愛和慷慨待之。後來得到 Miserior 的捐助,終於有一間獨立的小診所。

孫修女之後,有呂薇修女、安志平修女和吳麗芝修女先後在診所服務過。甚至曾向菲律賓省會借用 Sr. Renata 半年,為使診所的服務不因缺乏護士而中斷。不過,因著政府對國民健康的照顧有所改善,且依法需有一位專任醫生看診,使得診所失去了它的重要意義,最後決定關閉診所。

聖心堂有附設幼稚園,1965年也開辦小學,幾年 後又成立高職。在本堂、學校辦公室、教室、輔導 室、青年會中總可看到修女的臨在。

本會由不同的修女在這園地不辭辛勞地服務了將 近四十年。很遺憾,由於修女已過退休年齡,修會又 人手不足,乃於 2001 年秋天忍痛離開這開花結果的葡 萄園。 Our mission in Keelung began with the arrival of Sr. Isentraud Mock and Sr. Imanuele Purschke on August 12, 1964. They were joined by Sr. Sponsata Riesselmann on September 2.

Fr. Andreas Tsien, parish priest in Hsinchu, had recommended our sisters to Fr. John Yao, parish priest of the Sacred Heart Parish in Keelung. Realizing, that this could be a suitable activity for our sisters, the superiors gave the permission.

The three sisters soon got busy in the vast parish. They visited the families, gathered the women, prayed with them and gave religious instruction. Soon there were also groups of catechumens whom the sisters prepared for baptism. The roads were long and in poor condition, made worse by frequent rainfalls, but God blessed the dedicated efforts of the sisters and the Church grew.

Sr. Sponsata, the nurse, began her service in one corner of the sacristy. After some weeks, the news had spread that the Catholic Church was treating the sick. The number of patients increased. They trusted the sister. The poor also came and experienced her love and generosity. Later, with the help of Miserior, a separate dispensary could be built.

After Sr. Sponsata, Sr. Marianeldis, Sr. Lawrence, Sr. Gratias Maria and Sr. Edmara worked as nurses in Keelung. For half a year, even another sister, Sr. Renata, was borrowed from the Philippines, so that the important work in the dispensary was not interrupted. Later, however, with the improvement of the health care in the country and the need to have a doctor present all the time, the dispensary lost its significance and was finally closed.

Attached to the Sacred Heart Parish was a kindergarten. In 1965 the elementary school was opened and some years later also a vocational school. Different sisters were missioned to Keelung at different times, serving in the parish, in administration, in teaching, guidance, youth work.

For almost forty years the sisters worked untiringly in this vast mission. But then, because of fewer sisters and more of them reaching retirement age the work could no longer be continued. The last sisters left Keelung in autumn 2001.