

Exercising their Zeal

A request for Sisters to take charge of a hospital in China led to six Sisters being chosen to go to Wuchang, a city 600 miles up the Yangtze River from Shanghai. Their work came to include conducting St. Joseph Hospital, care for the aged, operating an orphanage, a school, a training school for nurses, and a dispensary. In 1934 the Community opened a novitiate to receive Chinese women who wished to become Sisters of Charity. The Sisters ministered through World War II and the Civil War, but withdrew from China in 1949 in the wake of the Communist takeover.



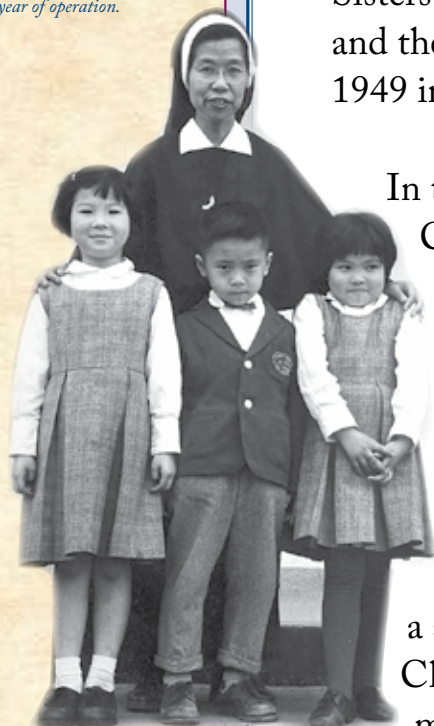
Sister Paul Vincent Lio was among the Sisters who cared for orphans in China.



The Asistencia Social clinic on the altiplano in Huancane, directed by Sister Mary Martin Morand, treated over 4,400 patients and vaccinated 400 infants in its first year of operation.



The compound at St. Joseph Hospital provided a number of services to the people in Wuchang.



Sister Mary Gerard Cheng taught at Colegio Juan XXIII in Lima.

In the post World War II period the Community accepted an invitation from Monsignor Dominico Tardini to staff Villa Nazareth, Rome, whose goal was to train gifted orphan boys as future Christian leaders. In 1961 the Community responded to the urging of Pope John XXIII to send Sisters to Latin America. Sisters opened a school in Lima, Peru, for Chinese students and a medical clinic and school to train catechists on the Peruvian altiplano.



The Sisters and boys from Villa Nazareth enjoyed private audiences with Pope Pius XII.

Villa Nazareth, located on a 15-acre plot with attractive flower gardens and beautiful lawns, resembled a country estate.

