

# EV Express

April 2013

## An Interview with Wang, Xiu Rong

Yang

Easter is not only a Holy Day but also a powerful season filled with life that keeps awakening us to a renewed sensibility of our identity of being the disciples of Jesus, our encounters with the Risen Lord and our duty as His loved ones to carry out His command: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Mt 28:18-20)

Yes, good Catholics in the 21st century are responding to the voice of Christ the shepherd. They answer the Church's calling for the New Evangelization. They are on fire with the Gospel and in deep love with the Risen Lord who is "the way, the truth and the life" (Jn 14:6). In this issue we are very happy to introduce such an evangelist among us, Ms. Wang Xiu Rong, a parishioner of our Church of Transfiguration, an enthusiastic participant, worker, supporter, preacher and a passionate Christian writer for evangelization ever since she set foot in America 12 years ago.

She arrived with a purpose: to spread the Good News in this land of wealth and opportunity. She brought with her a strong family tradition of Catholic faith. "I have been greatly influenced by my mom whose love for the Church and ceaseless prayers have built up the rock of my faith," she said.

"My mom was illiterate due to the poverty in her childhood," Ms. Wang explained, "but the good Lord gives her lots of grace through the Church. It is in the church that my mom got access to many faith-based booklets and fliers that she brought home, first to look at, and then to learn to read. Gradually she can read! Mom said to me, "God speaks to me through the words in these booklets.""

Ms. Wang recognized that her mom's vibrant faith is contagious. "My daughter also received spiritual nourishment from my mom and has become firm and clear on the Church teaching. Therefore she calls herself Clarity and she calls me the One Being Sent. She reminds me more than once that for me the purpose to go to America is to spread Gospel, not live an ordinary life," she said.

Conscious and purposeful she started a new life in America, with patience and courage. The picture is not pretty in terms of financial stability: it is hard for her to find a decent job and a safe place to live and to survive. She is constantly in poverty, however, for the church and the church events, she always has money, forever generous and charitable for supporting the church and the elderly clergy. One day she was down to the last nickel and a penny and she knelt down to pray. "Praying is the best gift, the greatest treasure that God gave to me. In praying the Lord dwells in me. I remember what St. Paul once said: when I am weak, I am strong." In her endurance of poverty and hardship, Ms. Wang has acquired the experience of being with the suffering Jesus. "He is truly with me in most difficult and painful times," she said.

Ms. Wang is a hands-on person, efficient, imaginative and ecumenical. She remembers what St. Paul said that for preaching the Gospel, "I am everyone for every body." Ms. Wang is consciously playing different roles in evangelization. Between the younger parishioners and the conservative religious, she is a mediator to promote understanding and cultivate the mutual love. For the candidates in RCIA, she is the mother, sister who welcomes, guides and accompanies in their learning and faith development. Seeing the opportunities to convert venues of social gathering into the centers of evangelization, she becomes the builder and the provider -- she brought copies of the Bible, food and dinner to feed the hungry and nourish the weak. Between the clergy and the parishioners, she is the servant to promote the communion through care and charity. She designed, cut, sewed and embroidered the banners and costumes for parades and evangelization performances, her sense of the colors

and patterns revealing a great hope, joy and happiness distinct of an ardent evangelist.

“Except in heaven, there is no eternal love here among men but plenty of misunderstanding and conflicts. Therefore we have many things to do for the Lord. But the most important thing is that we need to submit ourselves totally to the Lord to let Him in, let Him do His wonderful deeds and exert His glory,” she said.

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She never stops in one place for long, especially if that place is well-established in faith. “I am the one being sent and I have to run. It’s my mission,” she said. She visits the churches in Chinatown and Brooklyn areas frequently and is always on the move: she would come to a church that is newly-found or with fewer parishioners and in need of her help and consultation. “Church is not a picture nor is it a building. Church is real and all the holy portrays in the churches are real. They open our eyes to Christ, Holy Mother, the saints and all the good things. They affect our faith and life,” she said.

Her inexhaustible energy and enthusiasm comes from her deep conviction that “Christ, the living temple of God, Holy Mary and the Holy Spirit come to dwell in my new home in America, in me and my family members in China. The Spirit helps us to cooperate with God’s grace and to proclaim the grace brought by the Incarnated Jesus for our salvation is our duty. Although my ability is limited, my whole person, every cell within me is waiting for His coming and His grace,” she wrote in her diary.

In serving the Lord Ms. Wang experienced a great love of which she gave a passionate definition: “Love is the giving of a whole person -- her soul and deeds -- and her whole life. Love is not regretting, never ceasing and not selfish. Love is in the heart, but sometimes is in the words or in our deeds, or in the gifts we give to express our goodness towards each other. Do you know love? Do you understand how deep is its capacity and how long is its existence? But once you have it, please don’t give it up, because it is a treasure -- it is life. Only when we embrace it can we have enormous energy of love to give to others, and as a woman and a mother, I have been bestowed more.”

## 與王秀容女士傾談的一席話

董楊

復活節不單只是一個神聖的日子，更是一個充滿力量和生命力的季節。它使我們不斷地醒覺更新，回想我們在生活中與復活基督相遇的經驗和喜樂；盡好我們門徒的責任，受耶穌基督派遣的使命：「天上地下的一切權柄都交给了我，所以你們要去使萬民成為門徒，因父及子及聖神之名給他們授洗，教訓他們遵守我所吩咐你們的一切。看！我同你們天天在一起，直到今世的終結。」（瑪 28:18-20）

在現時廿一世紀的生活中，天主教徒正在回應基督善牧的呼喚，他們響應教會為‘新福傳’所作出的召叫。他們熱熾地追隨福音，深愛著復活基督，祂是‘道路、真理及生命’（若 14:6）。在今期月刊中我們很高興為大家介紹在我們當中的福傳者：王秀容女士，她是顯聖容堂的教友、一個熱心的參與者、工作者、支持者、傳道員和一個對福傳充滿熱忱的作家自從她十二年前踏足美國開始。

王女士來美的目的是希望在這個富庶和充滿機會的國家中傳播天主的喜訊。她擁有一個很強家庭傳統的天主教信仰，她說：「我的信仰深受母親的影響，她深愛著教會和她永不間斷的祈禱是我信仰的基石。」

王女士說：「我母親因小時貧窮，所以並沒有接受教育。但天主透過教會賜給她很多的恩寵，她從教會中得到很多小冊子和傳單，因而開始認字，久而久之她能夠閱讀！她對我說：『天主透過這些小冊子向我說話。』」

王女士確認她母親鮮明的信仰是很有感染力的：「我的女兒也受到我母親靈性上的滋養，她對教會的訓導變得更清晰和穩固。她自稱為‘透徹’而稱我為‘被派遣者’，我的女兒不只一次地提醒我到美國不是為過舒適的生活，而是去傳播福音。」

王女士終於懷著忍耐和勇氣來到美國，過著新的生活。她的家庭財政狀況並不穩定，她找不到好的工作和理想而安全的居所，過著貧困的生活。但是她對於教會和教會的活動就永遠的保持慷慨和支持，尤其照顧和幫助年長的神職人員。有一天她用盡了一角一毛跪下來祈禱。她說：「祈禱是天主給她最寶貴的寶藏，在祈禱中天主居住在我內。聖保祿曾經說：當我軟弱時，我是最強的。」就在這貧窮和困苦期間，王女士體驗



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到基督的苦難。她說：「在我最困難和痛苦的時候，祂真的陪伴著我。」

王女士是一個凡事親力親為、有效率、富幻想力和完全信賴天主的教徒。她緊記聖保祿對傳授福音時的態度：『我卻使自己成了眾人的奴僕，為贏得更多的人。』（格前 9:19），她在福傳中也扮演著不同的角色。在年輕教友和保守教友中，她是調解者，提倡互相了解和建立互愛的基礎。對慕道者來說，她是他們的母親或姊妹，時常歡迎他們、指導他們學習道理和陪伴他們在信仰上的成長。她看見機會可以把不同社區聯繫起來作福傳的中心，她變成建立者和供應者；購賣聖經和食物給飢餓的人和 support 軟弱者。在神職人員和教友之間，她提倡透過照顧和慈善去建立溝通。她為遊行和福傳活動設計、剪裁、縫製各式各樣的標語和服飾，她對色彩和圖案的敏銳顯現出熱切福傳者的希望、喜樂和歡欣。

王女士說：「除了在天堂中，我們在人類中找不到永恆的愛，只有找到誤解和衝突。最重要的是把我們全部交給天主，讓祂進入我們的生命中，去完成祂的計劃和彰顯祂的光榮。」

王女士永不在同一地方停留太長，尤其是信仰已經在那地方成長和建立起來。她說：

「我是被派遣者，我要為我的使命奔走。」她時常走訪華埠和布祿崙區的聖堂，她會去新成立、少教友和需要她幫助的聖堂。她說：「聖堂不是一幅相片或一座建築物，聖堂和聖相都是真實的，它打開我們的心目，使我們看到基督、聖母、聖人和各美好的事物。它直接影響我們的信仰和生活。」

王女士的無窮精力和熱忱來自她的信念：「天主是活的聖殿，聖母和聖神都降臨於我美國的新居，充滿我和女兒身上，幫助我們與祂的恩寵合作，一日復一日地向世界宣揚耶穌基督降生成人，拯救我們的大恩大德。雖然我沒有什麼的才能，但我的行為和身體的每個細胞都時刻等待著和渴望著祂的恩寵。」

在服務天主當中，王女士體會到天主的大愛：「愛是一生心靈和實踐的付出。愛不可反悔，不可停止，也不自私。愛是在心頭的，有時在我們的言語和行動中，亦在我們出於真心真意的禮物中。你知道什麼是愛嗎？了解愛有多深多長和多久嗎？一旦你擁有它，不要遺棄它，因為愛是寶貴的，愛是生命，有用不完的力量。作為一個女人和媽媽，我體會和得到的更多！」



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