

## Prayer to Our Lady of Sheshan – Benedict XVI

Virgin Most Holy, Mother of the Incarnate Word and our Mother, venerated in the Shrine of Sheshan under the title "Help of Christians", the entire Church in China looks to you with devout affection. We come before you today to implore your protection.

Look upon the People of God and, with a mother's care, guide them along the paths of truth and love, so that they may always be a leaven of harmonious coexistence among all citizens.

When you obediently said "yes" in the house of Nazareth, you allowed God's eternal Son to take flesh in your virginal womb and thus to begin in history the work of our redemption.

You willingly and generously cooperated in that work, allowing the sword of pain to pierce your soul, until the supreme hour of the Cross, when you kept watch on Calvary, standing beside your Son, who died that we might live.

From that moment, you became, in a new way, the Mother of all those who receive your Son Jesus in faith and choose to follow in his footsteps by taking up his Cross.

Mother of hope, in the darkness of Holy Saturday you journeyed with unflinching trust towards the dawn of Easter. Grant that your children may discern at all times, even those that are darkest, the signs of God's loving presence.

Our Lady of Sheshan, sustain all those in China, who, amid their daily trials, continue to believe, to hope, to love. May they never be afraid to speak of Jesus to the world, and of the world to Jesus.

In the statue overlooking the Shrine you lift your Son on high, offering him to the world with open arms in a gesture of love. Help Catholics always to be credible witnesses to this love, ever clinging to the rock of Peter on which the Church is built.

Mother of China and all Asia, pray for us, now and forever. Amen!

## 教宗本篤十六世親撰《向佘山聖母誦》

至聖童貞瑪利亞，降生聖言之母，又是我們的母親，您在佘山聖殿被尊稱為「進教之佑」，整個在中國的教會滿懷熱愛瞻仰您，今天我們投奔您台前，求您護佑。

請垂顧這天主子民，並以母親的關懷帶領他們，走上真理與仁愛的道路，使他們在任何境況下，都能成為促進全體人民和諧共處的酵素。

您在納匝肋順從主旨，說了「是」，讓永生天主子在您貞潔的母胎中取得肉軀，使救贖工程從此在歷史中展開。

您又懇摯地奉獻自己協助這工程，讓痛苦的利刃刺透您的心靈，直到最後的重要時刻，在加爾瓦略山上，十字架下，當您聖子犧牲自己，使世人獲得生命時，您佇立在祂身旁。

從那時開始，為一切在信仰中追隨您聖子耶穌，並跟著祂背起十字架的人，您以一種嶄新的形式，成了他們的母親。

希望之母，您在聖週六的黑暗中，仍懷著堅定不移的信心，迎接復活節的黎明，請將這分辨的能力賞給您的子女，使他們在任何處境中，即使是最黑暗的時刻，仍能見到天主親臨的標記。

佘山聖母，請援助那些在日常勞苦中，仍繼續相信、希望、和實踐愛德的中國教友，使他們永不懼怕向世界宣講耶穌，並在耶穌跟前為世界祈禱。

您以塑像的形態，矗立於佘山聖殿頂，高舉張開雙臂的聖子，向世界展示祂對世人的深愛。請幫助天主教友常作這大愛的可信見證人，並使他們與教會的磐石伯多祿結合在一起。

中國之母，亞洲之母，現在直到永遠，請常為我們祈求。  
亞孟。