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ASIA/CHINA - 25 years of priesthood for some of the first priests ordained after the Cultural Revolution

Zhi Zhou (Agenzia Fides) - More than 4000 faithful of Shaan Xi Province in mainland China took part in the solemn celebration for the 25th anniversary of priesthood of 8 priests of the Diocese of Zhou Zhi. The celebration was an intense moment of thanksgiving to the Lord and a strong reminder of the importance of vocational education and evangelization. The 8 priests who celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary were in fact among the first to be ordained after the Cultural Revolution, at the time of the reopening of the government of the Church, in the 80s.
According to information sent to Fides Agency, over fifty priests concelebrated, and fifty nuns were also present, from different Chinese congregations (Sacred Heart, Sacred Heart of Our Lady of China, the Congregation of Our Lady). The Bishop who presided the Mass during the homily recalled the vocational path of the priests, highlighting the "historic moment" of their ordination, which took place at a time when the Church in China, was devoid of human and spiritual resources. With their ordination, these 8 priests have thus become vital force for the life of the local Church. The 8 priests renewed their commitment to continue to carry out their pastoral ministry with even more dedication. (NZ) (Agenzia Fides 28/01/2014)

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