Celebrating 100 Years with Sr. Angelia Ying, SSS



The first Chinese to join the Sisters of Social Service through their branch in Shanghai, Sister Angelia Ying is well known for her energy in arranging outings—a day, long weekend, or trip abroad to Canada or Europe—for the seniors at Taipei's Cedar Center. The trips reflect her own delight in travel and her understanding of the need for companionship of seniors whose children and grandchildren now live far from home.

The daughter of parents who, with their own siblings and parents, were converted to Catholicism by French Vincentian missionaries in Beijing at the turn of the century, Sister Angelia grew up in a large, well-known family: born in 1924, she is the ninth of 12 children. Her parents, aunts, and uncles were active parish members, and several in her family had traveled or lived abroad. In 1947, a family friend told the young woman about a recently arrived group of sisters that had begun to do social work in Shanghai shortly after the end of World War II. Her parents had no qualms about permitting their daughter to make the difficult trip to meet the sisters in a faraway city and then join them in an even more distant country.



Sister Angelia completed her novitiate and early work with Chinese and other populations in California, and in 1963, returned to Taipei with five sisters to re-establish the China Foundation in Taiwan. Since then, she has served as parish sister, directed the Social Services department at Cardinal Tien Memorial Hospital, and established Cedar Center for Seniors under the auspices of the Sisters of Social Service.



Today, Sister Angelia flourishes as a member of the SSS community in Taiwan, along with Sisters Bernadette Chen and Theresa Tsao. She continues to enjoy her 100th lunar birthday events with many family, friends, and visitors.