

## Word from the Leadership Team

*“We view leadership as «a commitment to serve»”  
(SVD General Chapter, 2012 CD 32)*

Dear Confreres,

In some provinces/regions and missions in the Society, for the triennia 2013-2016 and 2014-2017, new superiors and councilors are assuming their role of leadership for the first time. Roughly about 56% are now taking these leadership roles in the 46 provinces, 9 regions including Zambia and 4 missions for the first time. They are commissioned, along with the other superiors and councilors, with the noble task to interact, dialogue and collaborate with the 6,000 SVD members working in 76 countries.

As we thank the outgoing leaders for their years of service, we welcome and gather the new leaders for an introductory workshop in Nemi from June 22 to July 5, 2014. During the workshop our new leaders from around the world will have a chance to get to know each other and exchange ideas and plans. As in previous years, the new leaders will be introduced to the basic administrative guidelines of our congregation as spelled out in the SVD Constitutions, the Handbook for Superiors and various Chapter Documents.

According to the Handbook for Superiors, our leaders have three basic tasks: Animators, Coordinators and Administrators. For them to carry these tasks truthfully and responsibly there is the need to share responsibility, to maintain credibility and to have an open vision and clarity for the future. It is interesting to note that as leaders we mostly make plans for confreres we already have. Arnold Janssen

would include in his planning even confreres he did not yet have.

As leaders themselves, Saints Arnold Janssen and Joseph Freinademetz, by their examples, have shown how challenging the task of leadership can be.

Arnold Janssen (1837-1909) thus counsels Joseph Freinademetz (1852-1908) to “... *often give retreats and recollections. I give them as frequently as I can in order to form the priests, brothers and students... The most important task of a superior is the good formation of his confreres.*” (1885)



For Arnold Janssen good planning was very important as he emphasizes that “*God does not perform miracles where it is not necessary ...*” Janssen would follow clear principles, always asking at the end the

question “*Is the honor of God and the salvation of humankind the sole guiding principle for all we do?*” (Josef Alt, *Journey of Faith*, Analecta 85, p.1010)

Arnold Janssen knew that a leader cannot do his task alone without relying on teamwork with the councils and lay mission partners. This teamwork will play a decisive role in planning our mission; taking into account our programs, personnel, collaboration with others, infrastructure and finances. He also describes what teamwork really means: “*True love and real trust form the basis of all good teamwork.*”

Taking responsibility and making good use of the little time that God has given us to serve would be a

likely advice of Joseph Freinademetz. At the end of his life (February 1907) he wrote to Theodor Buddenbrock, a young missionary in South Shantung: “*My years are fast declining and moving toward the end with giant steps. This makes one feel deeply sorry for not having put the long series of grace-filled years of one’s life to better use in the vineyard of the Lord; one would at least like to wake up in the eleventh hour and work with full strength as long as the time lasts. Your pious prayers help me.*” (Analecta SVD 36, p. 983)

Good leaders and cohesive teams are important for our religious congregation and yet we know that the future of the congregation does not merely depend on our leaders and their teams, but also on the willingness of all confreres to share their God given talents and to take responsibility for the numerous tasks entrusted to the Society. In the years after Vatican II Bernhard Häring (1912-1998) was proposing a paradigm shift of involvement that is from an “*Ethics of Obedience*” to an “*Ethics of Responsibility.*” Applying an *Ethics of Responsibility* would slightly change the perspective and evoke some basic questions regarding the involvement of our confreres in our provinces/regions/missions and the Society as a whole. How much responsibility does a confrere have? Can he contribute more? Can the Society do more? In some cases confreres can do more; others have taken on too much; and yet some confreres are irresponsible. These confreres are a special responsibility of our new leadership teams. A particular concern would be the lack of openness to assume leadership roles on the part of our confreres. In some provinces/regions/missions quite a number of confreres have requested to have their names withdrawn from the list of potential candidates. Leadership is a special responsibility and each confrere chosen should be ready and willing.

Our new leaders might come with many questions and concerns. How to learn to work together as international/intercultural teams? How to delegate? How to work with the laity? When talking about authority we have to keep in mind that authority and love cannot be separated from each other. This is what many of us surely have learned already from our parents.

In international/intercultural communities, authority can take different forms. **Authority and respect:** meaning you have to earn respect. What matters in this case is your example and the way you live. **Authority and Forgiveness:** meaning an invitation to use authority

to forgive and to animate others to forgive. **Authority and Protection:** that is to use your authority to protect what is weak and to animate others do the same. **Authority and Truth:** meaning to use your authority to speak the truth and to help others rediscover the truth. **Authority and Difference:** that is to use your authority to be different in order to make a difference and to animate others do the same. **Authority, Opposition and Creativity,** meaning where there is no opposition; there is no creativity. **Authority and the Plight of the People we journey with:** which means the people and their needs are an unspoken authority that requires actions in His name.

For many religious the leadership style and example of Pope Francis are especially inspiring and challenging. People in Buenos Aires, when asked: What is that is really new in Pope Francis’ style of leadership? could not really tell. What is new is only his position as supreme pontiff some would say. Bergoglio’s position as the Pope does not change him, he changes the position. Pope Francis’ leadership style could be the first invitation to leaders of religious congregations. The basics of leadership remain the same: simplicity, authenticity, humility, not all knowing, close to God, to his people and close to the truth and trusting in the guidance of God’s Spirit.

For our new SVD leaders the pope might have the same advice as he gave to the new cardinals: “*The cardinalship does not imply promotion,*” he wrote. “*It is neither an honor nor a decoration; it is simply a service that requires you to broaden your gaze and open your hearts.*”

In all of these Jesus remains the model for leadership *par excellence*. He constantly reminds us that leadership “is a commitment to serve.”

In the past months, visiting provinces/regions/missions in many countries has been for us in the Generalate Administration a very positive experience. Our visits have proven this: “The world without religious congregations including the Society of the Divine Word would be much poorer.” This outlook and belief will give the courage and strength to face the challenges ahead.

In ending we ask all our confreres to continuously share their God-given talents generously by taking on responsibility for the numerous tasks entrusted to them. Please continue to keep in your prayers all our confreres in various leadership positions.

*Heinz Kuliike and Leadership Team*



## GENERALATE NEWS

### Workshop New Superiors

The following new(er) Provincials/Regionals and Mission Superiors have been invited to the coming Workshop for New(er) Provincials/Regionals and Mission Superiors to be held in Centro Ad Gentes Nemi on June 21-July 5, 2014.

#### EUROPE:

GER - Huning, Ralf  
 HUN - Burbela, Grzegorz  
 ITA - Girardi, Giancarlo  
 POL - Koppa, Eryk Jan  
 POR - Leite, Antonio Augusto Lopes  
 SWI - Dähler, Stephan

#### PANAM:

ARS - Corral, Jose Luis  
 BRA - Antunes, Jose Cortes dos Reis  
 BRS - Lobo, Roland  
 CAM - Vergara Solis, Luis Antonio  
 CHI - Beltrami, Graziano  
 COL - Cuesta Pino, Emigdio  
 MEX - Beñas, John  
 USS - Papa Kahan, Paulus  
 USW - Sebastian, Soney

#### ASPAC:

AUS - Adler, Henryk  
 JPN - Nagayama Makoto, Petro  
 IDJ - Dawan Jaga, Josef

IDR - Masan Toron, Yosef  
 IDT - Wun, Vincentius  
 INE - Pereira, Ronald Luvis  
 INC - Thirukudumbam, Xavier  
 INH - Antony, Joseph  
 INM - Vattathara, Paul  
 KOR - Kim, Jon Il Benedict  
 PHN - Pati, Emilio  
 PHS - Rocha, Eduardo  
 PNG - Maciolek, Jozef  
 VIE - Tran, Hung Minh Joseph

#### AFRAM:

ANG - Soyepia, Joao Ladeira Antonio  
 BOT - Marciniak, Marek  
 GHA - Angmor, George Clement  
 KEN - Fuchs, Albert  
 MAD - Songcog, Jerry  
 SSD - Naduviledath, Francis Joseph  
 ZAM - Mappoore, Biju George

All the Generalate officials and the four Zonal Coordinators will also participate in the Workshop.

### Pope to the Bishops of Southern Africa

Meeting the bishops from South Africa, Botswana and Swaziland, Pope Francis praised the missionaries who brought the Gospel to southern Africa and the bishops, priests, religious and lay people who keep it

alive in “flourishing parishes, thriving often against very great odds”. He told them: “Catholic bishops and priests must continue to teach men and women how to live moral lives according to the Gospel.”

### Next issue of Arnoldus Nota

Because of the workshop of the new provincial/regional/mission superiors, which will be held on June 21-July 5, the July issue of Arnoldus Nota will come out on July 15 instead of July 1. The Leadership Team and the Generalate staff will be in Nemi during the course of the workshop.



## AFRICA-MADAGASCAR ZONE

### SSD:

#### Peace remains evasive in South Sudan

After the Addis Ababa agreement between the president and the opposition, we had hoped for a peaceful solution for the youngest country. However, peace is still a distant dream for the people of South Sudan. The Catholic Bishops of Sudan and South Sudan repeatedly called on the people for reconciliation and forgiveness. Unfortunately, power, false ambitions and tribalism still prevails over unity and dialogue.

Since the middle of December last we have experienced much violence in Juba (capital city), Jonglei, Unity and Upper State. The towns of Malakal and Bor are totally devastated, and the situation in the town of Bentiu is not any better. Most people have fled from these places. Hunger and diseases take a heavy toll on the fleeing people. The refugees find shelter in various camps set up by the UN in South Sudan, Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia. Occasionally the rebels target also these camps. No one knows how many people are displaced, but the figure could be upto a million people!

The conflict has affected agricultural production, leading to an acute lack of food for nearly five million people. More and more food is imported from Uganda and other places. The cost of whatever food is available keeps going up, making it unaffordable for the common man.



*Andrew Dzida*

*Bonne appetite!*



*SSDs and SSpS in SSD: from Indonesia, India, Congo, Philippines, Poland, Argentina, Slovakia*

**YENDI (GHA):****The challenge of the Easter season**

Most Reverend Vincent Sowah Boi-Nai, Catholic Bishop of Yendi, has called on Christians to use the Easter occasion to raise funds for the benefit of the poor and the needy and to bring them small gifts. He said Christians should let the Easter Season be a time for sober reflection on their lives. He indicated that the newness of life that Easter brought should make all Christians seek to become better people, a new people liberated from the shackles of sin, immorality, corruption, embezzlement of public funds, robbery, child abuse, child trafficking, illicit use of drugs, drunkenness, reckless driving, acts of indiscipline, among other vices which were destroying the nation.

Most Rev. Boi-Nai made the call when he delivered the Easter message to hundreds of Catholics at Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral at Yendi in the Northern Region. He advised Christians not to forget that as bearers of hope of the world and their own country Ghana, they needed to work hard for the benefit of the country, and avoid unhealthy behaviors like harmful ethnic sentiments and unnecessary rivalry between political parties. Above all, they should eschew a culture of insults that tends to lower the dignity of the human person.

*Ghana News Agency*

**OLASITI (KEN):****Launching the new parish at Olasiti**

On December 28, 2013, the Catholic community of St. Joseph the Worker's parish, Olasiti, Tanzania, together with fellow Christians, witnessed the consecration of their newly extended church in the presence of the Apostolic Nuncio to Tanzania, His Grace Francisco Padilla, of Archbishop J. Lebulu and other bishops. Present were Christians from many far-away parishes of the vast archdiocese of Arusha, who made the celebration colourful and also inculturated. The feast of the Holy Innocents had been selected with a great purpose as this celebration completed the one of May 5, 2013 which was disrupted by the brutal bomb blast in which three people died and scores were injured.

In the homily and the speeches various representatives of church witnessed to our Christian hope and duty to live and stand up for peace, understanding and freedom of expression of our faith. All the SVD confreres of the District, together with our provincial Fr. Eusebio and other confreres from Kenya attended the occasion.

On following day, Sunday 29 Dec 2013, the climax of the Golden Jubilee of the Archdiocese of Arusha was celebrated. Thousands of Christians gathered for the occasion together with 20 bishops and scores of priests and religious. The five crosses which over the past two and a half years had been carried through all the outstations in the parishes of the five deaneries were given out to one parish each which ought to become a place of pilgrimage.



*Posing with one of the five crosses*

We are happy to note that the small group of SVD friends from our parishes in Arusha, has been meeting monthly. Under the eager leadership of Fr. Geoffrey Kamau and Fr. Peter Chibale and supported by all, these friends are getting to know our mission and are joining our efforts for evangelization. The group was started in Sep 2013. Presently, they meet in private homes and get to know our spirituality. Prayers and devotions are being translated. One might be surprised, but some of them really pray the Quarter hour prayer at their place of work.

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As a district we have the dream of entering more deeply into the ministry for Christian families. In order to do so, we hope that we will be able to build up a centre where families find nourishment, a place to share and feel accompanied. There is a long way ahead with challenges like finding water in an SVD owned property which could serve as a location, finding time to pursue the vision and put it into practice.

*Albert Fuchs (Provincial Superior, Kenya)*



## ASIA-PACIFIC ZONE

### ANSAN (KOR):

#### The Galilee Migrant Center's mission

Ansan is a city that boasts an industrial complex and is home to about 44,000 foreigners, comprising about six percent of the city population. No wonder you can smell, hear, taste and see a strong multicultural atmosphere in the city. Signs written in Vietnamese, Russian, Chinese, Indonesian, English and Tagalog line the streets. There are banks with posted exchange rates for various currencies. The industrial complex in Ansan is one of the country's largest in terms of immigrant workers, and Ansan itself is on the cutting edge of a "multicultural society", a slogan adopted by the central government as it aims to create a congenial society for foreigners and Koreans.

It is in this industrial city, teeming with migrant workers, that the SVD Galilee Migrant Center came to existence. The center started with Fr. Eugene Docoy attending to the needs of Filipino men and women who came to Korea for work. As it progressed the center was opened for migrant workers from other countries that included the Indonesians and the Vietnamese. The center provides help for the migrant workers ranging from preparing for job interviews to procuring knowledge of the life and culture in Korea.

Presently we have three confreres working in the Galilee Migrant Center namely: Bro. Kun Hyun Baek

(Korean), Fr. Fidelis Armin (Indonesian) and Fr. Jun Perez (Filipino). Our confreres do not just work in the office, but they are actively doing an outreach to seek those who need material help as well as responding to their sacramental needs.

In a visit to Ansan last February, the Generalate JPIC Coordinator, Fr. Daisuke Narui, met with our confreres and observed some of their activities. He was impressed with the organizational skills shown by the leaders of the Filipino communities. He said: "They can stand on their own and they can move around with their activities with confidence." Fr. Daisuke also pointed out the importance of having this ministry under the umbrella of the migrant ministry of the diocese. This provides our confreres the possibility of doing their work with the blessings of the diocese. It also gives the SVD Region of KOR opportunities to collaborate not only with the local church but also the local government whose aid and support is needed by the center.

Our confreres continue to do their ministry in a city, and a country for that matter, that experience the impact and circumstances of a multicultural society. Yes there are a series of stages for realizing a multicultural society but the pace is picking up slowly and our confreres are aware of that. After his visit Fr. Daisuke could only say: "We are in Ansan at the right place and at the right time."

*Based on AN interview with Fr. Daisuke Narui.*



*Fr. Daisuke (at the centre) with some of the Filipino migrants in Ansan*

**JHARSUGUDA (INE):****Appointment of Auxiliary Bishop of Ranchi**

On May 6, 2014, the Holy Father appointed Rev. Telesphore Bilung SVD, currently Provincial Superior of INE, as Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Ranchi (India), assigning him the titular see of Rutabo.

Rev. Telesphore P. Bilung was born on April 15, 1961 in Sargidipa, the Diocese of Rourkela, Odisha. In 1985 he entered the Society of the Divine Word. He professed his first vows in 1986 and made his solemn profession in 1991. Between 1986 and 1992 he completed his studies in Philosophy and Theology at Jnana Deepa Vidyapeeth, in Pune. He holds a B.A. in Economics, as well as in Philosophy and Theology. From 2005 to 2006 he did a Counselling Course



in Britain. He was ordained a priest on 2 May 1992, in Gaibira, the Diocese of Rourkela.

After his ordination he has served in the following pastoral and academic roles: 1992-1994: Assistant parish priest in Puri; 1994-1996: Rector of the Minor Seminary in Sambalpur; 1997: Course on Formation in India; 1997-2005: Rector of the SVD Formation House in Lungai; Chairman of the Vocation Board; 2005-2006: studies in the UK; 2006-2007: Pastor in Premnagar, Archdiocese of Calcutta; 2007-2010: Pioneer of the Mission in Bezda, Calcutta; 2008-2011: Provincial Councillor; 2010-2011: Rector of the Minor Seminary of the

PP. SVD in Lungai; since 2011 Provincial Superior of the Divine Word Missionaries. (Agenzia Fides 06/05/2014)

**Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Ranchi**

The Ranchi Catholic Archdiocese (Latin: *Archidioecesis Ranchiensis*), with roots of activities tracing back more than 150 years, currently is comprised of the districts of Ranchi and Lohardaga of Jharkhand state, India. It was established by a decree of the Holy See, dated 25 May 1927, when it was separated from the Calcutta Archdiocese to form a new Diocese, with its Episcopal seat at Ranchi. In 1953 it was elevated to be an archdiocese.

**SINGAMPUNARY (INH):****St. Arnold Socio-Educational Center**

St. Arnold Socio-Educational Center located in Singampunary, Diocese of Sivagangai, is making waves as a center for learning and empowerment. The center is very vibrant with various activities that include tailoring, computer classes, spoken English and Hindi, etc. There are also various self-help groups that gather in the center. Counselling is given to those who suffer from some kind of addiction. A number of alcoholics have received help from the center. This summer the center is able to help a greater number of Singampunari benefit from the different courses and training programs.

We have two confreres working in Singampunary, namely Arockiadoss Yesappan and Antony Anandraj. The Divine Word Missionaries started to work in this area in 2009.

*INH Newsletter*

**BEKASI (IDJ):****A vibrant parish**

Saint Arnold Janssen Parish, located in Bekasi, a suburb of Eastern Jakarta, has the biggest number of Catholics in the Archdiocese of Jakarta, serving 23,000 parishioners. The parish priest, Fr. Ansel Selvus, along with three other SVDs, attends to the pastoral needs of this vibrant Catholic community, the majority of whom are poor.

During the celebration of Good Friday, the church could not accommodate the huge number of parishioners who came for the liturgy. The parish had the adoration of the cross performed three times at different time intervals for pastoral reasons. Some of the faithful were accommodated in tents pitched outside the church and the others devoutly remained standing outside. The weather cooperated well in spite of the threat of the looming clouds and winds.

*Adapted from the article of Fr. Donatus Sermada*

### AUSTRALIA (AUS):

#### Putting People First

On the eve of the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker (1 May), Bishop Christopher Saunders, Chairman of the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council, released a media statement entitled “Putting People First: The call for an economy of social inclusion”.

*“Two decades of economic growth in Australia have seen the size of our economy double and income per capita increase by 50 per cent. Despite this growth, many of us will know somebody for whom the system has failed – the older worker made redundant by technology and becoming long-term unemployed, a single mother trying to make ends meet on Newstart Allowance, a household with work but still below the poverty line. The list could go on.”*

Fr. Asaeli Raass, JPIC Coordinator, strongly believes that those who are working in Australia must take stock of the real picture of the economic progress of this nation. The challenges presented in the pastoral letter might be different from those in Thailand and New Zealand but this challenge to an ‘inclusive economic growth’ applies to all countries of the planet for the sake of every Lazarus at our door-steps.

*Asaeli Raass:*

### ALICE SPRINGS (AUS):

#### An aboriginal community’s journey of faith

Titjikala is an Aboriginal community of just over 200 citizens situated on a red plain about 100 kilometers south-west of Santa Teresa. Although it is within the SVD parish of Santa Teresa the population is, with the exception of a few Catholic families, Lutheran. It is Lutheran because when the first Lutheran missionaries made their way up the dry Fink River bed in the 1870’s, they made contact with some Luritja speaking people. Their descendants now make up a large part of the population of Titjikala. With only 200 members, Titjikala is still a polyglot community with its citizens speaking the Luritja, Arrernte, and Pitjantjatjara languages as well as English.

The Catholic Community in Titjikala has evolved mainly because women from Santa Teresa married Titjikala men, where they subsequently settled and raised their families. Over the years the missionaries in Santa Teresa debated whether to extend their pastoral services to the Catholics of Titjikala. When our Korean confrere, Fr. Bosco Sang Bok Son, became the parish priest of Santa Teresa he bit the bullet. On the first Wednesday of November 2012 he met with Catholics in Titjikala and it was agreed that he would join them to celebrate Mass in

Titjikala on the first Wednesday of each month. As the months have passed there have been ups and downs for the Catholic Community of Titjikala. Catholics, however, gradually identified themselves not just as individuals but as a community growing in their faith and interacting on a faith level with the larger community, especially their Lutheran brothers and sisters.

All this came together with the first Catholic Baptism in Titjikala. On Wednesday, 2nd April, Bosco baptized little Trishelle Kitson. Little Trishelle was surrounded by her parents and relatives, both Catholic and Lutheran. In addition, Trishelle’s Baptism was a real encouragement for the small Catholic Community in Titjikala to grow by evangelizing itself. It is challenged to become a partner with its Lutheran brothers and sisters in witnessing to the whole, diverse and increasingly secular community of Titjikala.

*AUS Newsletter*

### NIIGATA (JPN):

#### Challenges of the Niigata Church

The Eighth General Assembly of the Niigata Diocesan Pastoral Council met recently to discuss the challenges faced by the local Catholic community. They include building our Church with migrants as members of the Catholic family and not as simple guests; working together to provide the laity and priests a religious education through continuous contact and sharing; and contributing to evangelization in the diocese and the country.

SVD Bishop Tarcisio Isao Kikuchi convened the meeting with representatives from the diocese’s five districts - Akita, Yamagata, Shibata, Niigata and Nagaoka - to discuss these issues and lay out a pastoral plan for the coming year. As Msgr. Kikuchi put it, its priorities include building a Church that “is filled with joy and compassion by overcoming differences created by age, nationality and cultural diversity; [ . . . ] realizing the responsibilities of the Catholic Church in society through exchanges of information within the diocese, districts and parishes;” and continuing “to nurture and deepen our faith, so that we may be witnesses of the Gospel both through our words and deeds in the midst of contemporary society.”

There are a number of non-Japanese Catholics in the diocese who have been making significant contributions in social activities and in the field of education. “What is more, many migrant Catholics are missionaries sent by God to Japan, especially to areas where the traditional parish system is non-existent and where they are making a significant contribution to evangelization”, added Msgr. Kikuchi.

*Asia News*



## EUROPEAN ZONE

### ST. AUGUSTIN (GER):

#### Stimulating the New Evangelization

What the new evangelization can look like, in theory and practice, was the focus of the “in-service training” of young Divine Word missionaries in Germany. Twenty five young Divine Word Missionaries working in Germany came together in Saint Augustin on April 29 and 30 for their “in-service training meeting”. They were a very international group that included confreres from India, Indonesia, the Philippines, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and others. Their meeting focused on the theme of the new evangelization, which the German province has chosen as a pastoral priority for the coming years.

Prof. Dr. Bernd Lutz, professor of pastoral theology at the Theological Faculty in St. Augustin, presented a theoretical overview. Again and again he emphasized the reality that, in catechesis and evangelization, we have to start from the people, from their needs and concerns. Prof. Lutz encouraged the young SVD missionaries to be concerned about establishing contact with the people in their surroundings, offering them opportunities for conversation and staying in touch with them.

The “in-service meetings” are always an opportunity for being together in a relaxed atmosphere. The group organized an international football match which the public viewed with much

enthusiasm. Times were set aside for prayer and worship in common. Returning to one’s roots in faith and sharing faith experiences were important for the group. The meeting also included discussions with the provincial leadership to get an idea of the



*Participants challenged by new evangelization*

province’s future prospects and challenges. It will be this group of young and younger Divine Word Missionaries who will carry on the SVD work of evangelization in Germany.

*Christian Tauchner (www.steyler.eu)*

### ST. GABRIEL (OES):

#### “Lenten Fast Calendar” Campaign

This past Lenten season, the Mission Office St. Gabriel International organized a “Lenten Fast Calendar” campaign under the heading “Hungry for God”. During the week after Easter the Mission Office published the preliminary result of donations and a word of thanks to the donors.

We of the Mission Office St. Gabriel International, wish to thank all our donors:

- ◆ thanks for all the enthusiastic letters and e-mails that encourage us to continue to give a voice to young people by means of our “Lenten Fast Calendar”
- ◆ thanks to all those who passed on, distributed and recommended our “Lenten Fast Calendars”
- ◆ thanks for the more than 39,000 Euros which were donated to the Lenten Fast Calendar. The proceeds make possible the purchase of plants, cattle and land for the farm in Chiquitania, Bolivia. The plan is that 50 disadvantaged young people will learn to operate profitable agricultural projects.

*www.steyler.eu*

**HEVERLEE NEB:**

**Story of the Heverlee House**

When the SVD mission house in Heide, Belgium, was closed in 1995, a new property and house was bought at Heverlee, to accommodate older confreres from the Study House in Louvain, missionaries returning to Belgium after

their active life who wanted to live there and missionaries on home leave or convalescing after illness or medical treatment.



*The last community at Heverlee*

The new property was thoroughly renovated and modernized with the help of many confreres and the Heverlee community was formally established on 18 September 1995 with 23 members, four of whom lived in the house in Heverlee.

The community come together three times a year. On these “Heverlee Days” matters affecting the community were discussed. Eventually the strength of the community reduced due to transfers and deaths. Therefore, the Heverlee Day of May 7, 2013 decided to close the house and dispose of the property. With the Heverlee Day meeting of May 13, 2014, after 20 years of useful service, the Heverlee community was formally closed. Eventhough the Heverlee

community is closed the NEB province has ensured the continued functioning of the study house in Louvain.

*Jan van Zeeland*

**Well known SVD theologian lectures in Tanzania**

Father Vincent Twomey visited the Jordan University College of Morogoro, in Tanzania, at the beginning of March to participate in a symposium. Its topic was: “Where are you from?” (John 19,9) The Figure of Jesus and his Message in the trilogy “Jesus of Nazareth” by Joseph Ratzinger – Benedict XVI. It was the second time that the symposium was held in Africa, the first one having taken place in Benin for French speaking people, last September.

The objective of the symposium was to make the theology of Joseph Ratzinger better known and more fruitful in the African Church. This particular symposium was open to theologians, bishops, priests, religious, seminarians and students of theology from East Africa. Vincent presented a paper at the Symposium: “How God works in the world - the principle of mediation.”

*Harp Newsletter March-April issue*

**EUROPEAN ZONE**

The European Zone has the following meetings:

1. August 31-September 5, 2014  
Meeting of the Provincial/Regional Treasurers  
Fatima, Portugal

2. September 21-27, 2014  
Zonal Assembly  
Nitra, Slovakia

**STEYL (GER):****A General Chapter of Sharing Good News**

The 14th SSpS General Chapter opened on April 27, 2014 at the Motherhouse in Steyl. The communities of SSpS and SVD in Steyl joined the Chapter Capitulars in the celebration of the opening liturgy presided by Fr. Daisuke Narui with concelebrants Frs. Stanislaw Lazar and Sonny de Rivera. Since the 14th General Chapter was declared officially open by Congregational Leader Maria Theresia Hoememann, the 85 Capitulars and four observers have had several input sessions, group work, faith sharing and personal reflection.



*From all continents: The inaugural Eucharist*

The 14th General Chapter's theme is: Empowered by the Spirit Sharing Good News Among Peoples. It started with the capitulars sharing in the form of stories about the mission and challenges in their respective provinces/regions. After reviewing these mission oriented stories they received input from carefully selected speakers. Among the topics were those given by Fr. Heinz Kulueke and Fr. Juergen Ommerborn. They deepened the chapter theme by sharing on commitment to the poor, putting the last first, and social justice among the founding generations respectively. The Mother General of the SSpSAP, Sister Mary Elizabeth Klein, addressed the capitulars reminding them of the

grace of belonging to an "Arnoldus Family". She expressed interest in more chances for encounters and integration between the SSpAP and their sister SSpS and brother SVDs. Topics like Global and Ecclesial Trends and their Impact on Mission Today and Paradigm Shift in Religious Life Today prepared the Capitulars to walk through the process of setting directions for the SSpS Congregation for the

next six years.

The remaining weeks of the Chapter were dedicated to a lot of group processing, planning and discussion, setting goals and defining clearly the different Chapter proposals. The Capitulars, the SSpS community in Steyl and elsewhere, and SVD confreres joined in the celebration of the 125 years of the SSpS on May 25. The celebration was presided by Fr. Josef Denkmayr, the Provincial of OES. As the Chapter is about to finish its course we wish the newly elected members of the Congregational Leadership to be continually empowered by the Spirit.

*Sonny de Rivera*

**GWARDEISK-KALININGRAD (POL):****Onward Christian believers: a journey of faith**

Our Divine Word Missionary Fr. Jerzy Jagodzinski relates to HARP Magazine the mission situation in Russia and the promising and hopeful effort to build the church for a new parish in Znamiens. Fr. Jerzy currently works in Gwardeisk-Kaliningrad Oblast along with Fr. Andrzej Zalewski.

Sadly, in Russia, many people still live in a state of spiritual confusion brought about by the policies of the Soviet era. Would you believe that, until recently, the word "God" was written with a small-case letter, "god"; that church buildings had been converted into warehouses, public toilets, bars and sports halls; and that the transport of Bibles, holy images and devotional objects across the border of the Soviet Union was punishable under customs regulations as the importation of pornography!

In order to heal completely, this country needs so much love! Sometimes, the people who have lived here all their lives are unable to show this love. Then the burden of loving and healing falls to us SVDs, strangers in a strange land! We have founded our church, a new parish in Znamiensk. Our mission is succeeding. Better than words alone, our need for a larger worship space testifies to our success. It is testimony that the church is growing and the spiritual community is being revived.

Although for three generations the Soviet Union tried to annihilate all thoughts of God, since 1990 there has been a massive return to the faith. While many people still live in a state of spiritual confusion, gradually the church tradition is being established anew. The parish church we are building with the help of your donations, will be a pillar of the revived Catholic community, a shining light leading people back to God.

*The Harp*

### Our Impressions as Observers in the 14th SSpS General Chapter

Being with the SSpS sisters for three weeks was a period of learning regarding our founding generations whose history and landmarks remain very vividly in Steyl. The founding generations' special concern for JPIC was articulated well during the Chapter for further reflection on mission today. The method of story-telling from various provinces/missions were inspiring and awakening everyone to look deeply, how to respond to the story or situation. Sense of urgency to respond to the needs of the people could be felt during the Chapter and we appreciate the enthusiasm and involvement of the capitulars to do God's mission effectively keeping the charism and spirituality of the Congregation. Deepening the understanding of mission was done during the sessions with more focus on serving the poor and marginalized. More discussion and sharing in small groups brought the delegates to come closer to one another. The spirit and energy level was high to achieve something and those waves were felt by everyone in the Chapter.

*Fr. Stanislaus Lazar*

One of the key issues during the chapter was JPIC. Sisters have recognized JPIC as their "way of life", in the context of their life (ad intra) and mission (ad extra). I was impressed to know that they give priority especially to feminine issues, such as care for life, women's right, reproductive health, care for children, human trafficking, creation as mother earth, etc. In his input, Fr. Heinz challenged the sisters by saying: "It is not only the poor who need the church, it is the church and religious congregations that need the poor in order to find new meaning and to become alive again". During the group sharing, sisters mentioned about this repeatedly to express the need to responding challenges.

This is the first ever chapter that two SVDs participated as observers in a three week period. AJSC also contributed a lot to this chapter. Then SSpSAP Superior General and her team visited the chapter and gave a talk. The beautiful roses on the tables came from the Pink Sisters' garden. The Chapter was certainly a wonderful moment to experience the Arnoldus family spirit.

*Fr. Daisuke Narui*



*Leaders of the three congregations at the General Chapter of the SSpS*

## General Visitation in the Province of GER

The visitation was scheduled from February 01 to March 15, 2014. Officially, it started on the second of February with a solemn Vespers in St. Wendel. During the course of time that we, have been visiting communities, parishes, institutions, etc., we have seen and witnessed so many good things happening in the province. The following is an account of some of the things that have impressed us.



*The Visitors with centeneraian Fr. Schnur (St. Wendel)*

**1. Care of our elderly confreres:** GER is one of the biggest and oldest SVD provinces with a large number of elderly confreres. The province has decided to have St. Wendel as the home for our old and permanently sick confreres. We appreciated very much to see many elderly confreres still actively working within the house or in various smaller apostolates. One of them is Fr. Klaus Scnur who celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 9, 2014. He

is a chaplain in a retirement house and still helps in a parish, though we would like to have him in St. Wendel.

Despite the high number of elderly confreres, we had the impression that St. Wendel is lively and a welcoming community. Almost without exception, confreres are very happy and satisfied

with the nursing care and accommodations. They have expressed their gratitude to the staff. There are a total of 52 employees taking care of our old and sick confreres. Though their work is sometimes demanding and stressful, they have built a family feeling with the SVD and want to know more about the SVD spirituality. No wonder they are doing their duty from their hearts.



*Fr. Budi Kleden with the Community in Berlin*



*Bro. Mazola with the confreres of the District of Oberschwaben*

**2. Apostolate for the Migrants:** In Germany there are different types of migrants with diverse needs. The GER province has chosen “Migration” as one of their Ad-extra priorities to respond, in a certain way, to the needs of these migrants. The province has a number of confreres involved in this special ministry, either as part of the contract with the bishops or purely as a service of the Society. Some confreres are involved in integrating migrants into German society, like teaching them the language. Some are extending pastoral services like celebrations of the Eucharist, spiritual guidance and other religious instructions. They also attend to the basic needs of the migrants whenever they can. In St. Martin parish (Aulendorf), for example, once a week in the winter time, there is possibility for the poor, migrants, needy and lonely people to get a hot lunch. Through many volunteer helpers, the parish not only offers a good meal but also a time for encounter and communion.

**3. Intercultural Formation:** Since initial formation is very crucial in our Society, we would like to thank the GER province for providing these formation programs for our young confreres coming from different countries. During the visitation, there were 21 students representing nine nationalities. We also appreciate the commitment of the formators. International formation communities are not always easy to run, but they are very important to prepare our confreres for sharing intercultural life and mission. We appreciate very much the initial formation in GER which is integral, personalized, experimental and intercultural.

The formation house has a music apostolate that allows the students to sing in different parishes.

In order to be close to people, the staff is studying the possibility of introducing an “Externe Semester” (External Semester). One of the objectives of this program would be to get in contact with the people in their living environment.

**4. Intercultural life in the province:** At the time of the visitation, there were 281 members coming from 18 different nationalities. Intercultural life is much appreciated by the people. It is an encouraging sign that the non-German confreres are trusted to take responsibility for leadership in the province at different levels. It is equally impressive to witness their willingness to undertake them.

We felt privileged to witness confreres who have been living and working as religious missionaries with great commitment and open to think and plan for the future of our presence in the province. We saw that what Pope Francis says is true for GER: “True Christian hope, which seeks the eschatological kingdom, always generates history” (Evangeliu Gaudium, 181). In the past this Christian hope has led our predecessors to build structures and institutions, and today the same hope asks and inspires us to find new ways of being missionaries.

We want to express our gratitude to Fr. Provincial and his council for organizing and helping us during the visitation. We also thank the superiors of the different communities and districts and all confreres for making the visitation a good and enriching time for all of us.

*Budi Kleden and Guy Mazola (General Visitators)*



## PAN-AMERICAN ZONE

### Father General visits the Province of MEX



Fr. Superior General Heinz Kulueke visited the Province of MEX from January 31 until February 16. The various parishes, houses of formation, basic Christian communities and lay groups were points of encounter and sharing for Fr. General. He also visited the District of Cuba. A high point of his sojourn in the province was the opportunity to meet with our confreres serving there. The following is a summary of his hectic visits to our parishes in MEX.

#### Parish work and local communities in the District of Oaxaca

Most of the time Fr. General visited our parishes and local communities in the company of the new Provincial Superior, Fr. John Beñas. He visited two parishes namely, San Juanito Chapultepec and San Juan Yaeé. In the parish of San Juanito Fr. General met with our SVD confreres, celebrated the Eucharist and met with the local leaders and parishioners. In this parish, which has many chapels and outstations, the people love the SVDs.

San Juan Yaeé parish is an indigenous parish located in a mountainous region. The parish is composed of 800 indigenous families. Fr. General met with our confreres, local leaders and civil authorities. Fr. Heinz relates a part of the visit: The leader of the local government welcomed us and declared the rest of the day as a fiesta day. Some 200 people accompanied us with two orchestras in procession to the Church. Here we had an

initial celebration followed by a break and a Mass. The rest of the day until 6:00 p.m. was filled with a program beautifully prepared by the simple people.

#### Getting to know Chiapas

To reach Salto de Agua from Oaxaca meant a three hour plane trip with a stopover in Mexico City and, from the airport in Villa Hermosa, another hour trip to reach the parish of San Fernando de Guadalupe. This parish came under the SVDs in 1986 and is situated close to the border of Guatemala. Fathers John Stephen Roche and Mario Barranco work in this parish and one of their special concerns is the presence of numerous refugees who come from Guatemala, Honduras and Salvador trying to reach USA looking for greener pastures. Often however, their journey ends in Salto de Agua in Chiapas as they are stopped by the police. Human trafficking is rampant and has become a lucrative business.

The visit to this challenging and indigenous parish provided Fr. General with a chance to meet with our confreres, local leaders and the parish community. He interacted with the members of different lay organizations of the parish. Some 20 different organizations are present and shared their activities and programs. The commitment of the mostly very simple lay people is impressive. Many people seem to have understood that it is their parish and that life in the parish depends heavily on their involvement and commitment.

The trip was completed with an indigenous liturgy, a Mayan rite of thanksgiving with the indigenous people, and a visit to the Mayan Shrine.

**Parishes in the sprawling city of Mexico**

Father General visited our parishes, San Marcos Evangelista (1978), Sagrado Corazon de Jesus (1987) and San Antonio de Padua, all of them situated in the vast and sprawling city of Mexico with its 22 million inhabitants divided into eight vicariates. His visits included Eucharistic celebrations, encounters with groups of community leaders and conversations with

our confreres. In the parish of Sagrado Corazon de Jesus there is a big group of young people attending Sunday services. The parish of San Antonio de Padua with its 120,000 faithful is served by three confreres.

Fr. General’s visit to our parishes in MEX, including the parishes of St. Barbara, Lagunilla (1971) and Santiago de Anaya, Hidalgo (2002), gave him a broad picture of our parish apostolate where the majority of our confreres are working. In the heart of our parishes words like active, youth, groups, indigenous and many more describe this vibrant and promising scenario of mission.

**CHICAGO (USC):**

**Student Interns at the Province Center**

For the past four years, the Chicago Province Center at Techny has employed high school student interns. They are part of the Cristo Rey high school network in which students from an inner-city Catholic high school work one day each week at a business or organization. The students who come to the Province Center are students at Cristo Rey St. Martin High School in Waukegan, Illinois. They work in the archives, development, medical/retirement and media/public relations offices assisting Province Center staff members with a variety of tasks and projects.

The money paid by the Province Center to the school covers a large portion of the tuition. It also gives students a chance to expand their horizons by experiencing a professional work environment. In a very concrete way, this program addresses the Congregational Direction of ministry to family and youth.

*USC Province Newsletter*

**SANTO AMARO (BRC):**

**Lay collaborators attune to SVD charism**

On April 5, 2014 Fr. Superior General Heinz Kulueke had two instances of meeting with laymen and women in the parish of Our Lady of Fatima in Santo Amaro. About 115 lay men and women from the Districts of Jacarei, Sao Paulo, Juquiá, Vale do Ribeira, Registro, Ile Cumprida and Iguape shared their work, experiences and also learned about the mission of the Divine Word Missionaries worldwide.

Fr. Heinz thanked the lay men and women as collaborators in the SVD pastoral work in Brazil Centro. He reiterated that being collaborators of the Divine Word Missionaries they are very much in line with the goal and vision of the Society, that is, to walk with the joys and sorrows of the poor. After a hearty dialogue and sharing Fr. Heinz celebrated the Eucharist along with Fr. Edson Castro da Silva, the Provincial Superior of BRC.

*BRC website*

**SANTIAGO (CHI):**

**Statue of John Paul II with the poor**

A statue of St. John Paul II donated by the University of San Sebastian in Chile has been moved to the Puente Alto neighborhood, five years after authorities refused to install it in a prominent area in the Chilean capital. Cardinal Ricardo Ezzati of Santiago blessed the statue during a Mass at the St. John Paul II Park to celebrate the canonization of the late pontiff.

“The figure of St. John Paul II is a seed that descends into the ground of Puente Alto, an area that has been touched by so much pain and abandonment,” Cardinal Ezzati said.

The 42-foot bronze statue was donated in 2009, but its installation in Santiago’s Bellavista district was rejected by the National Monuments Commission, which said it was too tall and would not look good.

## My personal odyssey: the road from Havana airport

*As a prelude to the report of Father General's visit in the District of Cuba, MEX, here is a personal experience from Fr. General himself.*

### No confrere in sight

Last February 15, my flight schedule from Holguin to La Havana is being changed several times and I am not sure whether confreres tasked to meet me at the airport are being informed accordingly. Finally I reached Havana at 2:00 a.m. Without any check-in luggage I got out of the airport easily. To my surprise there was no confrere waiting outside the airport. I looked at my watch and it was already 2:30 a.m. I was one of the last passengers waiting in front of the airport for transport ... And still no confrere to meet me ... What do I do? ...



### Complications along the way

The first stop was a small store along the road. The driver jumped out of the car and returned with beer and sodas, sodas for the passengers and beer for the driver. Earlier on I had given the note with the address of the parish to the mother who in turn had passed it on to the driver. He just had looked at it and said that he knew. Now it turned out that he and also the others did not know ... As we searched for a

way it was an opportunity to get to know cities at this time by night.

### Show us the way

Even at 3:30 in the morning there are still people in the streets and many of them are no different from people in other cities in developing countries at this time of the night. There are street people and among them are drug addicts, pimps, prostitutes and transvestites. It is a world not only known to me from a previous assignment but also to our two male companions. The car stops and the driver and son got out of the van to share our problem. The only problem was that they also do not know. The journey through poorly lightened streets of Havana continued with similar encounters along the way until the driver and the son finally accept a suggestion the mother had made several times since the trip began.

Now passing by a phone box and making a full-stop the driver not only showed that he remembered the mother's advice but also that he was in control. The driver and the son made the long overdue call and received instructions how to reach the parish. ... Confreres were waiting in front of the parish house. Another confrere had been sent to the airport but quite late.

An interesting night. The mother shook my hand seemingly happy that we finally had found the parish. ... The two giants, the driver and son, got out of the car and gave me a big hug and wished me well. All what they could say was "Hasta luego brother ... Mothers know best."

### "Padre, Padre, come"

Suddenly I heard a voice ... Padre ... Padre ... I recognized an elderly Cuban woman I had met at the airport in Holguin, a friend of some of our confreres calling me from inside a very old and pretty much dilapidated van. The woman asked me about my pickup. I briefly shared my story. "You just come with us and we will bring you to the parish." "Us" means her son, some two meters tall, and his friend the driver, a giant himself ... Thinking of no other choice I accepted the generous invitation.

### An odyssey begins

An interesting night trip through the streets of La Havana began. The driver attempted to start the car for several minutes before the engine made the required noise according to her age. One of the airport security guards blocked the way and asked for some sort of payment. Our driver sped up and shouted out of the window that the guard should move otherwise he would be dead. The security guard took no chances and jumped instantly in order not be hit by our car. The elderly lady suggested to the driver to slow down. Irritated the driver told the almost eighty year old lady she should drive herself. He turned the already blaring music louder.

**✝ OUR DEPARTED**

<b>SVD</b>	<i>Prov./Reg.</i>	<i>Date of Death</i>	<i>Milestone Dates</i>				
Fr. Paul Kwaku Agbeyome	GHA	19.05.2014	50	76	77	81	82
Bro. Konrad <Gebhardus> Lässer	IDT	17.05.2014	30	57	59	65	**
Fr. Paul Krings	GER	14.05.2014	40	64	66	71	71
Fr. Józef Pieczykolan	POL	09.05.2014	49	72	73	74	75
Bro. Cléber Alexandre Oliveira	BOL	08.05.2014	79	06	07	13	**
Bro. Günter Golkowski	GER	02.05.2014	29	48	50	56	**
Bro. Jan Rutten	NEB	25.04.2014	35	53	55	61	**

<b>SSpS</b>	<i>Prov./Reg.</i>	<i>Died on</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Vows</i>
Sr. Regelinda, Elisabeth Susur	FLE	21.04.2014	75	51
Sr. Irmingarde, Walburga Engelhardt	BRN	01.05.2014	86	62
Sr. Justissima, Christina Maria Donkers	NLD	07.05.2014	92	61
Sr. Brunhilda, Melanie Kutsch	GER	15.05.2014	87	63

**✝ OBITUARIES**

**Fr. Thomas Morrison (BRS)**  
**23.03.2014; 47-69-71-75-75**



Father Thomas Morrison was born in the Irish city of Belfast in March 5, 1947. He graduated as a psychiatric nurse, a profession he engaged for several years. Feeling the religious missionary vocation, he entered the seminary in 1967 as a “late vocation” in the village of Carrog in Wales to eventually get a diploma. He

completed his novitiate, philosophy and theological studies in Ireland. He professed his final vows on September 6, 1975. He was ordained a priest on September 6, 1975 at Ardoyne, Belfast.

Father Morrison’s first mission assignment was BRS. He worked in the parish of St. Anne in Guarapuava and in the minor seminary in Ponta Grossa. He also spent time with the philosophy students in Curitiba. His former students still remember him fondly as a good formator. His missionary commitment and life took a sharp turn when he asked to work in the Amazon Region. For a good twenty years he worked in Para and Roraima. For three years he worked in the parish of St. Anthony in Oriximina. He went back to Ireland and worked as a novice master

and prefect of theologians. During his stint in the Irish province he also obtained a Master’s Degree in Pastoral Theology. He returned to the Amazon Region and for some time worked in Boa Vista, Roraima.

In 2009 Father Morrison was transferred to BRS. He was assigned to St. Bakhita Parish on the outskirts of Paranagua. In late 2013 he started feeling unwell. Early in 2014 he moved to Ponta Grossa to receive the necessary health care. He died unexpectedly in the evening of March 23. He was found dead in his room by confreres the following morning.

During all his years of evangelizing work he has always maintained a clear position and decided in favor of the poor and the excluded, an option he continued in Paranagua until his retirement to Ponta Grossa.

**Bro. Cyril (Gerald) Schroeder**  
**15.04.2014; 13-31-33-39-\*\***

Divine Word Brother Cyril (Gerald) Schroeder, Techny’s longest continual resident, passed away on April 15 at age 101. Brother Cyril, who professed vows in 1933, lived most of his adult life at Techny.

His parents came from the Midwest, but he was born when his mother was visiting her sister in Viscount,



Saskatchewan, Canada. The son of Irene Schroeder and Roman Fischer, Gerald Albert Schroeder spent most of his youth in Wisconsin.

In 1927 after completing his freshman year at Jefferson High School in Jefferson, Wis., he entered the Brother Candidates School at Techny.

In later years, he fondly recalled the days when hundreds of priests, brothers and students lived at Techny, then known as St. Mary's Seminary.

He began working at the Mission Press at Techny when he was 15 years old. He worked as a linotype operator. During those years, he helped to produce magazines like *Christian Family*, *Little Missionary*, Almanacs, Calendars and other publications. After a quarter of a century as a typesetter, he suffered from lead poisoning having been exposed to the print shop's hot lead fumes. However, health issues did not stop him. He learned a new trade.

For the next two decades, Brother Cyril served as a tailor. He sewed garments for members of Divine Word communities in Epworth, Lake Gogebic and Techny. In 1971, he traded his sewing machine for a telephone, working as the Techny community's switchboard operator and receptionist.

"Brother Cyril effortlessly welcomed visitors to the Techny Residence with a smile and a kind word," said Father Quang Duc Dinh, rector of the Divine Word Residence at Techny. "During the latter part of his life, he had difficulty hearing, yet he joyfully participated in liturgical and social events at Techny."

**Bro. Jan Rutten**  
**25.04.2014; 35 53 55 61 \*\***

Gerardus Johannes Martinus Rutten, son of Gerardus Rutten and Maria Verkuijlen, was born on November 28, 1935 in Uden, diocese of Hertogenbosch, Netherlands. On October 25, 1950 he entered the mission house St. Francis Xavier in Teteringen as a candidate for the brotherhood. On May 6, 1953 he began his novitiate in Teteringen. In October 1954 he went to the mission house St. Willibrord in Deurne which was opened that year. There he pronounced the first vows on May 8, 1955. From 1956 to 1959 he attended the Agricultural College in Venlo where he received his diploma on April 7, 1959. He then worked in the vegetable garden in Deurne.

On May 1, 1961 Jan professed perpetual vows in Deurne. On November 29, 1961 he was appointed to the distribution department of our mission magazines, working in a group of 'traveling brothers'. Most of the time was spent on finding new subscribers. Often they spent their 'free' Sunday afternoons doing office work. Around 1965 the St. Michael's Almanac ceased publication. In 1967, the new magazine "Bijeen" was established as a joint venture of orders and congregations, with offices in Deurne. Only Br. Jan Rutten and one companion remained as 'traveling brothers'.

In 1974 he was appointed member of the house council of Deurne, and that year he also received the opportunity to visit our mission in Papua New Guinea. Several times Jan was appointed member of the provincial council. In 1998 he was asked to become praeses of the SVD retirement community "Zuiderhout" but declined because he did not consider himself fit for that job. At the end of 2007 he underwent a double by-pass operation in Amsterdam. After 2 weeks he returned to Deurne for therapy and recuperation.



From 1983 till 2001 Jan worked for the CMC (Central Mission Commissariat) as coordinator for the sale of the Mission-Calendar. When he retired from the CMC, he received the papal award "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice". "All in all," he said, "I can look back to the period from February 3, 1963 to September 5, 2001 with deep gratitude."

From 2006 onwards, Jan was a valuable member of the editorial team of NEB news bulletin "Rond". In 2014 he gave up this role as his health declined. Doctors discovered that both his liver and intestines were affected by a tumor. He was hospitalized in Leiden. But on March 18, 2014, he was taken to the mission house in Teteringen. On Sunday, March 23, in the presence of relatives and friends, he received the anointing of the sick. He quietly passed away in the afternoon of April 25.

**Bro. Günther Golkowski (GER)**  
**02.05.2014; 29 48 50 56 \*\***

Günther Golkowski was born on November 30, 1929 in Bochum, diocese of Essen, Germany. He was the youngest son of Johann Golkowski and his wife Franziska, neé Schlieja. He entered the SVD in St.



Augustin in 1947 to become a missionary Brother to the serve God and the Church.

He began his novitiate in St. Augustin in 1948 and made his first profession on September 8, 1950 and was appointed as a typesetter in the Steyl press. On September 8, 1956 he made his final profession in Steyl. He was trained in typesetting and related skills in the printing. From August 1996 until the closure of the printing press in 2003 he managed the large paper stock. In 2003 he moved to St. Gregory's home, where our old and sick confreres were staying. When the confreres had to leave St. Gregory's after the great fire in 2008, he returned to St. Michael

Br. Günter was an SVD 'veteran'. He knew Steyl and its history by heart. Gladly, he engaged in various aspects of the community. Thus, from 1950 onwards, he was member of the schola and played the clarinet in marching band. He became cantor and director of the schola, thus leaving his mark on decades of liturgical music in St. Michael. The beautiful and well modulated psalmody that is maintained in Steyl goes mainly to his credit. He was also involved, from its very beginning, in the fire brigade of St. Michael and in August 1961, became its commander. For his service in the fire brigade Queen Juliana of the Netherlands bestowed on him, along with other confreres, the Volunteer Medal.

In recent years, Br Günter had a growing number of health problems. A cancer and renal failure finally forced him to move to the nursing home at St. Wendel in spring of 2012, where he could obtain adequate and professional care. He felt quickly at home there. He had to undergo an extensive and difficult surgery to deal with his cancer. Against all expectations, Br. Günter recovered so well from this surgery and was able again to attend community life.

At the end of March 2014 Br Günter had to be readmitted to the hospital. His cancer had returned, more virulently than ever before. As doctors could not help him any longer, he returned to the Wendelinus Home. On May 1, during the province gathering, many of his old companions were able to say good-bye to him. It seemed as if he had just been waiting for the occasion. He died on May 2, 2014. A confrere told him on his deathbed: "Günter, if you meet the Founder in heaven, tell him to take care of Steyl!"

**Fr. Paul Krings (GER)**  
**+14.05.2014; 40 64 66 71 71**



Paul Krings was born on February 9, 1940, in Morbach, Hunsrück region, diocese of Trier, Germany. He was the only child of his parents Leonard and Elisa Krings. His mother died at his birth. His father married again. He spent his childhood in Bleialf, the hometown of his father, where he attended primary school. At the age of 14, he joined the SVD minor seminary St. Paul in Wittlich. In 1964 he obtained his university qualification (matura) in the Mission House St. Wendel. The same year Paul entered the novitiate in St. Augustin where he also made his first vows on September 8, 1966. He pronounced his perpetual vows on May 1, 1971 in St. Augustin, and was ordained priest by Bishop Vitus Chang from China on October 10 of the same year.

Fr. Paul was assigned to the Flores mission in Indonesia. Arriving in 1972 he served in the parishes of Wolowaru and Maurole. Due to illness he returned to Germany in 1977. However, difficulties to renew his visa made a return to Indonesia impossible. Consequently, he committed himself to the mission in Germany and the Netherlands. From 1978 to 1986, he worked in the mission house St. Xavier in Bad Driburg. During this time he also completed a teaching degree in Cologne. In 1986, he was made director of the apprentices' home in Steyl and later, also of the Adult Formation Center. In addition, he did pastoral supply work in Steyl and the surroundings.

In recent years, Fr. Paul accompanied countless groups of pilgrims during their visits to Steyl. He combined his guided tours around Steyl with stories from the mission. On these occasions, he often expressed his conviction that we are all children of an unconditionally loving God.

He maintained a special affection for the people from Indonesia, India and the Philippines who came to live in Germany and the Netherlands. In Fr. Paul, they found a reliable and dedicated priest and friend, who did everything to make them feel welcome.

In March 2014, Fr. Paul was diagnosed of a terminal cancer. Trustingly he placed his life completely into the hands of God. On the evening of May 14, 2014 Fr. Paul left us to be forever with his Lord and God. We remember him as a loving, helpful and humorous confrere and friend.



## APPOINTMENTS & TRANSFERS

### APPOINTMENTS

29.04.2014	Fr. Vattapparayil, Sunny	BOT	vic sup/prov	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Afagbegee, Gabriel Lionel	BOT	adm/prov	tri
29.04.2014	Bro. Ashun, Charles	BOT	cons/prov	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Rebello, Anthony	BOT	cons/prov	tri
<b>29.04.2014</b>	<b>Fr. Mpila Mumbayungu, Achille</b>	<b>TCD</b>	<b>sup/miss</b>	<b>tri</b>
29.04.2014	Fr. Paga Buu, Gilbertus	TCD	vic sup/miss	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Aloula, Jean	TCD	adm/miss	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Alunday, Oscar	PHN	mis sec	tri
<b>29.04.2014</b>	<b>Fr. Naduviledathu, Francis Joseph</b>	<b>SSD</b>	<b>sup/miss</b>	<b>tri</b>
29.04.2014	Fr. Dzida, Andrzej	SSD	vic sup/miss	tri
29.04.2014	Bro. Knaofmone, Vinsensus	SSD	adm/miss	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Villanueva, Flaviano Antonio L.,	PHC	miss sec	tri
02.05.2014	Fr. Dabrowski, Marek	GHA	vic sup/prov	tri
02.05.2014	Bro. Bangfo, Oswald	GHA	adm/prov	tri
02.05.2014	Fr. Kanjiramalayil, Tomy	GHA	cons/prov	tri
02.05.2014	Fr. Quaye-Foli, Anumu Andrew	GHA	cons/prov	tri
<b>02.05.2014</b>	<b>Fr. Soyepia, João Ladeira António</b>	<b>ANG</b>	<b>sup/prov</b>	<b>tri</b>
02.05.2014	Fr. Vas, Ashwin Francis	ANG	vic prov/prov	tri
02.05.2014	Fr. Karwayu Dominggu, Dominikus	ANG	adm/prov	tri
02.05.2014	Fr. Hebo, Nelson Manuel	ANG	cons/prov	tri
02.05.2014	Fr. Kalka, Emil	ANG	cons/prov	tri
<b>02.05.2014</b>	<b>Fr. Kleden, Leo</b>	<b>IDE</b>	<b>sup/prov</b>	<b>tri</b>
02.05.2014	Fr. Jua Lukas	IDE	vic sup/prov	tri
02.05.2014	Fr. Tule, Philipus	IDE	adm/prov	tri
02.05.2014	Fr. Pa, Patrisiua	IDE	cons/prov	tri
02.05.2014	Bro. Seme, Thomas	IDE	cons/prov	tri
<b>05.05.2014</b>	<b>Fr. Wun, Vincentius</b>	<b>IDT</b>	<b>sup/prov</b>	<b>tri</b>
05.05.2014	Fr. Nai, Yustinus Didimus	IDT	vic sup/prov	tri
05.05.2014	Fr. Dosi, Eduardus	IDT	adm/prov	tri
05.05.2014	Bro. Nadut, Anggelinus	IDT	cons/prov	tri
05.05.2014	Fr. Dosi, Cornelis,	IDT	cons/prov	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Rodrigues, Sylvester	MEX	tre/prov	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Ledwidge, John	MEX	Superior Delegate	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Villavicencio, Gustavo	MEX	Mission Secretary	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Málek, Ludvík	MEX	coord/bib. ap.	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Rodríguez, Rodolfo	MEX	coord/JPIC	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Monteiro, Antônio da Rocha,	MEX	Vocation promoter	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Morales, Víctor	MEX	Formator	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Machado, Edward Xavier	MEX	Philosophate	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Soreng, Dilip Kumar	MEX	Theologate	tri

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01.04.2014	Fr. Flores, Dominador	AUS	cons/com. Marsfield	tri
10.04.2014	Bro. Lunders, Damien Douglas	AUS	sup/dist. Thailand	tri
10.04.2014	Fr. Ruffing, Bernd-Alfred	AUS	vic. sup/dist. Thailand	tri
10.04.2014	Fr. Pham, Tuan Dinh F. Xavier	AUS	adm/dist. Thailand	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Vitor, Ernesto,	PHC	rect/prov. com	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Alejandria, Gil	PHC	vic rect/prov. com	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Meme, Levi	PHC	adm/ prov. com	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. De Guzman, Jr., Carlos Maria	PHC	cons/ prov. com	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Abulad, Romualdo	PHC	cons/ prov. com	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Nicasio, Lino	PHC	sup/dist. Manila	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Rayco, Vicente	PHC	vic sup/dist. Manila	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Sina Latuan, Paulus	PHC	adm/dist. Manila	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Paz, Abraham	PHC	cons/dist. Manila	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Jacela, Florencio	PHC	cons/dist. Manila	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Lolo, Andres Isagani	PHC	sup/dist. Calapan	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Fabella, Edward	PHC	vic sup/dist. Calapan	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Malbog, Renato	PHC	adm/dist. Calapan	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Bacit, Eufrocino	PHC	cons/dist. Calapan	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Gampur, Timotius	PHC	cons/dist. Calapan	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Gomez, Glenn Paul	PHC	sup/dist. San Jose	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Base, Rudyard	PHC	vic sup/dist. San Jose	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Mendoza, Francisco	PHC	adm/dist. San Jose	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Yyance, Eliseo	PHC	cons/dist. San Jose	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Ukat, Melkiyares	PHC	cons/dist. San Jose	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Layugan, Michael G.	PHC	rec/Tagaytay	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Caga, Raul	PHC	vic rec/Tagaytay	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Paat, Geronimo John	PHC	adm/Tagaytay	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Ferrer, Felix	PHC	cons/Tagaytay	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Flores, Randolph Jose	PHC	cons/Tagaytay	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Festin, Raymun	PHC	rec/Quezon City	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Bernal, Melchor	PHC	vic rec/Quezon City	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Rebutias, Ramonito	PHC	adm/Quezon City	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Tagura, Pablito	PHC	cons/Quezon City	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Ynzon, Anthony L.	PHC	cons/Quezon City	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Dacquel, Felix Noel B.	PHC	sup/dist. Palawan	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Orcino, Diego	PHC	vic sup/dist. Palawan	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Usman, Adrianus	PHC	adm/dist. Palawan	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Cordero, Crispin	PHC	rec/com. Legazpi	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Flores, Elmer	PHC	vic rec/com. Legazpi	tri
29.04.2014	Fr. Miranda, Ricardo Franco	PHC	adm/com. Legazpi	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Michael, Stephen	MEX	sup/dist. Casa Central	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Kodong, Wilhelmus	MEX	cons/dist. Casa Central	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Meraz, Juan Carlos	MEX	cons/dist. Casa Central	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Skowronski, Wieslaw Marek	MEX	sup/dist. D.F.	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Nakpane, Gbandi	MEX	cons/dist. D.F.	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. González, Francisco	MEX	cons/dist. D.F.	tri

12.05.2014	Fr. Machado, Edward Xavier	MEX	sup/dist. Guadalajara	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Hernández, Jaime	MEX	cons/dist. Guadalajara	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Migoya, Ignacio	MEX	cons/dist. Guadalajara	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Gutiérrez, Gabriel	MEX	sup/dist. Oaxaca-Chiapas	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Be, Johannes	MEX	cons/dist. Oaxaca-Chiapas	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Véliz Sánchez, Roberto Antonio	MEX	cons/dist. Oaxaca-Chiapas	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Tali Meta, Martinus	MEX	sup/dist. Cuba	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Ylagan, Francis	MEX	vic sup/dist. Cuba	tri
12.05.2014	Fr. Weibel, Johann	MEX	cons/dist. Cuba	tri

**TRANSFERS:**

29.04.2014	Fr. Alunday, Oscar	PHC/PHN	w.e.f. 29.04.2014
14.04.2014	Fr. Bondoc, Alan G.	TLS/PHC	w.e.f. June 2014

**Church figures that matter**

The Statistical Yearbook of the Church reported worldwide Church figures as of December 31, 2012. By the end of 2012, the worldwide Catholic population had reached 1.228 billion, an increase of 14 million or 1.14 per cent, slightly outpacing the global population growth rate, which, as of 2013, was estimated at 1.09 per cent.

Catholics as a percentage of the global population remained essentially unchanged from the previous year at around 17.5 per cent. The latest Vatican statistical yearbook estimated that there were about 4.8 million Catholics that were not included in its survey because they were in countries that could not provide an accurate report to the Vatican, mainly China and North Korea.

According to the yearbook, the percentage of Catholics as part of the general population is highest in the Americas where they make up 63.2 per cent of the continent's population. Asia has the lowest proportion, with 3.2 per cent. During the 2012 calendar year, there were 16.4 million baptisms of both infants and adults, according to the statistical yearbook.

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**COLOMBIA:****News briefs from the Province**

Fr. Superior General Heinz Kulueke visited the Province of COL from February 16-28, 2014. He visited the Districts of Atrato, Medellín, Cali and Bogotá. More reports will follow in the next issue of Arnoldus Nota.

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The new Provincial, Father Emigdio Cuesta Pino, visited the District of Monteria on March 13-22, 2014. There are three parishes in the district namely San Jose Obrero (2006), Divino Salvador (2006), and San Pedro Claver (2009). Fr. Emigdio met with the confreres working in the different parishes and reviewed with them their pastoral plans.

*COL Newsletter*

## **Miraculously cured woman visits Collegio**

On May 1, 2014 Mrs. Floribeth Mora Díaz, the Costa Rican woman miraculously cured by the intercession of John Paul II, paid a visit to the Collegio in Rome with her husband and two of her four children. In her visit to Rome she and her family were accompanied by our Polish confrere Fr. Franciszek Filar who works in the parish of Upala in Costa Rica. The contact for her visit to the Collegio was made by Fr. Enrico Szymiczek, treasurer of the Collegio.

During the canonization in St. Peter's square, Mrs. Floribeth carried the reliquary with a relic of John Paul II during procession. Many confreres of the Collegio attended the canonization of John Paul II and John XXIII, even though some could not get any closer than a kilometer from St. Peter's square due to the estimated 800,000 pilgrims in Rome for the occasion. Confreres and SVD friends from Poland and other countries in Europe and around the world, including 6 bishops, stayed at the Collegio or paid a visit.

### **Some details of the miraculous cure**

Mrs. Floribeth Mora Díaz was hospitalized on April 8, 2011 for extremely strong headaches. On April 14 she was transferred to the intensive care unit in another hospital and the diagnosis was for an aneurism, cerebral hemorrhage. According to the doctors "there was hardly any hope" for the 48-year old woman. For this reason she was brought home after a few days. When she came home, the husband put a picture of John Paul II on the small family altar. Floribeth turned to John Paul and asked his intercession for her cure.

On May 1, 2011 was the day of beatification of John Paul II (JP II) in St. Peter's square. Floribeth asked God to let her stay awake to watch the ceremony. On top of the TV set was a picture of JP II cut out from a local newspaper. Fixing her eyes on the picture at the beginning of the ceremony, she asked JP II: "Intercede with God because I don't want to die, help me to get well". She did stay awake throughout the Mass. Next day, in mid-morning, she looked again at the picture of JP II and made the sign of the cross. It seemed to her as if the Pope's voice told her: "Get up, don't be afraid." She got up and walked to the kitchen. She was instantly and completely cured. Further analyses and tests, repeated after some time, confirmed the complete spontaneous disappearance of the aneurism. (Translated selectively from the weekly "Credere")

### **Heralding Mission Situations of the Americas Prayer for Dialogue**

The Bishops of Nicaragua have invited Nicaraguans to pray for the next Church-Government meeting, which will take place on May 21. It is an opportunity to open a dialogue with President Daniel Ortega Saavedra. The document of the Episcopal Conference (CEN) calls on Catholics to dedicate three days of prayer for this event. The headquarters of the Apostolic Nunciature in Nicaragua will be the place of dialogue. The Bishops met

on the eve of the feast of Our Lady of Fatima, May 12, at the Seminary of Managua dedicated to her, to discuss some of the topics that will be the focus of the dialogue. May 21 will be the first dialogue between the Church and government since the current president and secretary general of the FSLN (Sandinista National Liberation Front), Daniel Ortega Saavedra was re-elected in 2007.

*(Agenzia Fides 14/05/2014)*