



Fr. Markus Inama SJ | Rector

November 2014

Dear Friends!

Last June, I had the opportunity to visit South America for the first time in my life. Among other countries, I also visited Paraguay. Fr. Guillermo Cabello SJ, who did his PhD studies in Innsbruck, showed me his home country. First, we visited the Jesuit communities, then the parish "Sagrada Familia" which runs its own radio station called "Radio Marangatu" in Asunción. When we stopped there, we witnessed the local Christian community in full action: members of the parish were organizing help for Campesinos, who had to leave their homes because of a flood. After a short meeting with Fr. Provincial Alberto Luna SJ, we left for a trip to the south of Paraguay. Bruno, a young member of the CLC, accompanied us.

After a six hour drive, we arrived at San Ignacio Guazú, the first Jesuit mission in Paraguay, where the Jesuits are today running a small museum. A guide showed us around and told us also the story of Saint Rochus Gonzalez SJ, who lived and died there. Afterwards, a Jesuit novice, Gusman Servín, welcomed us in the novitiate which is located at the former Jesuit mission and showed us our rooms. Together with Carlos Thibodeaux SJ - a Jesuit father from the US - we enjoyed our simple dinner. Because it was winter in the southern hemisphere, the weather was cold, but it made the atmosphere and Jesuit brotherhood all that more warm and familiar.

Finally, we took a classical group picture standing beside a painting of Father Ignatius and a photo of Father Adolfo Nicolás. For me, this simple shot captures something of the Ignatian spirit. The spirit of Ignatius drove the Jesuits of the 17th century to share life with the Guarani people and work together with them for the kingdom of God. Today, we try to keep this same spirit alive in our cooperation as Jesuits from different countries, from varied backgrounds and stages of education, alongside a lot of good people, who are also engaged in the Ignatian network all over the world.

Pax et Bonum,



Fr. Markus Inama SJ
Rector

> COMMUNITY NEWS <



G. Fischer SJ

On May 19th, we invited colleagues from the University as well as friends to a "Meeting at the Jesuit College".

Fr. **Georg Fischer SJ** gave a speech entitled, "*The Unknown God of the Bible: Theologies of the Old Testament*" and answered many questions from the large audience.

On May 21st, Fr. **Edmund Runggaldier SJ** had his official farewell lecture. A lot of colleagues, students, family members, friends and Jesuits came to listen to his speech about "*One Philosophy and Many Philosophers*". Fr. Runggaldier SJ is currently holding lectures in the Fiji Islands where the regional seminar was looking for a philosopher for a period of one year.

For this year's pilgrimage for vocations we chose a new destination. We walked from the entrance of the Wipptal to the chapel in Heiligwasser where we celebrated the Eucharist together.

At the end of September, a group of Jesuits from Innsbruck – consisting of Frs. **Ekka, Karimundackal, Sahayaraj, Lobunda, Ngandu, Ggita, Strugiński, Kočiš, Goller and Inama** – went for a study trip to Brussels.



H. Zeller SJ

On October 3rd, Fr. **Hermann Zeller SJ** celebrated his 100th birthday. Numerous brothers and friends were present at the church service. During the ensuing celebration, the jubilarian himself gave an impressive speech.

Again, we have a group of five students who live in our "Young-Ignatian-Community". They will be supervised by Fr. **Peter Fritzer SJ**, and Fr. **Markus Inama SJ**, and will receive weekly input regarding Ignatian spirituality.

During summer, the Jesuit College Innsbruck has renewed its homepage, available under <http://www.jesuitenkolleg-innsbruck.at/> in German as well in English. A link to the new Facebook page can be found there as well.



M. Inama SJ, G. Servín, G. Cabello SJ

In June, our Rector Fr. **Markus Inama SJ** went to South America and visited Jesuits in Colombia, Paraguay and Chile. His goal was to get in contact with provincials and Jesuit students in order to promote the possibility of their doing doctoral studies in Innsbruck.

> DOCTORAL STUDIES IN INNSBRUCK <

Jesuits, who wish to earn a doctoral degree or a licentiate in the fields of either Philosophy or Theology at the University of Innsbruck starting in October 2015, should contact the Rector soon, as the procedure to obtain a visa and to enroll at the University takes some time. It is strongly recommended to acquire some language proficiency in German in one's home province prior to arriving in Innsbruck.



D. Irudayaraj SJ, F. Subba SJ

During summer Fr. **Dominic Irudayaraj SJ (AND)** and Fr. **Frank Subba SJ (DAR)** attended a German language course at the university. They stayed at the Jesuit College and enjoyed some excursions with Jesuits from our community.

> NEW BOOKS <

Jadranka Garmaz, Matthias Scharer
"Učenje" Vjere / Glauben "lernen"

Kako osmisliti i voditi proces učenja vjere? Komunikativnoteološka koncepcija. Wie leitet und begleitet man den Prozess des Glaubenslernens? Kommunikativ-theologische Option. Zagreb: Glas Koncila 2014.

Wilhelm Rees, Joachim Schmiedl (Hg.)

Unverbindliche Beratung oder kollegiale Steuerung? Kirchenrechtliche Überlegungen zu synodalen Vorgängen (Europas Synoden nach dem Zweiten Vatikanischen Konzil 2). Freiburg/Basel/Wien: Herder 2014.

Maria Juen

Die ersten Minuten des Unterrichts

Skizzen einer Kairologie des Anfangs aus kommunikativ-theologischer Perspektive (Kommunikative Theologie – interdisziplinär 7). Wien/Berlin: LIT-Verlag 2013.

Dominik Markl, Claudia und Simone Paganini (Hg.)

Gottes Wort im Menschenwort

Festschrift für Georg Fischer SJ zum 60. Geburtstag (ÖBS 43). Wien u.a.: Peter Lang 2014.



Prov. B. Bürgler SJ

Since the feast of Ignatius, July 31st, the Austrian Jesuit Province has a new Provincial, Fr. **Bernhard Bürgler SJ**, who took over the position from Fr. **Gernot Wisser SJ**.

> HONORARY DOCTORATE FOR FR. LUIS GUTHEINZ SJ <



L. Gutheinz SJ with a friend

Fr. Luis Gutheinz SJ, an Austrian Jesuit, has been living in China for over half a century now. As a missionary, he works as a Professor of Theology, as well as a leader of the China Leprosy Service. On June 27th, the University of Innsbruck recognized his dedication and work by awarding him an honorary doctorate. Here is an abridged version of the speech that our own **Fr. Georg Fischer SJ** delivered on this day honoring him.

To what does Innsbruck owe its name, its rise, and - subsequently - its university?

It is the bridge, which was built about 1170 from the northern side of the Inn River to the southern bank. Already a few decades later, almost all the traffic to Italy ran across this bridge and gave the city prestige and wealth.

Through his double identity, Fr. Luis Gutheinz SJ represents a bridge as well. On the one hand, there is Luis Gutheinz, proud of his Tyrolean origin; on the other hand, there is Gu Han Song Shenfu (his Chinese name), 9385 km eastward and six hours time difference away in Taipei. In his person he connects, as a 'bridge', between these two worlds.

In(n?)culturation between different continents, languages, religions, mentalities characterizes the life work of Luis Gutheinz, since he left Austria in 1961 at the age of 28 in the direction of China and Taiwan.

What does any bridge consist of? There are three aspects we could mention, which reflect Fr. Gutheinz's life beautifully: the pillars of a bridge, the suspensions, and the bridge's overall purpose and vision.

Let us first start with the pillars of a bridge! Anyone who has ever released a dictionary, even if it is in her or his own language, knows what trouble and expense is associated with it. Concerning Luis Gutheinz, there are no less than five lexicographic standard works, amounting to several 1000 pages in Chinese, which convey a millennia-old Jewish-Christian heritage and its values in the East Asian language and cultural area.

Second, after the foundations have been established by the pillars, one can think of the connections in-between: the suspension ropes and driving surfaces. Concerning the

person to be honored today I see 'suspension ropes' in his deep kindness and capacity for devotion that – despite all the differences, and the often repulsive, disfigured outward appearance, e.g. with leprosy patients – made him their friend and helper, and turned out to be support and consolation for thousands for over half a century. This matches the name of the university where he continues to teach: "Fu Jen", which means "care, development of humanity".

The 'driving surfaces' exist in the lively exchange between two worlds. Luis Gutheinz has made the experience and theological thinking of Europe accessible to a broad audience in Asia through his lectures, speeches, and writings, but not as a 'one-way street': he has as well, and often, taught in Europe about the other world of Chinese thinking and their local religions, and in this way promoted understanding for their unique cultural characteristics. It was his concern to highlight the positive contributions of this 'foreign' culture and make them fruitful for us here in the West. In addition, he has always looked out to the connection of science and practice. As such, research has never been an 'ivory tower' for him, nor have his academic reflections been isolated from his more active ministry.

Finally, for the construction of bridges, mind and planning are required. Whoever designs encyclopedias shows foresight: He creates lasting workbooks for decades to come. To look this far beyond our own horizon and to get involved in the strange, unknown and uncertain, requires great courage, whose root, in our honoree, is ultimately a deep trust in the living God. It was through this confidence that the enormous effort was sustained for such a long time, whose fruits will benefit innumerable people, even far into the future.



L. Gutheinz SJ serving meals

In his work, Fr. Luis Gutheinz SJ – alias Gu Han Song Shenfu – followed in the footsteps of two brothers, the Jesuit Matteo Ricci SJ (1552-1610), and Adam Schall von Bell SJ (1592-1666), who had a huge impact on the region of China with their scientific expertise about 400 years ago. Even though Prof. Gutheinz SJ is the last survivor of the original 42 Austrian Jesuits of the mission in China and Taiwan, one can only marvel at his vitality and his cheerfulness despite his over 80 years: "departure", "change", "in the making" are tags of his German books, and anyone who meets him, experiences a human, communicative, always humble person whose cheerful, contagious joy spreads out to everyone.

Fr. Georg Fischer SJ

> ALEXANDRE NGANDU SJ <



A. Ngandu SJ

Since September 2011, I have been living in the Jesuit College in Innsbruck. I come from the Democratic Republic of Congo, and am a member of the Central African Province which consists of two countries, the Congo and Angola. My field of study is Biblical Studies which I am pursuing in the Theological Faculty. The excellent tradition of research in the area of the Bible, especially the Old Testament, which is carried on here

in the German-speaking countries, is one of the reasons why I asked to continue my studies in Innsbruck. The topic of my dissertation is: "God as a Rock: Deuteronomy 32 as a pivot between the Torah, Prophets and Writings". My advisor is **Fr. Georg Fischer SJ**.

The number of foreign doctoral students who come from Europe as well as Africa, Asia and America to study in the Theological Faculty of Innsbruck is very impressive. One of the advantages of studying here is that you can find all the essential literature of Biblical Studies in the library. Although the number of Jesuit professors has decreased over the years, they contribute a lot to the training of the students. The international nature of the Society of Jesus is quite

apparent when you look at the community. Almost a third of the community consists of postgraduate students from different countries. Living together in the Jesuit College has a very special character. There are many opportunities for exchange and cooperation. In our time, in which fewer candidates enter the novitiate, the commitment of all the confreres of the community to promote vocations is urgently needed.

In my encounter with Christians who still regularly visit church, I often feel their longing for a deeper understanding of the Word of God. They strive for authenticity in the following of Christ and try to create time and space for personal prayer. The strong faith of the elderly and sick that I meet in a nursing home, as well as their affection for the Lord, are very impressive and encouraging for me.

Geographically, there are mountains around Innsbruck and Tyrol. The mountains are a tourist attraction, both in summer and winter, for young and for older people as well. Many of my confreres are avid sportsmen. I, for my own part, like to run along the river Inn.

It is remarkable how peaceful it is in the European Union. Since there is war almost everywhere in Africa, especially in my home country, Congo, I always yearn for peace.

> ODE TO BRUSSELS <



Meeting fellow Jesuits in Brussels

The 23rd of September had a promising dawn for the doctoral students along with our Rector **Fr. Markus Inama SJ** and Professor **Fr. Hans Goller SJ** – it was the first day of our group tour to Belgium! The capital of the euro zone, Brussels, welcomed us with a smile and song! We were happy guests of our brother Jesuits in the Collège Saint-Michel.

The morning of the first day began with a panoramic city tour. The European Parliament was the high point of our afternoon. We had the privilege of visiting the EU parliament and had an informal one-hour session with Othmar Karas, the famous Austrian politician and Member of the European Parliament who is also a member of the European Parliament's Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs. That evening witnessed another important event:

Fr. John Dardis SJ, the President of the Conference of European Provincials, invited us to celebrate the Holy Mass and

to share the agape meal with his community. After listening to us, his community men shared their perspectives on the importance of their liaison work in the EU capital with us.

The next day was again a day of fun and frolic, but we also went to pray at a lively ecumenical worship service in the Jesuit Chapel of the Resurrection. We were introduced to the various avenues that Jesuits explore in reaching out to the diplomatic and other working communities. In the afternoon, we visited the historical and theological city Louvain!

Day three was a day of resting and relaxing with a bit of sightseeing in Antwerp. The diamond capital of Belgium enchanted us with its marvelous Basilica and scenic beauty. The jugs of delicious Belgian beer together with some robust red wine made our evening more delightful and charming!

Our hearty and warm thanks to our brother Jesuits in Brussels for the fine hospitality! A very special appreciation and note of gratitude to **Fr. Robert Godding SJ**, the director of the Société des Bollandistes, who explained the origin and development of the Bollandists to us with much vivacity and exuberance!

On day five in the evening we were back in Innsbruck – returning to our desks and desktops! A special thanks to **Fr. Michel Lobunda SJ** for organizing, planning and execution and to **Fr. Markus Inama SJ** for the memorable EU trip with no security hassles!

Vive Bruxelles! **Fr. Sahayaraj Stanley SJ**