

# SVD CHINA PROVINCE NEWSLETTER

# 天主教聖言會中華省通訊

March 2015 願天主聖三生活在我們和眾人心中 Issue No. 67 SIN Provincialate: P.O. Box 4-13, Dapinglin, Xindian 231, Taipei County, TAIWAN, ROC

### A Word from the Provincial

n November 21, 2014, Pope Francis published his "Apostolic Letter to All Consecrated People on the Occasion of the Year of Consecrated Life." (The English version of the letter is available on the Vatican website. A Chinese and English edition is available in Taiwan: 教宗方濟各,『致全體度獻身生活者書函』台北:台灣天主教修會會士協會,2014年11



月 21 日 [梵諦岡出版日期]) In the relatively short letter, Pope Francis gives three aims of the Year of Consecrated Life: "To look to the past with gratitude; to live the present with passion; to embrace the future with hope." I believe these three aims speak directly to us as SVD religious of the Society of the Divine Word, China Province.

We look to the past with gratitude. On September 8 we will celebrate the 140<sup>th</sup> year of the founding of the SVD. We are grateful to the founding generation: Father Arnold Janssen, Father Joseph Freinademetz, Mother Helena Stollenwerk and Mother Josepha Hendrina Stenmanns. I find our founding generation to be an inspiring group. They are saints, but they are also very human persons of their time, doing their best to live out the gospel mandate to preach the gospel.

However, we in the China Province, can I believe, remember with special gratitude our relatively recent history. Joseph Freinademetz and John Baptist Anzer began their Chinese missionary career in Hong Kong in 1879 but moved on to Northern China two years later. But in the second half of the twentieth century there began what is now a flourishing SVD community in Hong Kong and Macau working in parishes, education and special ministries.

In 1881 the SVD began its work in northern China. From Shandong, the SVD expanded its work to the provinces of Gansu, Qinghai, Xinjiang, North and South Henan and

in 1933 Fu Jen Catholic University in Beijing. This work seemed to come to an abrupt end in the years around 1950. Most of the China missionaries had to leave China and a number of our Chinese members suffered greatly and were imprisoned. But the SVD rebounded. In 1959 the SVD began a formal contract with the Chiayi Diocese in Taiwan and in 1961 Fu Jen Catholic University was re-established in Xinzhuang, a suburb of Taipei. Today the largest group of SVDs in the China Province is working in Taiwan. Then through the efforts of both overseas and local SVDs, the SVD in China has again re-emerged and is now an equal partner with other areas of the province. We remember the past with gratitude.

We live the present with passion. When I was in the seminary our director became a little nervous when we used the word passion. But if we are to really move, we need both the direction of our reason and the drive of our passion.

In his letter Pope Paul states that: "Living the present with passion means becoming 'experts in communion." In an age of increasing fragmentation and individualism I believe one of the challenges we face is that our communities not only are places of rest, recreation and rehabilitation but also instruments of mission. Later in the letter Pope Francis quotes his predecessor, Pope Benedict: "It is not by proselytizing that the Church grows, but by attraction." We all work hard as individuals and this is necessary. But the real attraction will come when those outside the Church see caring and faith-filled communities.

We embrace the future with hope. Here in the China Province we are still seen as a young and vigorous international community. All of us have our own plans and ambitions. When I look to the future I am especially grateful to those members of our community who have in some ways set aside their own plans and ambitions to work directly for the SVD. As we embrace the future, we need the resources to bring new ideas and visions to reality. The most important resource for the future is a group of new, young SVDs. So we are grateful to those working in vocation promotion and formation. But we also need hardware – funds and facilities. So we are also thankful to those who in recent years made the China Province financially self-sufficient and those who continue to manage our finances and properties.

Look to the past with gratitude; live the present with passion; embrace the future with hope. I believe these words of Pope Francis are especially applicable to us as SVDs and as members of the China Province.

Frank Budenholzer, SVD March 8, 2015



# Resolutions Province Chapter 2015 - February 2nd - 6th 2015

## Approved by SVD Generalate 2015/3/20

he Delegates of SVD China Province gathered on February 2nd – 6th 2015 for the Provincial Chapter. The chapter was held at salesian Retreat House, Cheung Chau Island, Hong Kong. The resolutions Province Chapter 2015 approved by SVD Generalate as follows.

**Resolution 1:** In continuation of the original SVD spirit in Taiwan, we affirm the importance of our work among aborigines.

**Resolution 2:** We continue to encourage younger SVDs to prepare for academic and non-academic positions in Fu Jen University.

**Resolution 3:** Confreres assigned to Taiwan and HKM, including SVD students from China, should arrive with a basic knowledge of English.

**Resolution 4:** We recommend that the Provincial with the local Superior of TWS address the question of re-evaluating the situation of the Fu Jen Kindergarten and making it a priority and invest accordingly.

**Resolution 5:** Upon recommendation of the local councils, the Provincial with his council should appoint full time vocation promoters in each of the three areas. We recommend that the vocation directors form teams which include local confreres and lay people.

**Resolution 6:** The Province should set up a team to study and prepare guidelines for establishing

SVD Lay Associations or Third Orders and to continue to foster them. Each district should start to implement these programs.

**Resolution 7:** We continue to support primarily spiritually and morally the development of Yim Tin Tsai (鹽田仔), which is the former dwelling place of St. Joseph Freinademetz.

**Resolution 8:** The provincial chapter considers that in special situations diocesan clerics can join our society.

**Resolution 9:** The Province and districts supervise and help every confrere to arrange for a medical insurance and pension scheme, and after a proper period of time the districts will endeavour to set up a retirement home for our confreres.

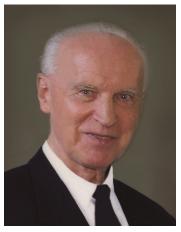
**Resolution 10**: The Mainland Formation Committee should develop a plan in collaboration with the Provincial Office to facilitate visits by confreres and other resource persons from Taiwan and HKM to give input.

Resolution 11: The Provincial Chapter suggests that the Provincial proposes to the Bishop of Hong Kong that the new church to be built in Tung Chung (Lantau island) be named after Saint Joseph Freinademetz, since Saint Joseph served there..

**Resolution 12:** The superiors in their relatio with confreres should include questions relating to the practical living the vow of poverty, especially as outlined in the chief failings listed in Constitution 218:8.

**Resolution 13:** We will update the content and presentation of the Province website. The Provincial will name a committee to direct the editing and maintenance of the website.

# Father Arnold Heinrich Sprenger, SVD, 1929-2015



# **Sprenger** was born as the youngest of nine brothers and sisters on December 12, 1929 in Willebadessen in the state of North Rheinland-Westphalen, Germany. The family was a deeply Christian family. He grew up on the family farm where he became accustomed to hard work. But he was also an ardent soccer player on the village soccer team and enjoyed contact with his team mates for the rest of his life.

In 1952, after high school studies, he joined the Divine Word Missionaries (SVD), an international Catholic religious order dedicated to mission work. In the novitiate, when for the first time he read the Gospel of John, he was so impressed that during his whole life this Gospel became the source of his faith. His was a deep childlike faith, which was the foundation of a lifelong dedication to work for Church and society.

Arnold Sprenger pronounced perpetual vows as a member of the Society of the Divine Word, and was ordained a priest in 1958. He had applied to become a bush missionary in Indonesia, but the Society of the Divine Word had just re-established Fu Jen Catholic University in Taiwan, and he was instead asked to go for further studies in preparation for university ministry in Taiwan. From 1960-1964 he studied in Washington, acquiring an M.A. Degree in German Literature at Catholic University and a Ph.D. Degree in Linguistics at Georgetown University.

After completing his studies, he came to Taiwan and after one year of Chinese he began to teach German language and literature, English language, and later also linguistics at Fu Jen University. He developed his own very successful method of teaching language through teacher-student class activities that particularly emphasized lively interaction instead of rote learning. As a result, quite extraordinary at the time in Taiwan, first year students could already speak simple, but fluent German.

Father Sprenger was very concerned about the educational system in Taiwan, which was geared toward passing the common entrance examination for the universities through rote learning, instead of helping the students to think and understand. He had written many articles on this subject. Soon he was requested by the Ministry of Education to introduce his method to high school teachers. He was also asked to become a member of the committee for the renewal of English teaching in Taiwan. This involved the preparation of teaching materials for high school students of English.

In the years that followed, Father besides publishing extensively on language teaching and value education, he addressed many articles on issues of Chinese and Western culture, on mission and religion. He translated a series of 14 books published by Herder in Germany containing articles and books by well-known German thinkers on present day cultural issues (當代德國思潮 譯叢 14, 孫志文主編. 聯經, 民 71. Lian Jing Publications, Taipei, 1982).

From 1967 to 1980 he was head of the Graduate Institute of German and Chair of the German Department. In 1980 the Ministry of Education approved Fu Jen's application to officially establish the College of Foreign Languages. Father Sprenger was Dean of the College until 1984.

In 1987, when China was just opening up but still very much off limits for missionaries Father Sprenger pioneered as one of the first Western missionaries to go to Mainland China. He felt that he had completed his mission in Taiwan: he had introduced his method of teaching, he had set up a College of Foreign Languages, he had shared his ideas about value education, religion and about East-West cultural exchange with people in Taiwan. Now his missionary heart pushed him to go further, to extend his mission to China, which was the first love of the Society of the Divine Word.

The idea was to set up a branch office for Monumenta Serica, of which Fr. Sprenger had become a member in that year. This branch office would be established at the former Fu Jen University building as a place to contact Chinese scholars who could contribute to Monumenta Serica and for exchanges with Western scholars. This could not be realized. However, he stayed on and had a chance to teach English and Western Civilization at Beijing Normal University and at the Fu Jen Evening School in Beijing till 1991. He was several times invited to give language workshops for middle school teachers in Beijing. later he was visiting scholar at the Academy of Social Sciences. Before 1989 an important way of meeting intellectuals and publishers was to attend the "salon" meetings that were regularly held in Beijing. Soon Fr. Sprenger was invited to a salon and could contact people interested in Western culture and Philosophy. In this way he fostered good relations with many Chinese scholars and students. One of them was Liu Xiao-Feng, the famous scholar of Christian thought,

who wrote penetrating studies about Christianity and Chinese culture and translated many Western classical books. Fr. Sprenger wrote an article on one of his most important works, "Delivering and Dallying" 《 拯救 與逍遙》 and so made him known in the West. In Beijing, too, he could publish again the series of books by German authors on present day cultural issues (三聯出版社San Lian Publishing House, 1991).





Later he was for 10 years professor of German Language and Western Culture at the Beijing Second Foreign Language Institute until his retirement in 2000. From 2000-2003 he was visiting scholar at the Institute of World Religions of the Beijing Academy of Social Sciences and had a chance to discuss religious topics with scholars of religion.

Besides teaching language, Father Sprenger from the beginning did pastoral work as a priest for foreign communities in Beijing, and every week-end he spend much time at different embassies celebrating the Eucharist for different language groups. In his later period he could officially establish a German Catholic parish at the German Embassy, namely the St. Freinademetz Parish, which still continues to flourish. He was also very concerned about Chinese Catholics, especially about members of his own Society from before the revolution. He helped them to reestablish their communities and supported the formation of local vocations. Right after his arrival in Beijing in summer 1987, he came in contact with some elderly sisters, also helping them in the different problems which they faced in the process of rebuilding their communities.

One of his important contributions was that he selected some candidates for theological studies and prepared them to go abroad for studies, esp. in the USA and Germany. Some of these young men have already come back and now serve the Church in China. In 2005 he received an honorary doctorate of Literature at Fu Jen Catholic University. In December 2008 he celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his priestly ordination. In 2009, due to his health failing, Fr. Sprenger returned to Taiwan. He had worked for 23 years as a pioneer of language teaching in Taiwan, as well as for 23 years in Mainland China as a professor and specialist in cultural exchange.

Father Sprenger spent his last years in the Fu Jen Catholic University SVD community. His health had deteriorated and he could no longer work, but during this time he was nevertheless very much a part of the SVD community. Many alumni, in particular those from his early years at Fu Jen, continued to show gratitude for all he had taught and given them, not only in academics, but in life. The force of his personality and quality of his dedication remained strong until the end. Visitors and old friends gravitated toward him.

Father Arnold Sprenger died on January 2, 2015 at 5 o'clock a.m. in the palliative care unit of Cardinal Tien Hospital in New Taipei City, Xindian District.

### Fr. Jac Kuepers, SVD

# Many a lesson from a memorable teacher or "Wiedersehen"



have never written an obituary, and do not plan to try to write one here. In my view, an "obit" is mostly about the past. It speaks of someone's life now having come to an end. An obituary reviews a few milestones of that person's story, and tells us in an apparently objective way why we might want to remember her or him. An obituary attempts to sum up, but of course only in a very limited way, the effect

that person may have had in the world by force of personality or deed.

A bit of an obituary as a genre may happen in what follows, but that is not my intent. As I remember a special someone, I hope to speak of the present and the future as well. A life is not, after all, only about yesterday. A life is also about today and tomorrow, and the time to come.

A dear friend, and a major contributor to our local educational scene, has passed away. Father Arnold Sprenger ("Sun Shen-fu" in one variation of his name) left us two days ago at the age of 86 while under hospice care at Tien Hospital. He had suffered bravely and long. We who knew him are in grief, but are happy for him. He is in a better place now than the one we could give him.

Forgive me for speaking in such an unabashedly subjective manner. I cannot view this man in any other way. Obituaries are shorn of emotion and tend to focus on cool, verifiable facts. Again, this is not an obituary. I make no apology for speaking with emotion, and from my heart.

It is literally true, you see, that Father Sprenger is the reason these words are on this piece of paper, or computer screen, if you are reading us on line. It was he who reached out to me in old fashioned letters forty years ago, before we had e-mail and this current high-tech luxuries of ours, to tell me about Taiwan, China, doctoral degrees, and his students at a place called Fu Jen Catholic University. I had heard of Fu Jen as an undergraduate student and met a few impressive priests ("shen-fu") who had taught at the original Fu da in "Peking," but I knew almost zilch about the place.

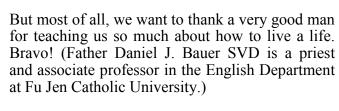
Father Sprenger was already Dean of the College of Foreign Languages and Chair of the German Department at Fu Jen when I was studying for the priesthood. He was in the early years of his life in Taiwan and China when I looked up Fu Jen's address back in Chicago in 1972, and wrote to him about the possibility of finding work here as a "shen-fu" and college instructor. As the cliché puts it, one thing led to another.

I beame a "shen-fu" at Christmas, 1974, and finished an M.A. in philosophy at DePaul University in January, 1976. I flew to Taipei, began language study, and was (more or less) ready to teach in the English Department in the fall of 1977. When I returned to Taiwan in 1988 after Ph.D. studies abroad, Father Sprenger was a professor in Beijing.

It was a true honor to be one of the many who welcomed Father back home to Fu Jen about five years ago. Speaking personally, he did much these recent years to teach me how to prepare for another life. With limited space, it seems impossible to point to only a few lessons this man has taught a host of us, but I have no choice.

The greatest Sprenger challenge in matters large and small has been to do myself what I tell my students to do. He told me to never memorize Mandarin words in isolation. Always grasp vocabulary in phrases and sentences, he said, and repeat them ad nauseum. He urged me not only to speak, but to read Chinese. I saw him leave his office occasionally to play soccer with his students. I saw him attend their weddings, share quality time with them after graduation, boast about their successes, and pray for them in times of trial. I saw him work late into the night to prepare classes, write, and listen to people's problems. I saw him enjoy a beer or two, puff a cigar on Sundays, and support people with a smile and a compliment. Countless times, I saw him deny his own comfort and put others first. He was always friendly and always a "shen-fu."

Until the end Father said "Thank you" to his closest care-givers, Brother Johannes, Huang Tai-tai and our Filipino friend Ray. All of us who loved him want to thank these folks, too.



Column by Fr. Daniel Bauer, SVD, China Post, January 4, 2015 http://www.chinapost.com.tw/commentary/the-china-post/daniel-j.-bauer/2015/01/04/425622/Lessons-from.htm



# The Mission of Ali Shan says Thanks to Fr. Anton Weber SVD

Tuesday January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015, the Bishop's house in Chiayi was the venue for a thanksgiving ceremony for Fr. Anton Weber SVD and his colleagues. Those gathered expressed deep appreciation for the translation and revision of the Mass book from Mandarin Chinese to the *Cou* tribal language.

"This really is a happy day after translating and working in various ways for more than 12 years," said Fr. Weber. "Language is an identity, and if we lose a language, then we also lose our own identity." He said he hoped very much that "the book" would not wind up as a sort of museum piece, tucked away in a closet or on a shelf. The way to show respect for the translation and those who did it, he emphasized, is to use the text in Mass, daily prayer, and so on.

Fr. Weber has given himself as an SVD missionary to the *Cou* tribe for over 40 years. He worked with noted pioneer Fr. Rudolph Frisch, who began SVD mission work among the indigenous people in the area of Mount *A Li* some 53 years ago.

Fr. Weber spent much time with his people, teaching about Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith, helping many families economically, and sending children from the mountains to the city for a better education. Now many of his students hold important jobs and positions in society, in Taiwan and elsewhere. The most important accomplishment for Fr. Weber, however, was his learning of the tribal language. In some cases, he mastered the *Cou* tongue better that some of the people themselves. This is a truth about him that the mountain people of *Alishan* will never forget.

The *Cou* tribe is one among the 16 aboriginal tribes in Taiwan. They settled long ago in the southern part of Taiwan in the mountain area called *Alishan* (Mount *A Li*). The population of the *Cou* is approximately 3000. Now many of the younger generation cannot speak their own tribal language any more. They only speak Mandarin Chinese, the national language, even at home. It is seems that the younger generation prefers the convenience of Mandarin, and learns English as a foreign language in the hope of finding a better job. Many neglect their own *Cou* language.

Sixty years ago, when the *Kuomintang* Government was expelled from mainland China by the Communist Party, former soldiers, families, and members of the Party settled in Taiwan. One of the *Kuomintang* government policies at the time was to forbid the use of tribal languages in public places, including schools and places of work. Those who broke the law were fined.

This policy seems to have "succeeded," as members of indigenous tribes under the age of 40 have on the whole lost the ability to speak their native languages. This has become the fate of the people in *Alishan*. It is really a pity.

Language is an identity, and losing our language means we also lose our own identity, said Fr. Weber. Realizing the importance of their own language, the older generation has always tried to keep its language by daily conversation, in church

gatherings with the singing of songs that belong to their own *Cou* tribe, and translating the Bible and changing sermons from the original Chinese Mandarin into the words of the tribal language itself.

Thanks largely to Fr. Anton Weber, the Mass texts and four Gospels are now available in the *Cou* language. I see the old and the young joining together to read and reflect in their own language in Bible-sharing sessions. I see them preparing the holy Mass in the *Cou* language, and participating in the Mass in *Cou*. I see *Cou* continuing as a vital tool of communication and the sharing of values and culture.

Some years ago, the government admitted the error of its earlier language policies. Now that government, in different hands and with enlightened awareness, encourages children of the indigenous tribes of Taiwan to learn and speak their own mother tongue. The government even holds annual tribal language examinations. Government representatives promise to help the Diocese of Chiayi with the costs of printing these precious new church materials.

The SVD can be rightfully proud of Fr. Anton Weber and his many associates who have done so much to not only keep the language and culture of the *Cou* alive and prospering, but to share the love and healing grace of Jesus with others. Indeed, persons of many nationalities know of his mission, and are inspired by it.

Fr. Rudy Us'Abatan



# **Congratulations to Our Newly Ordained Priests**

Fu Jen University's Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel was the scene January 2, 2015 for the ordination of three SVDs to the priesthood. They are Peter *Liu*, *Cheng-Yan*, Peter *Chen*, *Hung-Sheng* and Damasus *Yong*, *Piew Tieng*. The ordaining prelate was Taipei Archbishop John Hung, Shan-Chuan SVD. Joining him on the altar were *Chiayi* Bishop Thomas Chung, An-Zu, and SVD China provincial Father Frank Budenholzer. More



than eighty priests concelebrated. The ceremony was attended by family members and loved ones of the ordinandi, and more than five hundred parishioners from SVD parishes in the *Taipei* and *Chiayi* areas.

We are all grateful to God for this great New Year's gift for the SVD China Province, especially Taiwan. These vocations come to us after a dry spell of 3 years, when the Taiwan SVD had no ordinations. Two of our new priests are native Taiwanese (both named Peter), and one Malaysian (Damasus).

In the Taiwan church, we SVDs are the youngest of the larger male congregations in terms of the ages of its members. In addition to our middle-aged and elderly, we have quite a number of younger members. And recently the number of native Taiwanese joining us has increased. This is a sign that we are really working hard for indigenous vocations.

When SVDs first arrived in Taiwan almost 60 years ago, we looked so foreign because the western missionaries among us were so many, and the Chinese priests from the mainland relatively few. Thirty years after the founding of our OTP program, many missionaries from all over the world, and especially Asia, have joined us in Taiwan, but we still look so foreign. Now as more and more locals join us, hopefully we will look less foreign.

There are many congregations in Taiwan that lack indigenous vocations. Or if they have local members, these religious are now becoming older. Newcomers to take their places are few. Some congregations look really foreign because there simply are no native vocations. Some years back, the Chiayi Diocese saw two congregations that had to close down their houses. What a pity! And now the bishop there is inviting two new congregations from abroad to replace them.

### **Providence of God?**

I don't know. Is this a question of God's providence? In Our Chiayi community there are three older *shen-fu* (priests) who are more than 93 years old. Two are from the Chinese mainland (Father Liu and Father Chen). One is an American, Father Bartley Schmitz.

Our two newly ordained Taiwanese priests bring to us the same surnames as those of our older members, *Liu* and *Chen*. Some say it is because of the prayer life of our older members that today we have two new *shen-fu* named *Liu* and *Chen*.

Both Peter Liu and Peter Chen were assigned to the China province, with mis-

sions in the south of Taiwan. Damasus is an overseas Chinese from Malaysia. He is the first Malaysian to join the SVD. The Malaysian government being so strict about foreign missionaries, some feel now it ought to be easier for us to open an SVD house in Malaysia because, after all, we now have a Malaysian member. Let us hope that after Damasus, other Malaysians may join us.

Damasus' first assignment is to the American continent, specifically to Canada. In a sense, then, he replaces Bartley Schmitz, originally from the state of Montana in the USA. In gratitude for new life in our ranks, and with great hopes for the priestly ministries ahead of our two "Peter *shen-fu*" and "Damascus *shen-fu*," we look to the

future with optimism and good cheer.

Fr. Us' Abaton, Lorens Rudy



# **SVD Mission Day**



Called to be Holy" was the theme of our SVD Mission Day on February 20 at the St. Edward's parish in Lam Tin. The celebration has two purposes: First, as a religious missionary, we would like to wake up the world through the Year for Consecrated Life with our testimony of faith, holiness and hope. Second, to celebrate the feast of St. Joseph Freinademetz, which falls on January 29 together with our SVD Mission Partners. The mass was presided by Bishop Joseph Ha and our

SVD confreres. There were joined parishioners, sisters, representatives of the Indonesian, Filipino and Chinese communities.

Bishop Ha empathized the importance of mission outreach in the Church, explaining that Jesus described it as an urgent task with no time to spare, even to pack a bag with spare clothes or to farewell family. The bishop added that Jesus' ministry included spiritual and physical healing, even expelling demons. While our Hong Kong-Macau district superior Fr. James Areechira during the opening of Mission Concert encouraged us to learn from St. Joseph Freinademetz, how to become holy in a simple way through our daily prayers. Finally, the Soul Band, the Filipino and the Indonesian groups put on a display of traditional dances and music. May God bless our mission!



Fr. Heribertus Hadiarto

# Sing Yin Secondary School 45th Anniversary Events

celebration of the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Sing Yin Secondary School, a Thanksgiving Mass was held on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2014 in Fu Yi Ming Hall, Sing Yin. The school supervisor, Father Johnson Dhos, SVD, the school principal, assistant principals, representatives of parents and alumni, former teachers, friends of Sing Yin, teaching staff and students joined the Mass to give thanks to God.

His Eminence Cardinal, John Tong Hon, Bishop of Hong Kong was invited as the celebrant. He held the Mass and shared with the school an inspiring message from God. Seven more priests concelebrated in the mass.

Before the Thanksgiving Mass, His Eminence Cardinal, John Tong Hon, Bishop of Hong Kong also blessed the grotto of the Immaculate Conception of Mary and the mural painting of the God's creation located on the ground floor of the school campus. All the participants pray that the love of God will continue to embrace everyone in Sing Yin.

In addition, to celebrate the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a 'Performance Night' will be held on 30<sup>th</sup> May in the school hall and an Open Day on 30<sup>th</sup> June and 1<sup>st</sup> July. The Sing Yin Alumni Association is holding an 'Alumni Football Match' from March to June and an 'Anniversary Dinner' on 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2015.



# **Professional Exchange**



2nd Feb, 2015, Fr. John Chang, SVD from Fu Jen Catholic High School visited sing yin High school and talked about the feasibility of an interflow program between the two schools. In the coming April, Principal of sing yin high school Mr. Wong chi Keung will pay a visit to Fu Jen Catholic High School to learn more.

On 2015 March 16th and 17th, Father James Vyathappan, SVD, in Taiwan led a delegation of 3 Fu Jen Catholic University administrators and faculty to visit Catholic High Schools, including one SVD High Schools, in Hong Kong. The purpose of the visit was to recruit Hong Kong students to Fu Jen University.

Hong Kong and Macau students are the highest number of foreign students in Fu Jen. Tuition fees and living expenses in Taiwan Universities are comparatively cheaper, but also commonality of Chinese language and culture attract them to Taiwan for college education. Above all, Taiwan universities also are known for good quality education in the region. Fu Jen University has 11 Colleges consisting of 26,000 plus students.

The delegation from Fu Jen University talked to 4 High School students - each School separately in their respective auditorium. They used video clips, power point and brochure motivating them to consider Fu Jen University as one of their options for their college-level studies.

Professor Lai, the Dean of the College of Foreign Languages, amused the students through his magic show for a few minutes. They assured the total of 700 students saying that their good Christian formation and value education in their High Schools will be continued in Fu Jen Catholic University. This will definitely be followed by a good academic excellence at Fu Jen.

The Fu Jen delegation appreciates the welcome and the hospitality extended by the 4 Catholic High Schools' Principals, administrators and students. A special thanks to Sister Cecilia Wong, the Episcopal Delegate for Education for granting us permission and also to Fr Johnson svd who coordinated our visit to these Schools.

Father James Vyathappan, SVD

