

Linz, im Dezember 2021

Dear Members of the Gabriel Guilds!

The upcoming Christmas should be the occasion to send greetings to all our Guild sisters and brothers. For almost two years now, we have been under the spell of the Corona pandemic, which has severely hampered our opportunities for personal exchange and meetings and made international travel - the basis for planning a World Federation Meeting - almost impossible for large parts of the year due to constantly changing entry regulations. But the situation in the national Gabriel guilds is also generally confronted with the problem of an ageing membership. Even very active guilds - which still participate in the philatelic programme of the postal administrations as in Austria, Slovakia and Poland and also organise events in public - find it difficult to attract new members.



To promote the international idea of our idea, one should try to find personal contact. This would be possible, for example - to visit the numerous events of the Austrian guild that last several days - there you also have the opportunity to visit a special post office and have your items philatelically processed. In 2022 we have nine events, including the first days of new stamps:

22 April 2022: Sacred Art - "St. Fidelis v. Sigmaringen" - Feldkirch/Vorarlberg  
10 June 2022: "Augustiner-Bräu-Stübl" - Salzburg  
24 June 2022: "Pilgrimage Church Maria Strassengel" near Graz / Styria  
17/18 September 2022: Sacred Art "Paulusinitiale" - Heiligenkreuz Abbey  
25 November 2022: Christmas - "Holy Family" - Bleiburg, Carinthia

Perhaps this will be an incentive for some to plan a holiday in Austria!

From 2-9 October 2022 we will be leading a trip to the north of Germany to visit the President of the German Guild of St Gabriel.

I am available for enquiries about details of the programme - [obmann@st-gabriel.at](mailto:obmann@st-gabriel.at)

Despite all the problems - we always enjoy our collections and objects with Christian motifs!

Hoping to see you again in 2022 and that the Corona pandemic may pass us by, I wish all our Guild brothers and sisters a Blessed Christmas and an active and healthy New Year 2022!

Wilhelm Remes

