



Marist Family Provincials

Mary Jane Kenney, SMSM: Sr. Mary Jane is the Superior for the Missionary Sisters and hosted the annual gathering of the four Marist Provincials from April 27-28th at Framingham and Waltham, Massachusetts. She is the Regional Superior of 97 sisters in the USA, Peru and Jamaica. Presently, there are six young Marist Missionary Sisters in temporary vows living and participating in a nine-month ongoing formation program at 62 Newton Street in Waltham. Mary Jane is grateful to our province members in the Boston region who provide Eucharist several days each week for the SMSMs in Waltham, and twice a week at the Maristhill Nursing Home.

Pat McNamara, FMS updated us on their two recent Chapters: General Chapter in Colombia, S. America and their provincial chapter in New York. Pat said that he and Sean Sammon were the two oldest FMS present for the General Chapter, where there were 40 younger brothers present, and the average age was 50 years old at the Chapter. Their new general is a Mexican, Ernesto Sanchez. The sense of aging and diminishment is felt more in the USA province, and not in the congregation that still numbers 3500. Pat is happy to see two Marist priests stationed at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY.

Linda Sevcik, SM: Did you know Sr. Linda was on the teaching staff of Mundelein Seminary in Chicago for over 12 years? She still teaches a summer course for seminarians in human development at Creighton University and serves as the leader for the Marist Sisters in the USA.

Paul Frechette, SM spoke on the recent General Chapter held in Nemi, Italy. John Larsen, SM is the new Superior General. The outgoing Superior General John Hannan urged us that simply to “*maintain the status quo*” would not help us in the future. Other themes were for us to continue with our professional standards and the protection of children; search for creative ways to grow constantly in lives of contemplation; the importance of our lay brothers and Senior Religious; two days with listening to two Lay Marists; and our Mission as we are called to be missionary disciples, bridge builders, instruments of reconciliation, bearers of the Good News especially to the poor and youth. Paul shared that his provincial council continues to discuss Reconfiguration with our provinces of Canada and Mexico. We all shared how to continue to build bridges between the four branches of the Marist Family here in the USA. One example is our annual joint Marist Vocation Directors’ presentation to the students at Marist School in Atlanta.

Pat McNamara FMS, Linda Sevcik SM, Paul Frechette SM, Mary Jane Kenney SMSM

