



Nemi, 19 September 2025

The Chapter participants meet the Pope



Yesterday, the Capitulants were warmly received by Pope Leo XIV in the Clementine Hall of the Apostolic Palace. The Holy Father addressed the religious congregations currently gathered in Rome for their chapters and assemblies, offering words of encouragement and guidance.

Pope Leo invited all religious men and women to remain deeply faithful to their founding charisms while remaining attentive to the “signs of the times.” He underlined three essential dimensions of consecrated life: community life as the heart of vocation, obedience as an expression of love, and openness to the needs of the present.

In recalling the legacy of the founders—among them Father Jean-Claude Colin—the Pope highlighted their courage, discernment, and creativity in responding to the challenges of their era. He reminded all present that this same openness is vital today: to recognize God’s call in the poverty and struggles of our brothers and sisters, just as the founders once did.

At the conclusion of his address, Pope Leo greeted the Superior Generals personally. Fr. John Larsen, Superior General of the Marist Fathers, expressed gratitude to the Holy Father and reaffirmed the willingness of the Marist family to place its charism at the service of the Church’s mission. A group photo with the Pope and his Apostolic Blessing crowned this memorable encounter.



After this inspiring moment with the Vicar of Christ, the Capitulants returned to Nemi for an evening of prayer and fraternal sharing, preparing to resume the work of the Chapter the following day.

