



Nemi, 26 September 2025

Listening, Discerning and Setting Directions

On Thursday morning, the Chapter listened to Anne Marie Salgo, who shared her personal Marist journey and offered reflections on being present at the Chapter as a lay observer. She spoke of the importance of genuine dialogue within the Marist family, acknowledging both the challenges and the desire of lay Marists to contribute



more fully to the mission. Some of the key points were:

- the need for a clearer Marist identity and focus, so that the charism remains visible and relevant today;
- the call for stronger collaboration between religious and lay members in building a Marian Church;
- the importance of discernment, to let go of what no longer serves the mission and concentrate energies on what truly embodies Mary's presence;
- and above all, the shared vocation of religious and lay to be Mary's presence in the world.

Her words encouraged the capitulants to reflect on how the Society of Mary can continue to walk with lay Marists in a spirit of closeness, dialogue, and shared mission.



The capitulants then continued their intense work on the key areas. Each of the five commissions has now presented the first draft of their texts which the members studied carefully before entering into small group discussions. With commitment and openness, the capitulants listened to one another, raised questions, and offered constructive feedback. Notes from these conversations were passed back to the commissions, ensuring that every voice could contribute to the refinement of the documents.

This arduous process demonstrated a spirit of collaboration, engagement, and shared responsibility that animates the Chapter.

Two additional commissions were also formed to support this common task:

- **Finance Commission:** Frs Pat Brophy, Aisake Vaisima, and Joe Hindelang
- **Legislative Commission:** Frs Juan Carlos, John Harhager, and Tim Duckworth

