



Office of the Provincial

20 January 2006

Members of the Province of the United States

My Dear Brothers,

Greetings and blessings to all of you!

It is my privilege to convoke the ninth session of the Provincial Chapter of the Province of the United States which will be held March 3-7, 2006 in Eureka, Missouri.

Propositions for the Ninth Session of the Provincial Chapter are due to the Office of the Assistant Provincial by February 17, 2006. Included with this letter is the process for individuals, groups of individuals or communities to submit propositions to the Chapter. Father Fitz, as chair of the Preparatory Commission, will distribute all propositions to the communities for dialogue and input before the Chapter meeting. Likewise, materials to be discussed at the March 2006 Chapter will be distributed, as much as possible, to the communities beforehand for your conversation and input to attending Chapter members.

One of the critical issues at this Chapter will be the follow-up on the visioning process recommended by the September 2005 Chapter. Two other major items will be discussions on the future structure of the Provincial Council and the future structure of the Provincial Chapter. The full agenda will be published in FAMILY ONLINE in the near future.

Wishing you every blessings,

Affectionately,

Stephen Glodek, S.M.
Provincial

SG/pts

Process for Submitting Propositions to the Provincial Chapter

According to the Manual of Procedures of the Provincial Chapter, the following steps should be followed by those submitting propositions:

1. Propositions sent to the Chapter should contain the following items:
 - A clear, concise statement of the proposition indicating who has responsibility for its implementation (i.e., the Provincial Administration, the Office of Education, the local community, etc.)
 - A second paragraph (the commentary) should state the rationale for the proposal including the principles underlying and supporting the proposition and any information needed for implementation.
2. A printed copy of the proposition should be signed by the individual submitting it and sent to the Assistant Provincial, James Fitz, S.M., the Provincial Council member of the Preparatory Commission. If at all possible, the proposition should also be sent by email to Fr. Fitz at jfitz@sm-usa.org. (It can be sent as an email attachment). Fr. Fitz will acknowledge receipt of the proposition.
3. The Preparatory Commission will assign the proposition to one of the Standing Committees of the Chapter. Every proposition will be reviewed by a Standing Committee before coming to the floor of the Chapter. Each Standing Committee reviews the propositions assigned to it and recommends to the Chapter a proper action to be taken.

Propositions for the March 2006 Session of the Provincial Chapter must be submitted by *Friday, February 17, 2006*.

Action on propositions submitted after the established deadline given above may be delayed until the next session, unless a Standing Committee deems it necessary to act otherwise.