



Society of Mary
Marianists

PREPARATORY COMMISSION OF GENERAL CHAPTER 2012

***To Unit Superiors
for forwarding to all communities***

COMMUNICATION No. 1

Rome, May 1, 2011

Dear brothers,

The Preparatory Commission of the next General Chapter (planned for Rome for July 3-22, 2012) began its work in Rome April 19-21, 2011. The commission was appointed by the Superior General, with the consent of his Council, as indicated in his Circular No. 5 of February 2, 2011.

During those three days of meetings we raised questions essential to the good preparation of the General Chapter: the selection of a theme, the items to be included in the daily schedule, the organization of work, communication with the whole of the Society of Mary and with the capitulants in particular. We drew our inspiration from the conclusions of the work of the General Leadership Assembly (July 2009), from the Circular of the Superior General, but also from commentaries received from the General Council, with whom we had a meeting.

Those three days allowed us to begin reflecting and to foresee the work to be done up to the opening of the Chapter in 2012 in the house of our General Administration in Rome. We foresee two more meetings, one in Madrid July 25-27, 2011, and a third in Rome March 12-15, 2012.

We would like to involve the entire Society of Mary in the preparation and functioning of the General Chapter. So we have decided to undertake two consultations, one to gather the opinions of all the communities about a theme for the Chapter and the other, just among the capitulants, about the first point, but also about the style of work and the output that we need to envisage. We thank you in advance for the attention that you will bring to these requests; they will allow us all to be united in the preparation and staging of this great moment in the life of our congregation; they will also permit the capitulants to feel closer to the concerns that each of you has. Based on the results of this reflection, we will organize more precisely the procedures of the Chapter during our up-coming meetings.

We also discussed the logistics of the Chapter, thanks to the effective contributions of the Secretary General, Michael McAward. We also noted with satisfaction that holding this meeting at Via Latina 22 in Rome, in a simple style, will permit significant savings for the entire Society of Mary.

Let us all together pray, in this beautiful year consecrated to our Founder, that this Chapter might contribute significantly to the current and future dynamism of the entire Society of Mary.

The Preparatory Commission:

José María Arnaiz, sm (Chili)

André Fétis, sm (GA)

Joseph Kamis, sm (USA)

Rogelio Núñez, sm (Spain)