Session 1: Drawing Together What Has Happened

The Session began with Recollection Time. Recollection is a strong Christian tradition, and we take from it, what is speaking to us, so that we can attend to it and find the response that is being called for by the Holy Spirit.

We have been on the journey to this Chapter for the past couple of years with New Province Working Groups, and that was followed by the Steering Committee working with Delegates, and God has been present throughout.

The scripture event chosen as the basis of this recollection was the Road to Emmaus along with the following questions:

- What in that story touches you today?
- What in that story connects with your experience of this Chapter?

Time was then spent in personal and group reflection.
Session 2: What do we take to our Communities and the Province?

Again, considerable time was spent in personal and group reflections. The focus was, the Marist Brotherhood we want to be in this part of the world. We could remain exactly as we are, but the collective feeling is, that is not what the Spirit is asking.

What do we desire for this Province? The responses included:
- Simplicity, brotherhood, communion.
- There is a sense of calm and optimism.
- Journeying together with hope.
- An evolving ‘now’.
- Inclusiveness.
- Intercultural communion.
- Complementary and harmonious colours.
- A balanced confidence.
- Anticipation and hope together.
- There is no need to fear, God is with us.
- Trust in the future.
- Moving ahead together.

How is this taken back to all our Marists?

Nathan Ahearne has prepared a six-minute video covering the Chapter. This along with a written Statement prepared by Brothers Paul Gilchrist and Michael Green will be sent to Communities late in January to be used by Communities and other groupings as they gather and prepare for the new year.

In the closing comments by our General Councillors, we were reminded that we have the capacity to move beyond, and the Stars that will help us navigate that are:

- Assume and continue to assume the goodwill of our Brothers and Sisters.
- Communication is crucial. The Communities of Dialogue and the way the Brothers continue to be available, and being present to each other will be even more important.
- Prayer. We can only move forward with Jesus and His Word. God is always greater that we can imagine. God is with us, co-create with Him.

The Chapter concluded with Mass and a meal of celebration and thanks.

Anthony Robinson.
Mass and Commissioning on the Final Day of the Star of the Sea Chapter

The Commissioning Ceremony can be viewed on YouTube: https://youtu.be/lzsAlj8M2AI and on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/StaroftheSeaProvince

The Galley Podcast

The Galley Podcast: The podcast is a conversation with different Brothers from around the Star of the Sea Province. To listen to these, click on this link: https://soundcloud.com/provincial-marists

The Chapter Website has all the links to the videos, photos and podcasts that have been shared and created. The Galley Podcasts are also on this website and can be listened to from there. Video recordings of these Galley Podcasts are shown further down the webpage.

UPDATES ON SOCIAL MEDIA

To follow news and updates during the Chapter being held in Mittagong from 9-14 December, please follow us through:

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/StaroftheSeaProvince
Instagram: @StaroftheSeaProvince
Twitter: @StaroftheSeaMoC