



JESUITS®
West

MISSION

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MISSION MAGAZINE

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Provincial Father Scott Santarosa, SJ,
with Pope Francis at General
Congregation 36 in Rome

THE WEST AS ONE

It's finally here. No, I'm not speaking solely of the redesigned *Mission* magazine which you now hold in your hands. After years of planning, the former California and Oregon provinces of the Society of Jesus have rejoined to form Jesuits West. July 1 was our official launch date, though we have been operating as one larger province for a few years now.

What does this mean to you? Many of the things you've come to know and appreciate about the Jesuits will not change. By design, the forming of this new Province was conceived to be a non-event by the time it actually happened. Our schools remain our schools, our parishes remain our parishes, and our social ministries continue to provide needed services to the poor and disadvantaged.

For years, we have been cross-missioning Jesuits to leadership positions between the two provinces. Oregon men were put in positions of responsibility for the California Province. California men were put in positions of responsibility for the Oregon Province.

Together with our lay partners, we have been preparing for the emergence of this new entity of more than 500 Jesuits spread over 10 Western states, from Alaska to Mexico, and from Montana to Hawaii, for several years.

Our new province is part of the Society of Jesus' worldwide effort to restructure its administrative model, cutting down the number of geographic provinces throughout the world to foster greater collaboration amongst our works while enabling us to be more nimble to meet emerging demands in service to God's people.

The real agenda, however, is God's agenda. A change like this might inspire us to broaden our apostolic horizons and be more responsive to the world's needs.

What won't be changing is our commitment to education, to the spread of Ignatian spirituality, to service to the poor and marginalized, and our desire to be a force for good to all people hungry for God's truth, hope, and spirit to make our world humane and just for all.

I invite each of you to join us in mission. Perhaps you want to volunteer through the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, the Ignatian Volunteer Corps, JVC Northwest, our social ministries, or our many parishes.

Perhaps you want to support us through a financial gift of almost any kind: cash, real estate, stocks, or a bequest. We can honor your gift and direct it as you desire.

In whatever way you might want to partner with us, please know this: we value your participation in whatever way suits you. Come join us. Together we can do something special to make the lives of God's people better.

I promise my prayers for you and your intentions and ask that you pray for us as Jesuits West officially begins.



Fr. Scott Santarosa, SJ
Provincial, Jesuits West





Ordination

ANSWERING GOD'S CALL TO SERVICE

With Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles David G. O'Connell presiding, the California and Oregon provinces of the Society of Jesus welcomed five new Jesuit priests to their ranks on June 10.



Ordination class
of 2017

This year's Ordination Mass was held at Blessed Sacrament Church in Hollywood. Blessed Sacrament is a Jesuit parish in what today is an economically challenged neighborhood. Yet, the parish community is thriving and growing. The church was built in 1904 and is considered a classic example of Italian Renaissance architecture. Nearly 1,500 family and friends of the ordinands were on hand for the Ordination Mass. Approximately 100 Jesuit priests and brothers were also in attendance.

In his homily, Auxiliary Bishop O'Connell urged the new priests to be unwavering in their service to God's people.

"Jesus's life was poured out, it was almost thrown away, and that's what you're being called to. Just pour out your lives to feed the lambs and feed the sheep," Archbishop O'Connell said. "Pour out your lives to console the lambs, to console the sheep, to pasture them, to love them, to sustain them. I've known many of your brothers for a good many years and they are pouring out their lives for Jesus. And now you are being called to the same thing."

Ordination

Fr. Ryan J. Rallanka, SJ

Age: 33
Raised in: Sacramento
Missioned to: Seattle Preparatory School



**“POUR OUT YOUR LIVES TO
CONSOLE THE LAMBS, TO
CONSOLE THE SHEEP, TO
PASTURE THEM, TO SUSTAIN
THEM.”**

— Los Angeles Auxiliary Bishop
David G. O’Connell

In Sacramento, Father Rallanka and his family were active members of St. Anthony Parish. Educated in Catholic schools his entire life, Fr. Rallanka attended Holy Spirit School and Jesuit High School in Sacramento, where he played piano and clarinet in the school’s bands.

Fr. Rallanka first encountered the Jesuits in high school and began meaningful friendships with them at Seattle University, where he studied English and sociology. He was active from his freshman year in campus ministry, working on retreats and service trips, including a summer immersion experience in the Philippines. While at Seattle University, Fr. Rallanka also began meeting weekly with a Jesuit spiritual director, who helped him develop his relationship with God and discern his call to the priesthood. After earning double bachelor’s degrees in 2006, he entered the Society of Jesus.

During his two years as a novice, Fr. Rallanka worked for three months in a L’Arche community in Tacoma, where people with and without intellectual disabilities live together as peers, and served at Gonzaga Preparatory School in Spokane, and at St. Andrew’s Mission Church on the Umatilla Indian Reservation in Pendleton, Oregon.

Missioned next to Fordham University in the Bronx, Fr. Rallanka earned a master’s degree in philosophical resources while teaching catechism classes and directing the English choir at St. Martin of Tours Parish. His next step in Jesuit formation took Fr. Rallanka to Jesuit High School in Portland, where he taught freshman theology for three years while serving as a spiritual director for the Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life (SEEL) program at St. Ignatius Catholic Church. In 2014, Fr. Rallanka was missioned to the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in Berkeley. There, he completed a master of divinity degree while serving as a deacon at San Quentin State Prison. His first Mass as a priest was celebrated with his brother Jesuits at Sacred Heart Chapel on the campus of Loyola Marymount University.

Fr. Philip P. Sutherland, SJ

Age: 35
Raised in: Chehalis, Washington
Missioned to: St. Leo Church, Tacoma, followed
by doctoral studies in philosophy, Marquette
University



Father Sutherland and his family attended St. Joseph Church, and he began thinking about the priesthood in junior high. When his mother suggested Fr. Sutherland look at attending Gonzaga University in Spokane, he had no idea what a Jesuit was, so he began reading about the Society of Jesus. He was immediately attracted to the Jesuits’ intellectual formation and variety of ministries and community life, but decided to go to college before joining the Society.

At Gonzaga, Fr. Sutherland earned bachelor’s degrees in religious studies and chemistry and received spiritual direction from a Jesuit. He also played clarinet in the wind ensemble and orchestra, and worked for marginalized students. Fr. Sutherland graduated in 2004 and then joined the Society of Jesus. As a novice, he ministered to the Yup’ik people in Alaska and served in Jamaica as a teacher and hospital chaplain, a profound experience of desperate poverty but with joyful people.

He next went to Loyola University Chicago, where he earned a master’s degree in philosophy in 2009 and then taught for 10 months at St. Andrew Nativity School in Portland. Fr. Sutherland returned to Gonzaga, where he worked in campus ministry on the freshman retreat program and taught philosophy and religious studies courses. Missioned next to the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, he earned a master of divinity degree and a licentiate in sacred theology.

While in Boston, Fr. Sutherland worked with the Ignatian Spirituality Project, giving retreats to homeless people, and served as a deacon and taught catechism to fifth graders at the Church of St. Ignatius of Loyola in Chestnut Hill, Mass. He also did a 10-week intensive practicum in clinical pastoral education at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. His first Masses as a priest were celebrated with his brother Jesuits at Sacred Heart Chapel on the campus of Loyola Marymount University and at his grandmother’s parish, St. Louis de Montfort Parish in Santa Maria, Calif.

Fr. Sam Z. Conedera, SJ

Age: 36

Raised in: Portland

Missioned to: St. Francis Xavier Parish, Phoenix



Father Sam Z. Conedera graduated from Lincoln High School in 1998 and earned bachelor's degrees in history and Spanish from Saint Louis University in 2002. In college, Fr. Conedera worked in the campus library, was a member of Alpha Sigma Nu, the Jesuit honor society, and got to know a few Jesuit scholastics who were studying philosophy at the school. After graduation, he moved to San Diego to teach with AmeriCorps at Nativity Prep Academy and then entered a doctoral program in history at the University of California, Los Angeles. In the summer of 2005, it became clear that "the Jesuit charism was being offered to me by God," and Fr. Conedera entered the Society of Jesus in August of the following year.

As a novice, Fr. Conedera taught at Santa Clara University and then spent a year researching and writing his dissertation, which took him to Madrid and New York. Missioned next to Fordham University in the Bronx, Fr. Conedera earned a master's in philosophical resources before returning to Santa Clara University to teach history and serve as a dorm chaplain. In 2014, he began studies at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, receiving a bachelor's degree in sacred theology in 2017.

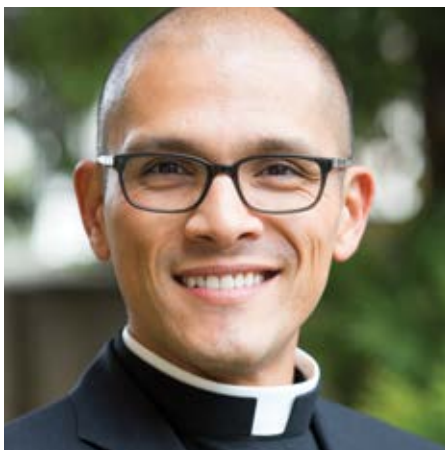
Ordained a deacon this spring, Fr. Conedera's training has taken him to Uruguay, Argentina, and Mexico, as well as France and Germany. He has found his friendships with other Jesuits to be the most meaningful part of his formation. He celebrated his first Mass as a priest with his fellow Jesuits at Loyola Marymount University.

Fr. Christopher A. Calderón, SJ

Age: 33

Raised in: Los Angeles

Missioned to: Master of Education in Secondary Education Leadership at Harvard University



Father Christopher A. Calderón grew up in Los Angeles in a family where faith plays a meaningful role. He and his two younger brothers attended Catholic schools, but it was his grandmother who first taught him how to pray and his mother who demonstrated what it means to live by faith. The day after his First Communion, his grandmother signed him up to be an altar server, serving six days a week. Church quickly became home.

Fr. Calderón attended Loyola High School in Los Angeles, where he was blessed to meet the Jesuits. He received a bachelor's degree in Latin American studies with minors in Spanish and theology from the University of San Francisco in 2005. At USF, Fr. Calderón supported university ministry by coordinating the office of community service and participating in many immersion and retreat experiences. He also studied abroad in El Salvador.

After college, Fr. Calderón returned to Loyola High to teach before eventually joining the Society of Jesus in 2006. As a novice, Fr. Calderón worked on the U.S.-Mexico border with migrants and at a L'Arche community in Seattle, where people with and without varying disabilities live together in mutual relationship. After pronouncing First Vows, he studied at Loyola University Chicago, where he completed a master's degree in applied ethics in 2011. Afterward, Fr. Calderón served as a faculty member and administrator at Brophy College Preparatory in Phoenix for three years.

Next missioned to the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry in 2014, Fr. Calderón worked on a master's of divinity degree in addition to serving as the chaplain to both to the BC baseball team and a Spanish-speaking community at a local men's prison. Fr. Calderón also spent a semester studying Ignatian spirituality in Madrid immediately after being ordained a deacon. After ordination, Fr. Calderón celebrated Mass first with his brother ordinands at Sacred Heart Chapel at Loyola Marymount University followed by a Mass of Thanksgiving at Loyola High School.

Fr. Brendan P. Busse, SJ

Age: 39

Raised in: Los Angeles

Missioned to: Dolores Mission Parish, Los Angeles



At Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, Father Brendan Busse earned a bachelor's degree in English literature in 1999. An active volunteer during college, Fr. Busse worked in a juvenile hall and with a service program in Tijuana, Mexico, which were defining experiences that would ultimately shape his vocation. Immediately after graduation, he began a master's degree program in theological studies at LMU and taught religion at St. Bernard High School in Playa Del Rey, Calif.

In 2002, Fr. Busse became a Jesuit Volunteer Corps member in Belize, where he was confirmed in the Catholic Church. He returned to LMU in 2004 to work on his master's thesis and served as LMU's director of community service and social justice ministries until 2008, when he answered the call to become a Jesuit priest. As a novice, he worked for five months at Sacred Heart Nativity Schools in San Jose as an assistant teacher and was next missioned to Loyola University Chicago, where he earned a master's degree in social philosophy and also completed his master's degree in theology from LMU.

Fr. Busse was missioned next to Seattle University's Matteo Ricci College, where he taught courses on Ignatian spirituality. Highlights of his formation include travel to MAGIS and World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro, a summer working in an orphanage in Northeast India, and writing for both *America* magazine and *The Jesuit Post*. Fr. Busse will serve on the pastoral team at Dolores Mission Parish in Boyle Heights of Los Angeles. He celebrated his first Mass with his fellow ordinands at Loyola Marymount University and celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving the following week at Central Juvenile Hall in Los Angeles.

Donor Profile

Jane and Steve Baldock

FOLLOWING THE GUIDING HAND OF GOD

By Samantha Bronson

Ask Jane Baldock about her family's connection with the Society of Jesus and she'll start by acknowledging they knew very little about the Jesuits until later in life. She and her husband Steve were happy with the life they'd created for themselves in Central Washington where they were raising two sons, regularly attended Mass at their local church, and owned a successful car dealership.

That's when they unexpectedly learned about the Society of Jesus and ultimately experienced a deepening of their faith because of the Jesuits.

At the request of Bishop Carlos Sevilla, SJ, Fr. Sam Bellino, SJ, filled in at the Baldocks' church. Following Mass one morning, Fr. Bellino announced that he'd be saying a funeral Mass the next day for a baby girl. The girl's family, he said, was a migrant family, likely undocumented, and didn't know anyone in town. Would some parishioners consider attending?

Jane thought she could at least show up. She didn't expect to be moved by the experience. "Father did a beautiful job and really interacted with the family and was so consoling and gracious, so deeply compassionate with these very poor people." Jane said.

"Afterward, he picked up the tiny white casket and walked out of the church carrying it. I was just a puddle of tears. It really touched me, and I thought, 'Who is this guy?' That day was a total game-changer."

The Baldocks wanted to know more about him – and the Jesuits – and quickly invited Fr. Bellino to dinner, marking the start not only of a friendship that's lasted more than 20 years, but also the beginning of a deep desire to learn more about the Society of Jesus and to connect with its teachings.

When their youngest son attended a Catholic high school in Seattle – an almost three-hour drive from home – Jane lived with him during the week in a condo just blocks away from Seattle University. She focused her free time on learning about the Jesuits, reading books and visiting Seattle University, the Ignatian Spirituality Center, and St. Joseph Parish.

She also attended Jesuit-led Mass as often as she could, including on the anniversary of the Universidad Centroamericana massacre of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter in El Salvador in 1989, without realizing the date. The reenactment of the massacre as part of the Mass left her speechless.

"I happened to come to that Mass three years in a row," Jane said. "If that isn't the hand of God, I don't know what is."

Over the years, the Baldocks have met up with Fr. Bellino whenever he's in town. They've fly-fished together, visited him in Los Gatos, and attended ordinations at St. Aloysius Parish in Spokane at Fr. Bellino's invitation.

They also have gone on two Province pilgrimages – to Ireland and Northern Spain. The two were so moved by following in the footsteps of St. Ignatius of Loyola in Spain that they later returned to Europe on their own, traveling to Rome so they could visit the sites of significance in St. Ignatius' later life.

Steve now begins and ends each day with a modified version of the Daily Examen. He credits the Jesuits with changing his approach to life and becoming more conscious of everything from the people around him to how the couple spends money.

The Baldocks' experiences with Ignatian spirituality have so deeply impacted them that when their estate planning

attorney asked them to think about who has inspired them, there was no doubt the Society of Jesus would be on the list. The couple has included a legacy gift for the greatest needs of Jesuits West.

“The Jesuits seemed a logical choice, since they’ve been so quietly instrumental in our faith journey,” Steve said. “Their theology, their worldview, how they look at things makes sense to us. The simplicity of it is kind of powerful. This was a gradual transition for us to where now I would

say that this is the core of our belief and we want to help their mission.”

“I see God’s hand in this,” Jane said. “This experience with the Jesuits was something so unexpected that happened to us, and in terms of a faith-builder, it was colossal. I became a lot more mature in how I prayed, how I accepted adversity, how I dealt with our boys. In so many life skills, I think we’ve been really blessed to have this relationship with the Society of Jesus.”



**“THIS EXPERIENCE WITH THE
JESUITS WAS SOMETHING SO
UNEXPECTED THAT HAPPENED TO US,
AND IN TERMS OF A FAITH-BUILDER,
IT WAS COLOSSAL.”**

— Jane Baldock

Fr. Mike Bayard, SJ, (right) with
Provincial Fr. Scott Santarosa, SJ



Jesuit Profile

THE SURPRISING JOURNEY OF FR. MIKE BAYARD

By Jim Muyo

How did it happen that the first socius for Jesuits West spent his childhood and adolescence in the East Coast and Midwest, and now finds himself poised to serve the 10-state territory that encompasses the newly formed province?

It's all part of the winding road that has been the life's journey of Fr. Mike Bayard, SJ, who was born in Milwaukee, raised in Syracuse, and brought up Catholic though he attended public schools along the way.

After moving back to the Midwest prior to high school, young Mike became active in his local parish, Holy Family in Rockford, Ill., where he participated in a youth group and was one of the first high school students ever to read to the congregation at Mass. The liturgical aspects of parish life appealed to him at an early age and it was in his teen years when Mike first entertained the thought of becoming a priest.

It was at Jesuit-run Marquette University, though, where he was first exposed to Jesuit priests. The impact was profound and immediate. After earning his undergraduate degree in theology at Marquette, Fr. Bayard earned a master's in Christian Spirituality from Creighton

University, a master's in divinity from the Weston Jesuit School of Theology, and then a master's in non-profit leadership from Seattle University.

In 2000, Fr. Bayard was drawn to the works of the Jesuits in the Pacific Northwest because of the opportunity to work in spirituality, and their commitment to lay collaboration.

But it was at Marquette that Jesuits impacted Fr. Bayard in a meaningful way. "I was really impressed by a priest named John Schlegel, who recently passed away," Fr. Bayard, 51, said. "He was the dean of arts and science and he presided at the Tuesday 10 p.m. Mass at St. Joan of Arc Chapel every week, then he would hang out with us after Mass. What struck me was that these Jesuits wanted to be with us no matter where we were. They'd go on retreats with us, they would hang out with us. They'd invite us to their community for dinner. I mean, they just changed all my stereotypes of what a priest was. If I wanted to be a priest, this was the type of priest I wanted to be – someone who hangs out with people. I just wanted to be a normal guy.

"Another factor that has kept me in the Society is the fact that these guys all had a common mission," said Fr. Bayard. "Our common mission is my impetus for my work now. It's not just what Jesuits do, it's what our lay companions do, it's the work that we all do.

"I always say to people, 'When you go to our schools, you're now one of us. And, now your education compels you to do more than just what your job is. You have a responsibility to further the mission of the Society in whatever occupation or profession you choose. You now have the responsibility to carry that mission into your work.' That excites me."

Fr. Bayard's duties as socius are anything but normal. It's a unique job that requires the ability to listen, follow

"SOCIUS IS THE LATIN WORD FOR 'COMPANION,'" SAID FR. BAYARD. "I AM THE PROVINCIAL'S COMPANION. I THINK IT'S WISE THAT IGNATIUS SAID THAT A PROVINCIAL SHOULD HAVE A COMPANION..."

centuries-old procedure as per the Constitutions of the Society (written by founder St. Ignatius Loyola), as well as a practical guidebook, *Practicum Quaedam*. As well, Fr. Bayard advises Provincial Fr. Scott Santarosa, SJ, on matters of mission and personnel.

"Socius is the Latin word for 'companion,'" said Fr. Bayard. "I am the provincial's companion. I think it's wise that Ignatius said that a provincial should have a companion because a provincial carries many things that can't be talked about. Much of it is confidential, and it can become a lot for one man to carry.

"Scott and I have talked about this. One of the things that has been a real gift to Scott is that he's had (California Provincial Father) Mike Weiler available for three years. They've been doing this work together so he has a great sounding board. Scott has been very clear with me that he wants me to be free of a lot of Roman paperwork that has to be done.

"We're fortunate that Fr. Al Naucke (outgoing California Province socius) will stay on as Province Secretary, primarily taking on some of those Roman tasks. Appointments of superiors, dismissals, advancement to Final Vows, all this has to be taken care of through Rome.

"That would free me up to reflectively study the issues that come in, which are a lot, so that Scott and I can have real conversations about the issues of Jesuits West, whether it's personnel, strategy for the Province or our work with lay and Jesuit conveners.

"I am his primary adviser or consultant, the first person he goes to. We talk regularly. I don't make decisions, but I can help him make decisions. My role is to be a person who primarily offers advice on a variety of things.

"Scott is a great personal friend. I think a large part of our personal friendship, which has grown over the years, creates an immense trust. I trust him with anything that I'm carrying and I think he'd say the same which helps us in our professional friendship to do what is right and what is good for the Province. We trust one another immensely."

That trust will come in handy as the duties of the new provincial will have him crisscrossing the expanded Province territory on a constant basis.

Fr. Bayard will also be mobile, spending time in offices in Portland and Los Gatos. Together, the two will need to read situations and confer as they go. It's all part of the journey, one that continues to surprise, challenge, and inspire Fr. Bayard.

Feature Story

NEW BEGINNINGS

By Jim Muyo

Officially, it was born on July 1, 2017. In reality, it had been in the works for many years.

However you wish to consider it, Jesuits West, the newest province of the Society of Jesus in the United States, came into existence July 1, standing ready to serve as a force for good to God's people in 10 Western states and beyond.

Under the stewardship of Provincial Father Scott Santarosa, SJ, and a cadre of Jesuit and lay leadership and volunteer partners, Jesuits West is a broad network of approximately 100 ministries and works which offers education through universities, high schools, and Nativity schools; Ignatian spirituality through parishes and retreat and spirituality centers; help and guidance to the poor and marginalized through social ministries; education and training for the

next generations of Jesuit priests and brothers; and care of senior and infirm Jesuits who have dedicated their lives to the service of others.

The new province, which reunites the former California and Oregon provinces since their split up in 1932, will continue the Jesuit tradition of going to the margins of society to provide education, spirituality, and justice wherever it is needed.



NEW BEGINNINGS

“One of my hopes is that we can be more responsive to the Lord,” said Fr. Santarosa, provincial of the former Oregon Province since 2014 and pastor at Dolores Mission Parish in Los Angeles prior to that. “We hope to be responsive to the needs presented to us by the world and by the people who are in need or suffering. My hope is that we can be nimble and ready at a moment’s notice to serve.”

With a service area of 10 states, from the far reaches of Alaska to the small town of Nogales, Sonora, Mexico where the Kino Border Initiative (KBI) assists deported migrants, and from Hawaii to as far east as Montana, Jesuits West will have ample opportunities to serve.

“Ideally, a province is a discerning body, answering the question, ‘Where is God calling us collectively as religious men in this particular geographic area?’” Fr. Santarosa said. “The reason we have our current apostolic works: high schools, universities, parishes, is because we’ve discerned that that’s where God is calling us to be.”

“ULTIMATELY, IT’S A QUESTION OF TRYING TO MAKE US MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.”

— Fr. Scott Santarosa, SJ, Provincial

“That’s how we build God’s Kingdom, but God’s not finished with

us yet. He might be calling us to do some other things. New needs might arise.”

The Kino Border Initiative is an example of a need that arose within our province because of the immigration issue. We felt that we needed to respond to that. Feasibility studies were done and partnerships were formed between the Society of Jesus and other religious communities. The Province then gave three years of start-up funding.”

KBI provides assistance to deported migrants, some of whom are trying to get back to their homes in Mexico but also other North and Central American countries. Some of these migrants have been separated from their children who were born and raised in the U.S. KBI provides food, temporary shelter, modest medical treatment, and other services. It is visited frequently by Jesuit and other high schools and universities for both service and educational experiences.

KBI represents but one example of a work originated at the province level. The former California Province was one of six religious orders and organizations which partnered to bring about KBI’s existence. It is led by Executive Director Fr. Sean Carroll, SJ. Like all ministries, parishes, and educational institutions within the Province boundaries, it would not exist without the Province.

In a similar way, the Jesuits of the region would not be available to serve. It is the Province which pays for their education and training. It is the Province which pays for the care

of senior and infirm Jesuits who have lived their lives in service to others through the Province’s schools, parishes, and social ministries.

But why bring the former California and Oregon provinces together? Why is the Society of Jesus in the midst of a world-wide province reorganization plan, that, when completed in the U.S. in 2020, will see just four provinces in the U.S. where there was previously 10?

“I think it gets to something that former Superior General Fr. (Adolfo) Nicolás wrote to me,” Fr. Santarosa said. “He wrote, ‘The purpose of the restructuring is broadening our apostolic horizons, forming new initiatives. It’s starting new works. It’s looking at new ways of being in our existing works. It’s finding new ways to creatively reach out to young people. It’s forming new networks.’” That letter from Fr. Nicolás may have served as the inspiration for the calling together of more than 200 Jesuits and lay partners this August at Loyola Marymount University for a two-day Jesuits West workshop on leading and collaborating.

“We have a new Vision, Mission, and Values Statement and we want to make sure that the leadership of the Province, which is Jesuit and lay, is well versed in those things, is exposed to those values, and can imagine how they, in their various works, would implement them.” Fr. Santarosa said.

“Also, and this goes back to the letter from Fr. Nicolás about forming networks,” Fr. Santarosa continued, “it’s



“THE PROVINCE IS TRULY THE HIDDEN BACKBONE OF EVERY JESUIT WORK WITHIN ITS TERRITORY.”

— Siobhán Lawlor, Provincial Assistant for Advancement

clear to me that individual works are very often operating in isolation from one another. They’re doing incredibly good work, but are also missing some great opportunities because they’re not aware of what’s happening just down the street or across town in the same sector.”

One example of that is what happened when Fr. Santarosa was pastor at Dolores Mission in Los Angeles. The parish is made up largely of immigrants, many of whom need legal services. The parish reached out to Loyola Law School. Eventually, the school formed an immigration

law clinic, which today still serves not only Dolores Mission, but also Homeboy Industries, another Jesuit ministry in Los Angeles which serves both immigrants and former gang members who are attempting to turn their lives around. The Loyola Law Clinic is today recognized as one of the premier law clinics in the country and the partnership has benefitted not only the school but the people of Dolores Mission and Homeboy.

“I think one of the goals of the leadership workshop for us is to get to know each other so we can more deeply collaborate with one another

and not miss the opportunities that are right under our noses,” Fr. Santarosa said. That’s all part of the effort to consolidate provinces. “Ultimately, we’re trying to force ourselves to creatively respond to new needs that the world is presenting us and new ways of serving the Lord,” Fr. Santarosa said. “It raises all kinds of questions. Why are we doing what we’re currently doing? Are there better ways to do it? Should we still be at these works or should there be some other works that we could be doing? Ultimately, it’s a question of trying to make us more responsive to the Kingdom of God.”

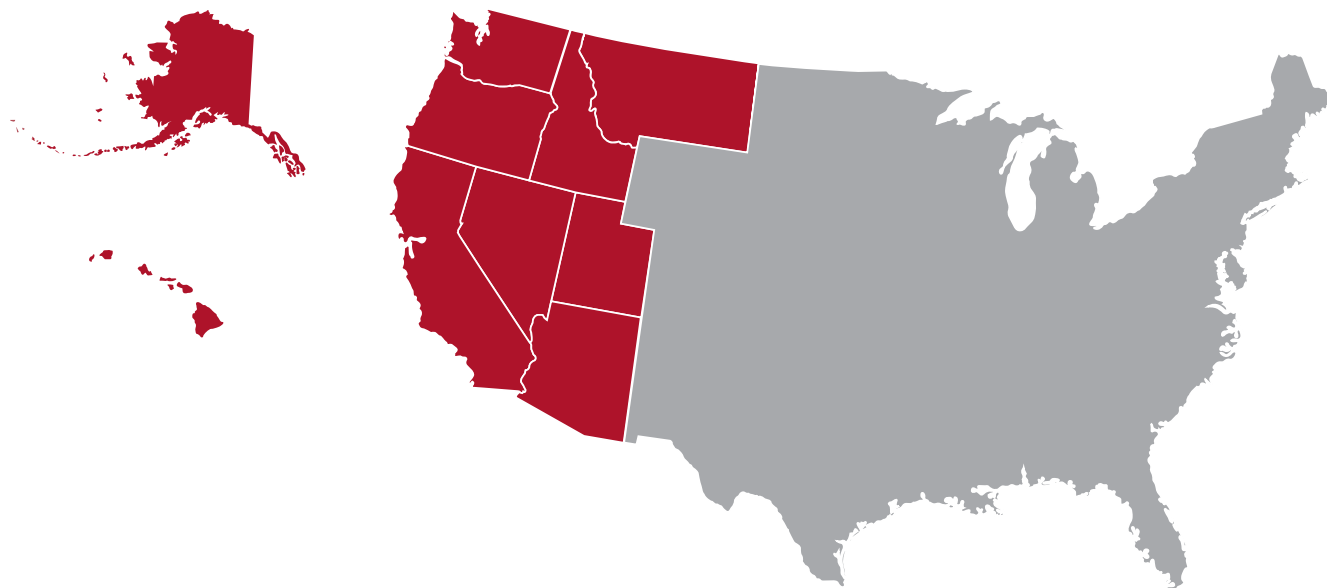
New Province

NEW
BEGINNINGS

THE REACH OF JESUITS WEST IS WIDE AND DEEP

With a service area that includes Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington, our ministries include universities, high schools and Nativity schools, retreat houses and spirituality centers, parishes and elementary schools, inner-city services for the poor and marginalized, migrant assistance programs at the U.S.-Mexico border, Yup'ik missions in Alaska, and work with Native Americans in the Pacific Northwest.

Jesuits—together with our lay collaborators—are called to these and many other ministries.



JESUIT-SPONSORED AND ENDORSED WORKS AND COMMUNITIES

ALASKA

Alaska Missions
Catholic Schools of Fairbanks

ARIZONA

Brophy College Preparatory and Loyola Academy
Kino Border Initiative
St. Francis Xavier Parish and School
Vatican Observatory Research Group

CALIFORNIA

IRVINE

University of California Newman Center

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Blessed Sacrament Parish and School
Caruso Catholic Center, USC
Christus Ministries
Christian Life Community, USA Western Region
Dolores Mission Church and School
Homeboy Industries
Ignatian Solidarity Network
Ignatian Volunteer Corps
Jesuit Restorative Justice Initiative
Loyola High School
Loyola Institute for Spirituality
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola Productions
Novitiate of the Three Companions
PICO National Network
Proyecto Pastoral
Verbum Dei High School
Xavier College Preparatory High School

SACRAMENTO

Cristo Rey High School
Jesuit High School
Jesuit Retreat Center of the Sierra
St. Ignatius Loyola Parish and School

SAN DIEGO

Casa Kino
Ignatian Volunteer Corps
Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and
Our Lady's School
University of California Newman Center

SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND

Companions in Ignatian Spirituality
Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara
University, Berkeley
PICO National Network
St. Agnes Parish
St. Ignatius Parish
St. Ignatius College Preparatory and Sauer
Academy
University of San Francisco

SAN JOSE/SANTA CLARA

Bellarmino College Preparatory
Cristo Rey Jesuit High School
Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos
Jesuit Volunteer Corps
Most Holy Trinity Parish and School
Sacred Heart Jesuit Center
Sacred Heart Nativity Schools
Santa Clara University

SAN LUIS OBISPO

California Polytechnic State University
Newman Center

IDAHO

St. Paul's Catholic Student Center, Boise
State University

MONTANA

Loyola Sacred Heart High School
St. Francis Xavier Church
SEEL Missoula

OREGON

PENDLETON

Kateri Ministries and St. Andrew Mission

PORTLAND

Loyola Jesuit Center
Faber Institute
Ignatian Spirituality Project
Jesuit High School
Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest
St. Andrew Nativity School
St. Ignatius Parish and School
SEEL Portland

WASHINGTON

SEATTLE-TACOMA

Bellarmino Preparatory School
Ignatian Spirituality Center
Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center
Jesuit Restorative Justice Initiative Northwest
Rocky Mountain Mission/Northwest
(8 missions)
Sacred Story Institute
St. Joseph Parish and School
St. Leo Parish
St. Rita Parish
Seattle Nativity School
Seattle Preparatory School
Seattle University
SEEL Puget Sound

SPOKANE

Gonzaga Preparatory School
Gonzaga University
St. Aloysius Parish and School
SEEL Spokane
SEEL Tri-Cities (Richland, Pasco, Kennewick)
SEEL Yakima

VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

We are Jesuits West and for nearly 500 years we have been following our calling to serve Jesus. Today the call only grows louder — along with the need for our enduring faith and commitment to social justice and scholarship.

We exist to actively serve.

We are contemplatives in action.

We are a Force for Good.

— We are Jesuits West.

VISION

To be a community of Jesuits and apostolic partners formed by the Gospel and the Spiritual Exercises to expand Jesus' ministry of healing, reconciling and teaching in service of the diverse peoples of the West.

MISSION

To invite all people to experience the transformative power of God's love through our educational, pastoral and social ministries.

VALUES

Responding with intellectual rigor to the most challenging issues of our times.

Employing Ignatian discernment in decision-making.

Caring for the poor, the vulnerable and the earth, our common home.

Serving the Church with creativity and with fidelity to our Jesuit tradition.

Bridging societal divides and fostering understanding among diverse peoples and cultures.

Collaborating regionally, through partnerships and in networks, to serve the people of God.

ADVANCING THE PROVINCE MISSION

By Jim Muyo



Jesuits assemble for the 2016 Ordination Mass in Spokane.

Gonzaga University, Loyola Marymount University, Homeboy Industries, the Kino Border Initiative, St. Ignatius College Preparatory, Jesuit High in Portland, and a number of parishes and retreat centers across the 10-state region of Jesuits West are well known and renowned institutions that have literally impacted hundreds of thousands of lives throughout their history. In all, the Province maintains more than 100 ministries throughout its service area.

But how did these institutions come to exist and what do they have in common? All of the Jesuit ministries which exist today, all of the Jesuits who founded them, and all of the Jesuits who served as administrators, university or high school presidents, teachers, pastors, and spiritual directors came from and were funded by the Province.

“Everywhere you see a Jesuit, he is there because the Province educated, trained, and missioned him. We are truly a force for good,” said Siobhán Lawlor, Jesuits West provincial assistant for advancement and communication.

“I think most people don’t realize that the Province is the invisible vertebrae that underpins every single Jesuit work,” Lawlor said.

It is the Province that develops new, and on occasion, maintains existing ministries to serve the broader community. It is the Province that educates and trains men to be Jesuit priests and brothers, and ultimately cares for senior and infirm Jesuits who are no longer able to serve in active ministries. To meet the financial needs of senior Jesuit care and Formation, the Province relies on the generosity of benefactors through the

JUST HOW DOES THE JESUITS WEST PROVINCE CARRY OUT ITS MISSION OF SERVICE, EDUCATION, AND PROMOTING IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY? A DEDICATED STAFF WORKS BEHIND THE SCENES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GENEROUS BENEFACTORS TO KEEP THE PROVINCE MOVING FORWARD.



"EVERYWHERE YOU SEE A JESUIT, HE IS THERE BECAUSE THE PROVINCE EDUCATED, TRAINED, AND MISSIONED HIM. WE ARE TRULY A FORCE FOR GOOD."

— Siobhán Lawlor, Provincial Assistant for Advancement

Migrants and deportees pause to pray at the Kino Border Initiative *comedor* in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico.

work done by its Advancement Office to cultivate and steward support.

"A religious woman one time said to me, 'No money, no mission,'" said Jesuits West Provincial Fr. Scott Santarosa, SJ. "We can have all of the ideas in the world, wanting to serve the poor, but it does cost. Fund raising really is key for us Jesuits to accomplish our mission. People who generously support us with their resources are true partners with us in our mission because without them we wouldn't have the formation houses that we have, the senior infirmary that we have."

The costs for senior Jesuit care and the Formation of new Jesuit priests and brothers are the greatest expenses the Province faces. Healthcare costs are escalating at an alarming rate. The Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los

Gatos, Calif., home to approximately 85 senior Jesuits from the former California and Oregon provinces, provides compassionate care in a community setting. The cost for the 85 men living there amounts to approximately \$6 million a year.

The Province also provides support for Jesuits 65 and older who are not yet living at Sacred Heart. Many of these men have been fixtures at their high schools or universities, and have influenced countless lives.

The cost for these senior men not yet at Sacred Heart increases the Province's overall budget or senior care by \$6 million, for a total of \$12 million annually.

Role of Advancement

ADVANCING THE PROVINCE MISSION

“These wonderful men still provide a valuable service because they maintain a Jesuit presence and serve as both role models and inspiration not only to students, but their parents, as well,” said Lawlor. “They are the Jesuits who have been around a school or university for a long time. They represent the Jesuits, and everyone knows them. When the time finally comes for those men to come to Sacred Heart, they are older, and their needs are greater.”

At the other end of the spectrum, the next generation of Jesuits are trained and educated through a Formation program which typically lasts 12 years, including two years at the Province’s novitiate in Culver City, Calif., followed by graduate and doctoral studies at universities, service in Jesuit Ministries, and other activities. The cost is approximately \$570,000 per man in the program, and the Province picks up the entire cost. With approximately 100 men in the program at any given time, the cost is approximately \$50,000 per year per man.

While at the Novitiate and later as scholastics at Jesuit high schools and universities, the men contribute service hours to Jesuit and non-Jesuit ministries. Novices typically will work approximately 9,000 hours of volunteer service in the greater Los Angeles area at schools, hospitals, prisons, ministries for developmentally disadvantaged people, and other community works.

**“EACH JESUIT WORK, BE IT
JESUIT HIGH (IN PORTLAND OR
SACRAMENTO), BROPHY PREP
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“WHEN YOU GIVE TO THESE
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PROVINCE FOR THE CARE OF
JESUITS OR THE EDUCATION OR
TRAINING OF FUTURE JESUITS.”**

**FR. SCOTT SANTAROSA, SJ
PROVINCIAL**



Students scurry between classes at Seattle Preparatory School.

The tuition for the men in Formation at Jesuit universities is not subsidized in any way, meaning that even Jesuits in training attending Jesuit universities are charged the full tuition rate without the benefit of financial aid.

“Any financial aid monies a university may have is reserved for students who could otherwise never afford a Jesuit education,” said Lawlor. “Many people assume that the tuition is waived and the men in Formation are on some type of scholarship, but they’re not. The Province pays full freight for the men studying.”

As the costs of education have skyrocketed over the years, that tuition budget for the Province has swelled considerably. “We were fortunate

enough for a period of time to have investments that generated enough income that we could do what we needed to do,” said Fr. Santarosa. “Those investments came from benefactors, and we are grateful for that.”

“Each Jesuit work, be it Jesuit High (in Portland or Sacramento), Brophy Prep (in Phoenix) or Santa Clara University, they all have their own bottom line,” Fr. Santarosa said. “When you give to these works, you are not giving to the Province. Not one part of their budget is going to payments to the Province for the care of Jesuits or the education or training of future Jesuits.”

ADVANCING THE PROVINCE MISSION

FR. SANTAROSA HAS HAD FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE RAISING FUNDS, THOUGH IT'S SOMETHING HE NEVER THOUGHT HE WOULD HAVE TO DO AS HE WAS STUDYING TO BECOME A JESUIT. IN HIS TIME AS PASTOR OF DOLORES MISSION PARISH IN LOS ANGELES, THE NEEDS OF HIS COMMUNITY DICTATED THAT ADDITIONAL FUNDS BE SOUGHT TO PROVIDE NEEDED SERVICES TO THE LOW-INCOME PARISH COMMUNITY. IT WAS THERE THAT HE FIRST LEARNED TO APPRECIATE THE ROLE FUND RAISING PLAYS FOR JESUIT MINISTRIES. IT WAS ALSO THERE THAT HE CAME TO EMBRACE AND APPRECIATE THE BENEFACTORS WHO STEP UP TO HELP WHEN FUNDS ARE SOUGHT.

"I'd like to thank all of those who have supported Jesuit works over the years," Fr. Santarosa said. "You are very much with us in mission and our ministries. You can't be there physically with us, but you are there in spirit.

"We wouldn't be able to do what we do without that support. For those people who are considering helping us, please join us. Please walk with us in whatever way you can. We promise our prayers and our deep gratitude."

In addition to the senior care and the Formation program, the Province also provides seed money to social and educational ministries. Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, which works to help former gang members turn their lives around through job

training and other programs, and the Kino Border initiative at the border in Nogales, Ariz., and Nogales, Sonora, Mexico, which helps deported immigrants with food, medical care, and temporary housing assistance, are just two examples.

For both ministries, the Province provided seed money to get them going. As needed, the Province might also extend bridge loans or grants to these or other ministries until they can become self-sufficient.

To ensure that it has enough funds to meet its expenses, the Province has set up its Advancement Office with staff throughout its 10-state territory. Lawlor and the majority of the advancement and communication staff members are in Los Gatos while regional major gift officers

are in Los Gatos, Los Angeles, and Portland to help the Province raise needed funds to educate and train the next generations of Jesuit priests and brothers, provide funding for the care of senior and infirm Jesuits, and to create new ministries which meet the changing needs of society.

WANT TO HELP US CARRY
OUT OUR MISSION?

1,980

Number of years in the Society
of Jesus for Province Jubilarians

16,750

Number of Jesuit priests and
brothers in the world

505

Number of priests and brothers in
Jesuits West

56,035

Students currently enrolled in
Province universities and high schools

1540

Year Society of Jesus
was founded

To discuss making a gift to support senior Jesuits care, the Formation of the next generation of Jesuit priests or brothers, or Jesuit ministries? Please contact the Advancement team members below.

If you have questions about types of gifts, including stock, real estate, insurance policies, or other assets, please contact any of the staff listed. If you wish to include Jesuits West in your will, please contact Fr. Bellino.

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Fr. Weiler Looks Back

MY SIX YEARS AS PROVINCIAL

His term as provincial of the California Province now over, Fr. Mike Weiler, SJ, reflected on a tenure marked by milestone events.



“I’VE HAD A CHANCE TO WORK
WITH SOME WONDERFUL, HOLY
BISHOPS AND MEMBERS OF
OTHER RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES
AND LAY PARTNERS.”

MISSION:

What surprised you about being Provincial?

FR. WEILER:

I was surprised by the immediate credibility that I experienced from everyone. I expected that from Jesuits, but I didn't realize how much clergy and lay people respect the office and look to the Provincial for leadership. It took me a while to get used to being able to pick up the phone and get a bishop on the other end of the line or a university president. There's a significance to the office totally apart from personality. It wasn't because they knew me. It wasn't because they liked me. It wasn't because they knew or respected the work I had done. None of that. They respected the office. They appreciated the Society of Jesus, and that opened doors and meant that they would take my phone call. I hadn't expected that to be so universal.

I had not expected to rely so deeply on the friendship and wisdom of the other provincials in the U.S. and Canada. Spiritually, emotionally, practically, they were always a companionship I could call upon. In particular, here on the West Coast, I have been exceptionally blessed by the two provincials of Oregon with whom I worked: Pat Lee and Scott Santarosa. You could not find two more different Jesuits, yet I can honestly say I experienced with them the oneness of mind and

heart that the scriptures describe. That was a great unexpected gift.

MISSION:

What would you say were the most challenging aspects of being Provincial?

FR. WEILER:

I'd say two. When something goes wrong in the Society, it's the Provincial that needs to represent that to the public. That's not always easy. That public might be one person or it might be the press. The other part is that sometimes the Provincial has to deliver bad news to a Jesuit and that's also not easy. For example, sometimes it's clear that a man does not belong in this life and he may not realize it and ultimately it falls on the Provincial to say, 'This is not the path God is calling you to.'

MISSION:

What have you enjoyed most about being Provincial?

FR. WEILER:

I'm a baseball fan and my favorite time in the season, other than when the Giants are in the World Series, is spring training when rosters are being put together and players are traded and signed. I liked putting together teams. A part of what a Provincial does is put together the best team. That means trying to match up assignments with Jesuits in such a way that both the apostolates and the men will

experience the greatest possible success. That part I enjoy a lot. That part I will miss.

MISSION:

You were Provincial at an important time in the history of the California Province with the Generations Capital Campaign, General Congregation 36 to select a new superior general for the Society of Jesus, and the dawn of Jesuits West. Any one of those is a formidable enough challenge on its own. How did you handle these three major initiatives while still carrying out the day-to-day responsibilities of Provincial?

FR. WEILER:

Not really being an administrator by training or inclination, one of the ways that I dealt with the work of being Provincial was to focus on the task just ahead of me, sometimes that meant four or five days ahead, sometimes a few minutes ahead. It helped me in a number of ways. It took away a lot of needless worry that I think otherwise would have wasted a lot of energy and time. That was true of all three events.

I thought the creation of the new Province would be a pretty straight forward thing to do, but there were a lot of unforeseen situations and challenges that came up in the course of creating the new province that I would not have imagined before.

“I HAD NEVER RAISED MONEY BEFORE IN MY LIFE. REALLY, OUR ADVANCEMENT OFFICE RAISED THE MONEY. BUT I DIDN’T UNDERSTAND WHAT A CRITICAL PART OF THE WORK FUND RAISING IS, MUCH LESS HOW TO DO IT, BUT NOW I SEE.”

The same is true of raising money through the Generations Campaign. I had never raised money before in my life. Really, our Advancement office raised the money. But I didn’t understand what a critical part of the work fund raising is, much less how to do it, but now I see. In such particular challenges, I would just prepare for what was immediately ahead of me, meaning in the next thirty minutes. I remember the filming of the video that was used in the campaign. I was called to come over to the parking lot in front of Sacred Heart, and we just filmed it – no script, no outline, just speaking off the cuff. Raising money still is not natural or easy for me, but I see how necessary it is, so necessary.

MISSION:

Can you describe the experience of being a delegate at General Congregation 36?

FR. WEILER:

The General Congregation was far

different than what I expected. It took a long time to get to know the other delegates because we were working through different languages and different cultures, but eventually we did. We got to know and trust each other very deeply. There’s a lot of unplanned spontaneous conversations and activities that take place in a congregation that I had never expected. There’s no easy step-by-step way of doing it. The first day you’re voting for officials for the Congregation and you may know 20 people in the room out of 215 delegates. Then, during the famous *murmuratio* (a period in which Jesuits speak one-on-one about possible candidates for the role of their leader, the Superior General) there’s no kind of preparation, ‘OK, this is how you do the *murmuratio*’ It’s like, ‘You’ve got four days. Don’t talk to more than one person at a time. Don’t campaign for or against anyone. Go to it.’ You just have to figure it all out.

Everyone got good at it in the second

or third or fourth day, but the first day was overwhelming, 215 men. Out of that experience came a lot of really precious moments there that were unanticipated, precious moments during that time when people I had just sat down and talked with for the very first time were completely transparent about their lives. That was very impressive, and it was what allowed the *murmuratio* to work.

The middle part of the Congregation was difficult. That there should be such a hard part was unexpected. In the middle of writing the decrees, we really got stuck at least once and it was very discouraging. It was discouraging enough that I was shopping for Christmas decorations because I thought we’re never going to get out of there. It became burdensome just to be in Rome. Each week we had Saturday afternoon and Sunday free, so I and some other Jesuits from the West Coast fled to Naples just to get out of Rome.



The change of scene was magical. We came back renewed. Then in the *aula* (great hall) the mood changed. We humbly asked the Canadian Jesuits to teach us their method of communal discernment. It all changed; it shifted. That was like, 'Wow.' That felt like unforeseen grace.

MISSION:

Do you have any plans that you can announce about what you'll be doing next when your mission as Provincial ends?

FR. WEILER:

I've never seen the Ignatian sites in Spain – Loyola, Manresa, Montserrat, all that. In the fall, I'm going to visit those sites. Then I expect to come back to this community, Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, and catch up on some reading and do some visiting of friends and family that's kind of gone missing for a few years.

MISSION:

Anything beyond that or is that still to be determined?

FR. WEILER:

I just learned that I am assigned to the tertianship program in Portland. Scott Santarosa made me available and (Fr.) Tim Kesicki (president of the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States) made the assignment official.

MISSION:

What are your hopes for Jesuits West as the California and Oregon provinces are brought together?

FR. WEILER:

My hopes match what I fully expect will happen – like the charism I saw at the General Congregation. Regardless what part of the world we come from or where we enter the Society, we really are an international body that commits ourselves to going where we're needed. Right now we have a dozen men from the West

Coast serving in Rome, because they were needed there. In that same way, Jesuits West Province is just a different method of administering a large part of the world to support the work that's done by Jesuits in that region. Unlike monastic communities, we don't have membership in a particular house or a particular Province. That freedom to move is always a part of who we are.

We get familiar with people and places; we come to love those people. Still, we are free to go elsewhere. I saw that freedom dramatically in Rome in the Congregation that people were very free about where and how they served. Certainly they had preferences for places where family and friends were, but were willing to go anywhere. This new province is just an easier version of that. We are a bigger administrative area and we've already, over these last four or five years, been working as though it were one province even before it's created.



MISSION:

We're in a period of political change in our country. What role can Jesuits West play to support immigrants and the poor?

FR. WEILER:

I believe people are fundamentally good and would not knowingly make decisions to harm others and so one of the roles that we can play, because we do have contact with poor people and people who are undocumented, is to bring attention to the harm that takes place and to help people see the same humanity in each other. I've just come back from visiting a number of communities, parishes largely. In every one of those parishes there was at least one experience of immigration officials knocking on the door of a family's home and taking away one of the parents.

Families are being broken up. Parents are having to take out legal documents that give friends or relatives parental rights over their children in case they are taken away. I think that's horrific. It's hard to think back to an era in our national history where government officials broke up families like that. I think most people don't know that. They're distant from it. Part of our service, because we do have contact with these people, is just to make clear what's happening. Another part, that the General Congregation really called us to do because we saw it as a global issue, is to help build under-

standing among different peoples. One of the reactions to globalization has been fear and that fear has prompted a kind of angry, sometimes violent reaction against people who are different.

This is true all around the world. People in their fear are trying to isolate themselves from the global sensibility, sometimes by building walls and sometimes by creating harsh laws. At its worst it reaches into a kind of racist sin that, 'If someone doesn't look like me, they don't belong here.' Sometimes it doesn't reach that deep but that kind of darkness is there in the shadows waiting to happen if we let it reach that point. What is common among us is so much greater than what is different, but people have become frightened by the connecting around the globe of distant cultures and peoples. I guess this is not surprising, but it's creating terrible situations and it's encouraging a very sinful side of our human nature to come forth.

MISSION:

In a "Letter from the Provincial" for this magazine shortly after you were named Provincial, you wrote that you on occasion complained to God, asking why he couldn't have found someone else more able with more wisdom who could fulfill the role of Provincial. Can you tell me a little bit about that complaint and what you think of it now?

FR. WEILER:

I'm as sure today as I was then that there were Jesuits better skilled and better prepared to do this work than I was, but it fell to me for whatever reason. It's become clear to me over these years that the Provincial is sustained both by the abilities of the people that surround him in the work and by the prayers of the Province and our friends to do the work that needs to be done.

It's not the accomplishment of an individual. It's really the accomplishment of the Lord working through the Society of Jesus, but broader than just Jesuits. If there's success in the Province, it's because of that and not because of the particular skills or lack thereof of a Provincial. I didn't know that before, but it's really clear to me now.

MISSION:

You also once said that the job as Provincial felt like an enormous privilege. After six years in the role, do you still feel that way?

FR. WEILER:

Very much so. You know the opportunity of these last six years will stand out as one of the greatest gifts I've received in my life. You see the great goodness in so many individuals. I hear 430 Accounts of Conscience a year from Jesuits and they are wonderful men.



They are very honest, very transparent, hard on themselves, hardworking. To hear all that every year is an extraordinary thing. That's just the beginning of a network of incredibly dedicated people who staff these ministries. Take that 430 and multiply it by 10 and you have a sense of not hundreds but thousands and tens of thousands of people doing great service, not for themselves but for others. I might have guessed at that reality before, but in these years I saw it first hand.

Besides that, because a lot of work is done internationally, there are things I didn't know about before. For example, at any moment there are two million students studying in a Jesuit-sponsored secondary school around the world. It's an extraordinary kind of reach. It's an amazing service to the human family.

Part of the privilege, too, is meeting people doing extraordinary work in

other places. I think of the Provincial of the Near East Province, Fr. Danny Younes, who is responsible for Jesuits who are scattered throughout Syria, Egypt, Lebanon, and Jordan who carry on simple work for other people at great risk. The guys in India work with tribal peoples and face great persecution. Since the Vatican Council, more Jesuits have been killed in India for working with tribal peoples than any other place in the world. Many are killed for simply teaching them English or their basic political rights or how to advance economically. I didn't know about all those things, let alone meeting the men serving in those lands. I got to see some of them first hand and it's very impressive. It's very wonderful.

Before becoming Provincial, my assignments had kept me pretty much within the Jesuit world and in this assignment I've stepped outside of the Jesuit world occasionally. I have a sense of how the Church

is doing good around the world and in our western part of the United States.

I've had a chance to work with some wonderful, holy bishops and members of other religious communities and lay partners. Whatever we do as the Society of Jesus and its works, it's just a small part of the great good that the Church in the broadest sense is doing in the world. I've learned maybe greater humility.

As good as all that we do is and as proud as I am of what we do, it's a small part of what God is doing in the world. It's both humbling and wonderful to see.

From Our Archives

“WE’RE PUTTING THE BAND BACK TOGETHER!”



Though there may not be a band this time around, when the former California Missions and Rocky Mountain Missions were spun off from the Turin Province in 1909 as part of the newly formed California Province, there was indeed an orchestra that emerged. Known as the Mt. St. Michael's Orchestra, the ensemble shown below from 1919-1920, was comprised of both Jesuit faculty and scholastics studying philosophy.

Physics teacher Fr. Eugene Bacigalipi, SJ, (later a Santa Clara University professor for many years) is on sax at top left. Edward Hagemann, SJ, a first-year student, is

on flute, top right. An Australian, "Haggie," as he was known, was a long-time teacher and spiritual director at Alma College in Los Gatos.

That early California Province structure would remain intact until 1932, when the Oregon Province was created. Eighty-five years later, on July 1, 2017, the former California Province and the former Oregon Province were rejoined to form Jesuits West, reuniting the two entities covering a 10-state area from Alaska to Mexico and Montana to Hawaii.





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Answering God's Call to Service

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