

## **Formation session for Newly-elected Provincials**

I've just returned back to Canada after participating in the training days for newly-elected Provincials. There were five of us in all: Brothers Eusebio Calvo (Spain), Isaac Valméus (Haïti), Justin Rakotorahalahy (Madagascar), Éliko Séloui (Oceanea) and myself, Yves Granger (Canada).

From March 13 to 16 we participated in a series of five seminars aimed at re-familiarizing ourselves with various points concerning the exercise of fraternal service of authority in the institute, preparation for perpetual vows, and ongoing formation. We also took time to reflect together on the main themes of the recent general chapter, on the schedule of engagements of the general council for the various entities to be visited, on financial management, and on the administrative guide.

The superior general, Brother José Ignacio, the councillors general, as well as Brothers Augustin Nelson (secretary general) and Brother Omar Patrick Andriambahoaka (bursar general) all participated in one or more sessions of the seminar.

These several meetings were an occasion for each participant to share on one or another of the topics covered. We were privileged to be witness to many inspiring happenings in some of our institute's entities, as well as to some genuine problems that some are having to face. Each of us was afforded an individual meeting with Brother José Ignacio and with the councillor general with special responsibility for our respective entities.

We five provincials were unanimous in our evaluation of the positive value of the seminar. We greatly appreciated this opportunity for reflection and sharing, as well as the opportunity to meet and share among ourselves as newly-elected provincials. These few days were an opportunity for us to savor the flavor of the institute, within the context of the election of Pope Francis, for which we all join with you in giving thanks to God.

In the name of all five of us, I express our gratefulness to Brother José Ignacio, to the general council, to its officers, and to the brothers of the general house for their warm hospitality.

Brother Yves Granger, S.C.  
Brother Provincial of the province of Canada