



Superiore generale dei Fratelli Maristi

Rome, 30 January 2012

TO THE BROTHERS OF THE PROVINCE OF THE USA

Dear Brothers,

I want to extend warm personal greetings to each of you. We have just concluded the first three weeks of our General Council Plenary session with a challenging and encouraging meeting with the Brothers who are in charge of the various Secretariats (Brothers Today, Mission, Laity, International Mission Collaboration), the FMSI teams in Rome and Geneva, and the renewal teams from Manziana and Escorial. Our time together enabled us to learn from each other's experience and to coordinate our future efforts on behalf of the Institute. Without any question, we reaffirmed that the charism of Marcellin and our Mission on behalf of children and young people are needed more today than ever.



It is in this spirit of re-commitment that I am pleased to confirm the election of **Brother Ben Consigli** as Provincial for another three-year term beginning on June 22, 2012. I am grateful to Ben for his ongoing service to the Province of the United States and to the Institute and the General Council and I appreciate his willingness to serve in this capacity. The results of your *Discernment Process* clearly indicate that Ben has the strong support of the brothers in the province and your confidence and trust in him will serve as an important source of support throughout his next term of leadership. I want to congratulate him and thank him for everything that he has done to advance Marist life and mission in the United States.

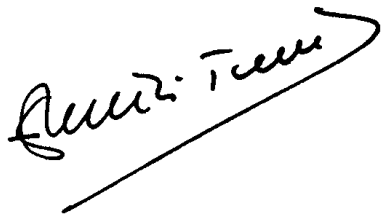
During the *Discernment Process* communities and individual brothers had the opportunity to identify the key issues for the Province. I have reviewed your responses and I am grateful for your thoughtful reflections and determination to look for the best for the Province. I would like briefly to highlight some of the issues that each of you and province leadership together are called to address:

- Vocation Ministry and the need to strengthen our identity to increase vocations
- The spiritual, physical, psychological, and ministerial needs of our older brothers
- The importance of strengthening the Marist identity in our institutions
- The threats and challenges that some schools are facing, especially those that serve young people “on the margins”
- The financial stability of the province and the need for prudent stewardship of resources
- The challenge of forming intentional and life-giving communities
- The formation of our lay partners

These issues are significant ones that demand the participation and commitment of each brother in the Province. They are difficult but I have no doubt that you will meet them with courage, fortitude and confidence in the future.

Our XXI General Chapter documents call each of us to a *renewed sense of consecration firmly rooted in the Gospel; urging us to new ways of being Brother...Brothers among Brothers, signs of the Kingdom by our simple life style, by sharing faith and life, with a renewed spirit of prayer and mutual forgiveness*. As a brother among brothers I want to assure you of my gratitude for everything that you do and have done to bring Marcellin’s charism to life in the United States and the General Council and I promise our prayers and support for you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Emili Turú", written in a cursive style. The signature is underlined with a single horizontal line that extends to the right and then curves upwards at the end.

Bro. Emili Turú
Superior General