



Detroit Province of the Society of Jesus

7303 West Seven Mile Road • Detroit, Michigan 48221-2121 • Phone: (313) 861-7500 • Fax: (313) 861-4230

February 16, 2009

To: All Members of the Detroit Province

Dear Brothers in Christ,

As we approach the Lenten season, we also near the March 6 anniversary of the close of GC 35 a year ago. Just as Father General and his council have recently retreated to appropriate the experience of GC 35, so the 2009 Lenten season suggests to me a good time for all of us in the Detroit Province of the Society to reflect and pray together as a province on the documents of GC 35.

I realize that many/most of you may have done this one way or another over these past months, but I am asking at this time that all of us take a look at the Congregation's documents from a fresh perspective: the perspective set out by Father General, Adolfo Nicolás, in his letter of last October. There, he tells us that as he and his staff looked at the Congregation documents and sifted through all the material that had come to the Curia regarding them over the past months, six umbrella-like topics seemed to surface. He identifies them as: spiritual depth, formation, leadership, creativity, intellectual apostolate and community life. Through the lens of these six topics, I am asking us together to review—reflect and pray over—the documents of the Congregation anew.

Father Walter Farrell has prepared a prayer booklet to facilitate this prayerful process. The program is structured to begin on March 1, 2009, the first Sunday of Lent. An introductory page in the booklet entitled "How to Use this Booklet" will do just that.

I urge everyone to enter into this prayer program together, and especially to make use of the small-group sharing suggested for the Saturdays of Lent.

Sincerely in Christ,

Timothy P. Kesicki, S.J.