Chapter 17

Present and Future
SM Breakdown Period (1965-90)

SM Superiors General
1956-71 (15 years) Paul J. Hoffer (1906-76)
1971-81 (10 years) Stephen J. Tutas (1926-)
1981-91 (10 years) José Maria Salaverri (1926-)

SM General Chapters
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<tr>
<th>Hoffer</th>
<th>Tutas</th>
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Salaverri
28. 1981 Linz
29. 1986 Arricia (near Rome)

SM Provinces and Vice-Provinces
1965 Provinces Andes, Austria, Canada, Cincinnati, France, Italy, Japan, Madrid, New York, Pacific, St. Louis, Saragossa, Switzerland
1976 Meribah became a province
1977 Peru became a province
1982 Andes divided into provinces of Argentina and Chile

SM Foundations in New Countries (*=re-entry)
1965 Colombia
1966 Zambia
1967 Ireland
1975 Brazil
1975 Ecuador
1980 India
1980 Mexico*
1982 Nepal (until 1992)
SM Transition Period (1990-2015)

SM Superiors General
1991-96 (5 years) Quentin W. J. Hakenewerth (1930- )
1996-2006 (10 years) David J. Fleming (1939- )
2006 Manuel Cortés (1945- )

SM General Chapters
Hakenewerth Fleming *Courtés
32. 2001 Rome 34. 2012 Rome

SM Provinces and Vice-Provinces
1994 Canadian Province became a region
2002 Province of the United States inaugurated
2004 New categories and terminology added at General Assembly

SM Foundations in New Countries (*=re-entry)
1994 Poland
1995-96 Zaire (Congo)
1997 Czech Republic *(until 2005)
2001 Albania
2003 Cuba, China*, Haiti (until 2012) (Haitian MLCs begin in 2000)
2004 Philippines (until 2013)
2005 Nepal (until 2013)
2007 Benin (Togo)

After 2004
SM Provinces – France, Italy, Madrid, Meribah, Saragossa, United States
SM Foundations and Missionary Groups – Albania (Italy), Belgium (France), Brazil (Madrid), China (Korea), Cuba (Saragossa), Haiti (Canada), Philippines (US), Poland (GA)
SM Apostolic Services – Bangladesh (US), Benin (Togo), Bolivia (Madrid), Congo Democratic Republic (France), Congo Republic (France), Guatemala (Madrid), Ireland (US), Nepal (India), Solomon Islands, Sudan, Tunisia (France), Venezuela (Madrid)

*(At the 2006 Chapter the period between Chapters was extended to six years. Thus, Courtés will serve for a total of 12 years since he was reelected in 2012).
What is the Future of the Society of Mary in the United States?  
Some responses for reflection.

In 1972, Quentin Hakenewerth wrote a circular (Circular #11, December 15, 1972). He wrote in response to the controversy that was brewing between the SM provinces in the United States and what was to become the Meribah Province.

In the circular, Father Hakenewerth outlined five issues around which members of the Society of Mary could find common ground—issues that could draw the brothers together, not divide them.

The five issues were Worship, Work, Community Living, Administration, and Poverty. The circular is available in the NACMS Library.

In 1983, Stephen Tutas, SM, wrote an article for Review for Religious in which he laid out 10 signs of hope. A summary of his article can be found in Education and Transformation by Dr. Christopher Kauffman, p. 284.

Lawrence J. Cada, SM, presented a lecture in 1992 to the SM novices on what the SM might expect in the near future.
Bro. Cada spoke on two suppositions
    Spirituality follows ministry
    Ministries are likely to be where freedoms are constricted
Lecture notes available upon request.

In a Circular #4, March 1999, David Fleming, Superior General of the SM at that time, wrote on “You Are All Missionaries: Chaminade’s Charism Toward a New Millennium.” Father Fleming used the paschal metaphor of Holy Saturday—waiting for the future to reveal itself—as a framework for themes he thought important to the brothers. His list consisted of reflection on the Scripture about new wine in new wineskins, solidarity with the poor and peacemakers, collaboration with the Marianist Family, vocations and formation, the Characteristics of Marianist Education, and global efforts around twinning, funding, the seminary, the ICMF, and new foundations.

Also, in 1999 Dr. Kauffman’s book, Education and Transformation, was published. In the final chapter, “Epilogue,” he says that he must be more journalist than historian to capture the salient trends of the recent Marianist past. He includes summaries of significant contributions by several Marianist brothers and priests to analyze the past, present and future of the congregation.

While not written down anywhere, a few NACMS staff recall conversations with Hugh Bihl, SM, around the time of the unification of the U.S. Provinces (2002). He felt strongly that any issues that need to be solved in order to sustain and see growth in the SM, must be approached from the perspective of faith, and not organization.

In April 2010, Stephen Glodek, SM, wrote an article “Apostolic Imagination and Daring” to accompany Vision 2020, the Strategic Plan 2010-2020 Report. Brother Glodek
stresses nine key strategic issues that will affect the Province’s future. The article is available on the SM portal.

And what will be next? It will probably be important for the foreseeable future, to position any questions about how the SM will grow and change within a broad context of the Marianist Family and new apostolic endeavors. Recent planning efforts have resulted in documents that advance this context as a new reality. Please refer to the following.

In the document “Continuing the Conversation on Reading the Signs of the Times” that accompanies Vision 2020, Brother Ray Fitz, SM, has gathered together trends that emerged from an analysis of “signs of the times” in the world and culture, within the Church, and within the Province of the United States. At the conclusion, Brother Ray has posted strategic issues and invited comments from the brothers. A revision will be written after comments are made.

In Vision 2020, Strategic Plan 2010-2020, one of three introductory sections is about the vision and goals of the Marianist Family in the United States. Goal D states:

The Province of the United States will continue to develop and sustain, in partnership with other communities of the Marianist Family, a network of sponsored apostolic organizations and faith communities in each of the geographical areas of the Province. These apostolic organizations will form faith-filled leaders for the Church and society and will be engaged in advancing justice and reconciliation.

Strategies to accomplish this goal include developing an inventory of the apostolic organizations and faith communities in areas to encourage partnerships; educating and forming SM to serve as animators of communities; preparing leadership within apostolic organizations and advisory apostolic communities to engage in transformation of society; and considering geographical decisions in light of how those choices will support the other three strategies and the overall Goal.

The Marianist Family Council is identified as the focal point for much of the collaborative and partnering efforts among the branches. It is also clear that more and more lay people will be involved in leadership and implementation of works within apostolic organizations as well as strategies in the other Goals set out in the plan.