



JESUITS
West

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July 30, 2018

Dear Brothers and Friends,

Happy Feast of St. Ignatius! As we celebrate the day of our Founder, I invite you to join me and others in the province in praying in a distinct way for Jesuits West over the course of this year. At ordinations in San Diego, I expressed my hope that we would see the current moment in time as a unique point in the history of the Jesuits West Province. Behind that hope is a call for us to be discerning and intentional as we look at the various needs that face us, our available resources, and where the Lord is calling us.

For us to remain focused on this sense of urgency, I am asking several Jesuits and lay people to compose a monthly prayer that speaks to our call to be open and discerning at this moment in time. A primary intention will be for the particular regional days of reflection, conversation, and prayer following my visitation to that region during that given month. Each prayer will also call upon a particular holy person to intercede for us.

Included in this letter is the first prayer, for the month of August, composed by Mike Moynahan, S.J. He invokes the intercession of Pedro Arrupe, S.J., 28th Superior General of the Society of Jesus, given that Fr. General Sosa has asked us all to pray for Arrupe's canonization. In addition, this prayer reminds us to pray for our Province Days along with the vow liturgy to follow. At the end of August, we will send out a prayer for September that will include the Tacoma regional day of reflection, conversation, and prayer on September 22. A similar pattern will follow for each month.

I invite you to use these prayers in as many ways as are helpful to you: in your personal prayer, at weekly community meetings, at board and staff meetings, etc. The hope is that they will help us all entrust the work we are doing to God, and to help us be mindful and intentional in this unique moment in time.

Thank you for joining me in this year of prayer and discernment. When I was visiting the rose garden at the University of Central America in El Salvador, the site where six of our Jesuit brothers were dragged and killed, I asked for their intercession that we might be as responsive to the call of the Lord in our time as they were in theirs. Obviously, the outcome will be different. Yet our intention is the same: to respond to the call of Jesus here and now.

Gratefully yours,

Scott Santarosa, S.J.
Provincial