



New Provincial to lead Jesuits in New England

July 31, 2009, Watertown, MA – The New England Province is pleased to announce that Fr. Myles N. Sheehan, S.J., became the 15th Provincial of the New England Province of the Society of Jesus on July 31, 2009, the feast of St. Ignatius, the founder of the Jesuits. Fr. Sheehan succeeds Fr. Thomas J. Regan, S.J., whose six-year term ended on July 30, 2009. Fr. Adolfo Nicolás, S.J., Superior General of the Society of Jesus, had appointed Fr. Sheehan Provincial of the New England Province on February 19.

Fr. Sheehan was born on April 18, 1956 in Marshfield, Massachusetts, and graduated from Thayer Academy, Braintree, Massachusetts in 1974. Prior to entering the Society of Jesus, he completed his undergraduate degree and doctorate in medicine at Dartmouth College.

Fr. Sheehan joined the New England Province on August 25, 1985 and made his novitiate at St. Andrew House in Boston, MA. After completing his philosophy studies at Loyola University in Chicago, he did two years of post-doctoral studies in gerontology at Harvard Medical School. He earned his M.Div. from the Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge and was ordained to the priesthood on June 18, 1994. On April 22, 2005, he professed solemn vows. Since 1995, Myles has served as a professor of medicine at Loyola University's Stritch School of Medicine. In 2000, he added the administrative duties of senior associate dean to his teaching and research responsibilities.

"I am confident that the considerable experience that he has gained through these important roles will bode well for his leadership of our province," said Fr. Thomas Regan. "I commend Fr. Sheehan to your prayers and thank him for his generosity in making himself available to serve the Society of Jesus in this important capacity."

Fr. Sheehan says, "I am honored to be chosen for this service to the Jesuits of New England and our lay colleagues. I am grateful to Fr. Regan for his work and service over the last six years and look forward to building on the sound foundation he has built."

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About the New England Province

The New England Province of the Society of Jesus consists of more than 300 Jesuits serving the Church in educational, pastoral and spiritual ministries. Educational ministries in New England include three high schools (Boston College High School in Boston, Cheverus High School in Portland, ME and Fairfield College Preparatory School in Fairfield, CT) three universities (Boston College, College of the Holy Cross and Fairfield University) and two middle schools (Nativity Preparatory School, Jamaica Plain and The Nativity School of Worcester). Jesuits minister in parishes and as chaplains in prisons, hospitals, nursing homes and the military throughout New England and provide retreats and spiritual direction at Eastern Point Retreat House in Gloucester and Campion Renewal Center in Weston. Among the many institutions New England Jesuits serve, in collaboration with the local, national and universal Society of Jesus and the Catholic Church, are: America Magazine, Boston Archdiocesan Office of Ecumenism, Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome and the Vatican Observatory. The New England Province includes the six New England states, though Jesuits from the Province serve throughout the United States, and around the world. The Province provides spiritual and educational formation for young Jesuits, and the health care needs of senior Jesuits at Campion Center in Weston. The overseas commitments of the New England Province are Jamaica, Jordan and Iraq.

To learn more about the New England Province, please visit www.sjnen.org. For more information on the Society of Jesus, the world's largest religious order of priests and brothers, visit www.sjweb.info

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