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Dear Friends,

The cover story of this edition of our *JESUITS* magazine features big news indeed! On January 19th the delegates of the 35th General Congregation meeting in Rome voted to name Father Adolfo Nicolás, SJ, moderator of the Jesuit Conference for East Asia and Oceania, and a former provincial of Japan, to become the 30th General of the Society of Jesus, the 29th successor of St. Ignatius of Loyola. He succeeds the Very Reverend Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, SJ, who although elected for life in 1983, was allowed to retire in his 80th year by our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI. The news of the new General's election was greeted enthusiastically by the Society throughout the world. Father Nicolás, a native of Spain, brings to his new post years of experience working in Japan, Korea and the Philippines. Fluent in many languages, he cites his stay at Shadowbrook, the former New England novitiate in Lenox, Mass., as a place where he refined his mastery of English! I wasted little time in inviting him to make a return visit to our province!

If you are familiar with Jesuits, you are no doubt aware that they often wear many hats. In this edition, our magazine is proud to feature some of our brothers who also wear stethoscopes! As if the training for an "SJ" wasn't long and arduous enough, some of ours have also completed a secondary formation process in medicine. Each day these Jesuit doctors use their education in a variety of unique and fruitful ways. Learning about the types of apostolic work in which they engage will hopefully make for fascinating reading! I am very confident that you will enjoy this piece. After all, it's one visit to the doctor that's free!

Each year, the miracle of spring invites us to ponder the numerous ways in which the Lord is active in our world and never fails to bring new and abundant life out of our moments of sheer and utter darkness. Throughout the pages that follow, I invite you to savor the stories that tell of the many ways in which you help us as Jesuits bring that message of hope and confidence to a wide range of women and men, old and young, rich and poor. Your ongoing support of our apostolic works makes it possible for us and the dedicated men and women who work along with us to be vibrant signs of Christ's light and life to others. Please know that we appreciate all that you do for the New England Province. Be assured that not a day goes by when we do not remember you and your loved ones in our Masses and prayers.

Sincerely,

(Very Reverend) Thomas J. Regan, SJ
Provincial

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COVER:
Photo collage of the 35th General
Congregation meeting in Rome
where delegates have elected
Very Rev. Adolfo Nicolás, SJ, as the
new Superior General

JESUITS