**Statement from the Brothers Assembly**FMS Novitiate Lomery, May 09-13, 2016

**Who is an SM Brother?**

An SM Br is a professed religious taking vows of Chastity, Obedience and poverty, committed to prayer, Community and apostolic life according to the Constitutions of the Society of Mary.

He strives to live a life of personal holiness by committing is life to God in whatever he does in living out his Marist community life and mission (*living out his Marist life in community?)* and upholding and defending the Catholic Faith.

**What does a Brother do in Ministry?**

In his concern for living and teaching the Catholic faith today and in the future and how he can respond to the needs of the people he serves there are a number of ministries the brothers are now involved in as well as the traditional works the Brothers have always been involved in all provinces in the SM,:

* Catechesis – in schools and parishes teaching faith and morals
* Being involved in Parishes in collaboration with the laity in youth programs, Seminars, conferences, assisting in giving instruction and preparation for the sacraments.
* Teaching in Schools, Vocational centers and adult education.
* Involved in international and provincial formations houses
* Working as bursars and administrators
* Being ministers of Communion, visiting the sick and elderly
* Being chaplains to hospital and prison, spiritual directors and counselors.

The above mentioned ministries we Brothers of the SM believe as needs of our time.

Those who are interested in becoming an SM Brother should discern this call during his time of formation and develop skills according to their ability and inclination towards making a contribution to the mission of the Society in the province and in mission outreaches of the wider SM.

There may be more urgent calls of the mission of the province or wider society that he may be asked to support.

Further gifts for mission may be developed throughout his life

This does not limit them to being available for more urgent calls of mission

*A redaction of the original document by Brs Gerard Hogg, John Votaia and Denis O’Brien*