

Chapter Day 4

The day started with delegates being asked for any "overnight thoughts, dreams or insights." There were many reflections including one confrere who called us to recognise that we belong to Mary's Society and that it does not belong to one country or another, and that we should trust in her guidance.

For the first time the facilitator, Michael French, addressed the Chapter in session. He gave some observations on 'Culture', pointing out that English is the dominant language of the Chapter and that Anglo-Saxon culture is accustomed to a certain directness and volunteering of opinions. Those for whom English is not their first language and whose culture favours deference are less likely to speak up. It was a timely reflection for the chapter in recognising again the need to remember the impact of culture and the different ways that they operate.

The rest of the day was then devoted to hearing from each unit about their situation. There was a five-minute presentation by the Unit Leader followed by questions from the group about the unit. It was an good chance to get a sense of what is going on in the various units of the Society and to acknowledge the opportunities and challenges that are being faced by many.

