



# Dehonians USA

PRIESTS OF THE SACRED HEART

November 17, 2020

Dear Brothers,

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving next Thursday, I wish each of you and each community bountiful happiness and thankfulness for all the blessings we have received, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic. It has been a difficult year but we still give thanks for God's goodness to our Dehonian family.

Last week, at the Provincial Council meeting, the council discussed the 2021 Province Election Assembly, noting that the pandemic may impact it. I am sending this letter to each eligible voting member of the province asking for your input. The four options being considered are the following; please check your preference:

- Hold the Election Assembly as planned for July 26-30, anticipating the possibility that those from outside of the Milwaukee area may not be able to attend. They would then be given a proxy vote. It was noted that for the election to be valid a quorum of eligible voters would need to be present.
- A mail-in only election, similar to the model used by the province prior to election assemblies.
- A hybrid model that would be a mix of discussions via remote methods, such as Zoom, and mail-in ballots.
- Extend the term of the present administration for approximately a year and postpone the Election Assembly until 2022. This is an option that some religious communities have chosen.

Replies need to be returned to me prior to the December 15-16 council meeting. You may respond by email or regular mail. For those in the Milwaukee area, you may put your response in my mailbox at SHML or drop it off at the Provincial Office. If the province chooses to continue with the election assembly as planned, the convocation letter needs to go out by mid-January.

Please be assured of my thoughts and prayers. I'd appreciate yours as well.

Your brother,

Edward Kilianski, Scj  
Provincial Superior