

In January 2003 the Council of the Province meeting in Worcester, Massachusetts, approved the new statutes for the United States region and encouraged the religious in Mexico to consider the possibility of requesting a similar status so as to create three fairly parallel governing structures in the province. With the consent of his council Fr. John Franck appointed Fr. Dennis GALLAGHER the regional superior for the United States and Fr. Miguel DIAZ AYLLON the provincial delegate for Mexico. Fr. Dennis is currently Vice President for Mission at Assumption College, a position he will maintain with the added assistance of an administrative assistant, Br. Paul HENRY. Frs. Dennis and Miguel will begin their new duties on April 1.

The "regionalization" of the province responds to the new reality of the province, i.e. three separate realities with three different languages, churches, cultures, histories, etc. The nomination of a regional superior in the United States was seen as a means to free the provincial to spend more time caring for new efforts in Mexico and Quebec, overseeing planning for the new foundation in the Philippines, maintaining involvement in the development and expansion of Bayard North America, and developing ways to increase collaboration between the three distinct regions of the province, which has drastically declined due to ageing and a decrease in personnel. The provincial will also maintain the direction of the Board of Trustees at Assumption College.