

Visit of Fr. Fitzsimmons, Smm with the Scholastics

**Maria Bhavan, Bengaluru:** The community of Maria Bhavan was joyful to welcome Fr. Fitz Simmons SMM from the USA. The primary intention of his visit to Maria Bhavan was to meet the scholastics, He met us on 30th June at 07:30 pm. The brothers were enthusiastic in listening to the words of Fr. Fitz. He inspired the brothers telling that formation is not just learning alone but discerning. Discerning is not for the personal fulfilment of what makes one happy but what God wants one to be. The process of discernment will cause us to fear, questions and at times perplexity. Therefore, our attitude should be that which is expressed in the Lord's Prayer and at the prayer of Jesus at Gethsemane, 'Thy will be done'. Fr. Fitz asked everyone to hold on to Mother Mary who is the model for us as Montfortians. There was also a question particular to all the brothers which need to be asked to ourselves every time that is "am I the answer of the prayer of Montfort which he prayed 300 years ago."?

Sharing the incidents from his own life he stated that when we choose to love we choose to belong. We are called to love and belong to God and the people sometimes even strangers. Fr. Fitz concluded his talk with a little phrase which has paramount meaning "Learn and Discern". Promising his prayers for all the scholastics he blessed everyone.