



Steve Curtin

Steve Curtin began his role as Provincial of the Australian Jesuits on the Feast of St Ignatius, 31 July 2008.

Before joining the Jesuits in 1985 at the age of 28, Steve worked as a youth worker with juvenile offenders. During his training for ordination he had a variety of brief placements which included spending time with traditional aboriginal communities in the eastern Kimberley and in Alice Springs. In 1990 he worked as a teacher at, St Aloysius College in Sydney and as a pastoral worker with the homeless. In 1991 he worked as a counselor with refugees from Vietnam in the Philippines.

Steve grew up in a large family in Sydney where he attended school at St Ignatius College Riverview and then studied psychology at Macquarie University. Steve completed his theological studies at the United Faculty of Theology in Melbourne and was ordained in 1994, after which he spent a year at St Ignatius Parish in Richmond, Melbourne before moving to Bangkok in 1996. He worked for 5 years with the Jesuit Refugee Service Asia Pacific, first as Assistant Regional Director and then as Regional Director. A great deal of his work in Thailand was with refugees from Burma but he also traveled extensively in South East Asia managing projects in Indonesia, East Timor, Thailand, Cambodia and Nepal.

In October 2001 Steve became the Director of Jesuit Mission. With his knowledge of South East Asia he was given the task of broadening Jesuit Mission's support to newer mission areas whilst also maintaining support for the original overseas work of the Australian Jesuits in Hazaribag in India. In September 2007 he was appointed a Consultor to the Provincial of the Australian Jesuits. Steve was appointed to replace Mark Raper as Provincial of Australia following the election of Fr Adolfo Nicolas as Superior General and the appointment of Fr Mark Raper as President of the Jesuit Conference of East Asia and Oceania.