

APOSTOLIC VICARIATE OF AYSÉN, CHILE

Description

The Holy See entrusted the Aysén Mission (Mission of Mary, Queen) to the Servite Order in 1937 and the Venetian Province took responsibility for it. On February 17, 1940 the mission became the Aysén Apostolic Prefecture with a territory coinciding with Chile's XI Region. On May 8, 1955 the Prefecture became an Apostolic Vicariate.

The Aysén Servites are part of the recently established Province of St. Mary of the Andes with 59 friars in the following countries: Chile, Bolivia, Peru, Argentina and Uruguay.

The missionary territory of Aysén is vast but sparsely populated. The geographic location and harsh climate make development difficult.

Servites

1 Servite community (Coyhaique); 4 solemn professed; Servite Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows (present since 1938): 2 communities and 8 sisters; Servite Secular Order fraternities in Coyhaique and Puerto Aysén.

General Information

Area: 109,865 sq km; population: 90,300 (of whom 40,000 live in Coyhaique and 15,000 in Puerto Aysén); parishes: 6; Catholics: 71,898; other denominations: Evangelical Church; Christian Community: 58; priests: diocesan: 6 (2 local), religious: 10; diocesan deacons: 3 (2 married); sisters: 16; consecrated lay women: 5; catechists: about 450; schools: 10 (two high schools) with some 6,000 students; social service centers (clinics, help for the aged, kindergartens, social welfare, etc): 79 (persons cared for: 8,548).

Vicar Apostolic: Msgr. **Luis M. Infanti De La Mora**

