THE AUGUSTINIAN

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On February 18, 2012, Pope Benedict XVI elevated 86-year-old Prospero Grech, O.S.A., of Malta, to cardinal. Dubbed “The Reluctant Cardinal” by the Maltese press, Fr. Prospero, a renowned biblical scholar, author and professor, was caught off guard by the Pope’s request. Similarly, Sebastiano Martinelli, O.S.A., previous to Cardinal Grech, the most recent Augustinian to receive the Red Hat 111 years ago, in 1901 was reluctant to accept a call from Pope Leo XIII to become Apostolic Delegate to the United States. This unusual connection between the two Augustinians is explored.

Since 2007, joining the provinces in North America into a federation had been a topic of discussion among the members of the provinces in the United States and Canada. The focus was a new alliance that would leave each province retaining much of their own affairs—but would seek to collaborate in areas of mutual interest for all the provinces. After much work and discussion, friars voted to accept the proposal to form a federation. On February 21, 2012, Robert F. Prevost, O.S.A., Prior General of the Augustinian Order in Rome, officially established the Federation of Augustinians of North America.

On March 31, 2012, in Rome, Italy, Fr. Richard G. Cannuli, O.S.A., former Chair of the Art and Art History Department and the Theatre Department at Villanova University, opened an exhibit, “Ever Ancient, Ever New—Sacred Treasures,” with subsequent exhibits in Sienna (Italy), the Czech Republic and Poland. Dedicated to his parents and grandparents, the show pays homage to their cultural and devotional roots in South Philadelphia and Southern Italy.
Dear Friends,

Most people do not like change in their lives or change in the world around them. Augustinians take a vow of obedience, but change can be difficult for us too. In the Order of St. Augustine we have a phrase, “for the good of the Order and for the people we serve.”

This issue of The Augustinian is essentially about change. It’s about two Augustinians, a century apart, who were asked by a Pope to take on a life-changing role they did not seek or want, but they accepted the role for the good of the Order and for the people they serve. Those two friars are our newest Augustinian Cardinal, Prospero Grech, O.S.A., who was elevated to a Cardinal in February 2012, and our previous Augustinian Cardinal, Sebastiano Martineili, O.S.A., who was elevated to a Cardinal in 1901. Their stories, largely told through the eyes of the media, is our main feature article for this issue.

Our second story introduces FANA: The Federation of the Augustinians of North America. In our piece on the Federation you will find that Province names and structures will remain as they are, but through this Federation we will explore new ways to work together for the benefit of each of the provinces in North America. Very Reverend Bernard C. Scianma, O.S.A., Provincial of the Midwest, has been elected the first Prior of our Federation by his fellow Province Provincials. It is “for the good of the Order and for the people we serve” that the brotherhood of friars confirmed their desire to work more closely, to create a platform for change.

Our brother, Fr. Richard G. Czaniak, O.S.A., has been given a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to show his art in Augustinian historical sites in Europe and Eastern Europe. The show has taken him to Rome, San Gimignano, Prague, Czech Republic and Krakow, Poland. If you ask why Richard does this art, you need only read Fr. Richard’s exhibition booklet which makes reference to St. Augustine’s words in sermon 43—“see what you believe.”

Before you dive into the pages of this issue of The Augustinian, I am very proud to announce that this magazine, produced by the Augustinian Friars of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, received First Place honors from the 2012 Catholic Press Association Awards for Best Cover; First Place for General Excellence of a Religious Order Magazine; and First and Second Place awards for Best general Publisher’s website, http://augustinian.org, garnered by Teddie Gallagher, Editor and Associate Communications Director, Kitty Sheridan, Associate Editor, and our previous Augustinian Cardinal, Sebastiano Martineili, O.S.A., who was elevated to a Cardinal in 1901. Their stories, largely told through the eyes of the media, is our main feature article for this issue.

New Pope? Like presidential nominations, the age of 80 who would vote to elect a new Pope? Like presidential nominations, changes do to the mix of cardinals under Benedict? Why were some excluded? What did the nominations rise up, many news outlets wondered why the choices were made. Two men on the list were simply priests, prefects, presidents or grand masters. One of those two men was an 86-year-old Augustinian named Prospero Grech, O.S.A., who had spent the past 60 years of his life in Rome.

The media frenzy around the nominations rose up, many news outlets wondered why the choices were made. Why were some excluded? What did the changes do to the mix of cardinals under the age of 80 who would vote to elect a new Pope? Like presidential nominations to the Supreme Court, some assumed the Pope was putting his stamp on the vote for his successor.

In the United States, the cardinals-elect seemed to reflect that this was a win for the team. Catholic News Service reported this quote from the then Cardinal-designate Timothy Dolan: “This is not about Timothy Dolan; this is an honor from the Holy Father to the Archdiocese of New York... It’s as if Pope Benedict is putting the red hat on the top of the Empire State Building, or the Statue of Liberty, or on home plate at Yankee Stadium.”
In stark contrast, there was the press about the well-respected, Augustinian, Biblical scholar, author and professor, Fr. Prospero Grech, O.S.A! Unfailingly honest, humble and humorous, the Cardinal-designate Grech said he was speechless when he got the call from his old friend Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, but asked, “What for?” “The Holy Father has this reason,” said Cardinal Bertone. Fr. Prospero later said he thought, “Thank you very much, but I’m confused about it. I don’t see that I’ve done anything special.” The Times of Malta called him the “Refractant Cardinal” and quoted him as jokingly saying “I always believed in the Pope’s infallibility, but now I am beginning to doubt it.” He also described himself as “about to be painted in red.”

“Two weeks ago I was at peace,” he told an interviewer, “I hope everyone forgets me.” He said he told Cardinal Bertone, “If I changed and he wasn’t happy about it they would surely kill me after almost 200 years waiting to have a native Cardinal... and the Augustinians would have insisted to have a representative within the Vatican’s Sacred Palace.”

Somewhat sadly, Cardinal Bertone suggested he should ride his red motor scooter through the busy streets of Rome, because some people see it as beneath the dignity of a Cardinal. Fr. Prospero didn’t see the difference between a motor scooter and a car, but went along with the request.

When one considers the history of Malta and the Augustinians, you can surely understand why Fr. Grech felt the pressure to accept the elevation to Cardinal status.

The small Republic of Malta is a group of seven islands in the middle of the Mediterranean. Only the three larger islands (Malta, Gozo and Comino) are inhabited, with a population just over 400,000.

The country has been inhabited since the fifth millennium BC, and through the course of time has been taken over by many civilizations and nations, including the Sicilians, Greeks, Phoenicians, Spanish, Romans, Italians, Arabs, French and, finally, the English. The islands officially became independent in 1964 and became a Republic.

St. Paul was shipwrecked on the island in 60 A.D. when he was enroute from Crete to Rome to be judged before Caesar. His three-month stay is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. Through the influence of the preaching and healing works of St. Paul, the Maltese have retained their Christian religion through all invasions. Today, Malta’s Constitution declares Roman Catholicism to be its state religion. It’s estimated that about 95-98 percent of its residents are Roman Catholic.

Despite the fact that Malta’s Roman Catholic roots date back centuries, only one native Maltese Cardinal had been named—Fabrizio Seherera Tentaferara, in 1816—almost 200 years ago! Put into this context, the Maltese people would, as Fr. Grech said, “surely kill him” if he didn’t accept the appointment.

Then too, the Maltese people, his friends and his family of cousins in Malta, are still close to the Cardinal’s heart, even though he has lived in Rome for the past 60 years.

So who is Prospero Grech, O.S.A., and why was he elevated to Cardinal?

Cardinal Grech was born on December 24, 1925, in the town of Vittoriosa (Birgu), Malta, to Amelia Gatt and Vincent Grech. Given the name Stanley, he was an only child. He attended Catholic school and originally went to school to be a doctor, but he didn’t like it. This was in the midst of World War II and Malta, then under the rule of the United Kingdom, was bombarded for two and a half years by the Italians and Germans because of its close proximity to enemy shipping lanes in the Mediterranean. The Maltese islands were critical to the UK as a refueling station and a base to keep enemy supplies from travelling freely to North Africa.

The 17-year old Grech joined the RMA (Royal Malta Artillery) and worked as an anti-aircraft gunner for three days a week and went to the University for three other days. He became part of the historic resistance of the Maltese people to keep their islands from falling into the hands of Mussolini and Hitler, for which King George VI awarded the country the George Cross, seen on Malta’s flag.

Towards the end of the war, Fr. Grech remembers taking a long walk where he decided to follow the vocation he felt called to as a boy—to become a priest. He joined the Augustinians in 1943, was given the name Prospero by them, and was ordained on March 25, 1950. During all but three of the years, between 1945 to 1961, Fr. Grech studied or did research. He received his doctorate in Theology from the Gregorian University, he studied Sacred Scripture at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome; he participated in an archeological visit to the Holy Land; he obtained a scholarship to Oxford University where he studied Hebrew; he was invited to the University of Cambridge as a research assistant doing studies on Maltese Literature; and then, in 1961, returned to Rome to complete his biblical studies. As to languages, Cardinal Grech is proficient in nine: Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Maltese, English, Italian, French, German and Dutch.

From 1961 to 1965 Fr. Grech served as secretary to the Vicar for Vatican City, and in this role he was present for the Conclave that elected Giovanni Battista Enrico Antonio Maria Montini to be Pope Paul VI. In 1965 he was chosen to be the President of the Instituto Teologico Augustiniano and lectured there. In 1970, with the then Most Reverend Prior General of the Order, Fr. Agostino Trappe, O.S.A., he co-founded the Institut Patrocos Augustinianus, and held the position of president until 1979. In 1970 he began a 32-year career lecturing on hermeneutics (a method or theory of interpretation of the bible) at the Pontifical Biblical Institute; and he taught biblical theology from 1971 to 1989 at the Pontifical Lateran University.

In 1984 Fr. Grech was named Consultor of the Sacred Congregation of the Doctrine of Faith, in which he still serves. It was here that Fr. Grech worked closely with the Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of the Doctrine of Faith, now Pope Benedict XVI, then Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger. The connection to the Pope and his wish to recognize Fr. Prospero comes from the 20 years that they served together on the Congregation. Then, too, Pope Benedict, as a young priest in Germany, wrote his dissertation on St. Augustine, entitled “The People of the House of God in Augustine’s Doctrine of the Church.” In 2007, during a pastoral visit in Italy, he made it a point to pray at the tomb of St. Augustine, calling him a model of conversion for all ages.

Which brings us back to the second reason Fr. Prospero Grech, O.S.A., felt the pressure to accept the call to be a Cardinal... The Brothers of the Order of Hermes on St. Augustine—...
To have a Pope create an Augustinian Cardinal is extremely rare. So rare that, including Cardinal Prosperi Grech, there have only been thirteen Augustinian Cardinals since the Order was founded in 1256. This holds true for most religious orders, because religious orders, like the Order of St. Augustine, are not on the same leadership path as secular or diocesan priests.

Pope Leo XIII (Gioacchino Pecci) had a special affinity for the Augustinians because they served in a church in Carpineto, Italy, where Pecchi was born. Pope Leo XIII created three of the thirteen Augustinian Cardinals. Luigi Sepia, O.S.A., Agostino Cianca, O.S.A., and Sebastian Martelini, O.S.A. Martelini was the only Augustinian created as a Cardinal in the 20th Century in 1900. Fr.Prosperi Grech knew well that there had been a gap of 111 years since an Augustinian Cardinal had been named and knew the Augustinians would want him to accept. Cardinal Grech has said “If I had been alone, I could have said so, just leave me be.”

As reluctant as Prosperi Grech was to accept a position in the College of Cardinals, he may be surprised to read that Cardinal Grech was reluctant as Prospero Grech was when he was elected to the Sacred Congregation of the Doctrine of Faith. In 1885 he was re-elected Prior General, but ten months later, in April of 1896, he was named Apostolic Delegate to the United States. He took possession of the delegation, headquartered in Washington, D.C., on October 4, 1896. He had learned English from the Irish Augustinians when he lived in Pordenone, Rome, and was fully conversant in the English language, although described as having a slight Irish brogue. Prior to assuming the role of the Apostolic Delegate, on August 30, just before he came to the United States, he was consecrated Titular Archbishop of Ephesus in the Church of St. Augustine, Rome, by Cardinal Mariano Rampolla (1814-1913), Papal Secretary of State.

The doubts about Fr. Martelini faded quickly, beginning with this report from his steamship while en route to the United States.

“Standing thus, with his hat in his hand, retiring and modest...he might easily have passed unnoticed. Among all the passengers he was probably the most calm...yet with all his modesty there was a quiet dignity about him, which impressed those who met him.”

**MARTELINI IN THE PROVINCE**

Martelini was not a stranger to America. He had been to Villanova College in 1894 as Prior General of the Order of Saint Augustine to preside at the Chapter of the Order. As the new Apostolic Delegate, Villanova College was the first stop he made in October 1896, on the way back from Rome, where he had escorted Cardinal Satolli, who was returning to Rome. On this occasion he had dinner with the friars. The next day he met with Villanova students, encouraging them to work hard, and announced he had obtained an extra holiday for them. He witnessed his first football game as the Villanova team beat the Lehigh Blackbirds 24-0. Then they were driven around the mainline countryside and visited Our Mother of Good Counsel Church, in Bryn Mawr, Pa., a parish he would visit again on November 21st, 1897, to bless and open their new church.

In December of 1896 he visited churches in Worcester, Springfield and Chicopee, Mass. In January of 1897 he visited St. Mary’s Church, Lawrence, Mass., where they held an official reception for Archbishop Martelini. At the event, the pant, James T. O’Reilly, O.S.A., announced that the city was given a papal blessing from Pope Leo XIII, said to be the first blessing bestowed by the Pope upon an American municipality. Archbishop Martelini returned many times to Villanova College. On June 20, 1898 he presided over the 55th Commencement and the Golden Jubilee of the Incorporation of Villanova College. In 1897 the Archibishop was photographed with the professed students and their Novice Master W.A. Jones. See the picture on page nine.) In September of 1908 Martelini returned to the Villanova church to ordain three Augustinians, pictured in the 1897 photo, Francis E. Touche, O.S.A., B.J. O’Donnell, O.S.A., and Nicholas A. Vasey, O.S.A. in June 1900, Martelini blessed the new College Hall, known today as Tolentine O.S.A., in June 1900, Martelini blessed the new College Hall, known today as Tolentine Hall, on the campus of Villanova University. Four years after the auspicious announcement of his arrival, the Archibishop’s popularity was evident.

“ARCHBISHOP MARTELINI, A MAN OF RARE CHARM AND TACT...” Does the popularity of this genial prelate extend from coast to ocean, and yet...he lives the life of a monastic, effacing himself wherever possible. He never fails amability and unselfishness toward the people of his own Church and those of other communions who have the privilege of knowing him.”

—New-York Daily Tribune, June 5, 1900
He did three perspective sketches for of St. Thomas of Villanova. O.S.A., Prior Provincial of the Province painted Catholic clergy. He also went focused on portraiture. His first painting repaired. He continued teaching at academy’s board of directors elected to the academy until 1902. were required to prepare a self-portrait for the academy. Eakins was not were held for him in the new St. Thomas Monastery on the campus at Villanova College. During the stay, on May 26, 1901, His Eminence Cardinal Martielli dedicated the Shrine of Our Mother of Good Counsel on the Villanova campus.

In June of 1902, Cardinal Martielli was appointed Cardinal-Priest of Saints Agostino. He returned to Rome in the fall of 1902 and took part in the Consistory in 1903 where Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto, Pope Pius X, now known as St. Pius X, was elected. As an official of the Roman Curia, he served in many administrative areas of the central government of the Catholic Church, including the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signature, the Sacred Congregation for the Propagation of Faith, Perfect of the Congregation of Rites. He was Cardinal Protector for 21 religious institutes and associations. Cardinal Sebastiano Martielli died on July 4, 1918. His funeral Mass was held at St. Agostino and he was entombed in the mausoleum of the Order at Campo Verano.

Cardinal Gregorio Petrocchini, O.S.A. (1536-1612)
Cardinal Girolamo Seripando, O.S.A. (1492-1563)
Cardinal Agostino Ciasca, O.S.A. (1835-1902)
Cardinal Luigi Sepiacci, O.S.A. (1835-1893)
Cardinal Patrizio da Silva, O.S.A. (1756-1840)
Cardinal Luigi Sepiacci, O.S.A. (1835-1893)
Cardinal Agostino Ciasca, O.S.A. (1835-1893)
Cardinal Sebastiano Martielli, O.S.A. (1848-1918)
Cardinal Prospero Grech, O.S.A. (1925-)

In forming a federation, it is important to note that the autonomy of each province remains, as it has been. Each province is under the leadership of its own provincial; each provincial is autonomous in dealing with his province; and each province retains control over its own finances and internal affairs. The Federation of Augustinians of North America has been established to collaborate in specific areas.

The notion of a federation has been under study by provinces in the United States and Canada since 2007. At the 2010 Chapter of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, the Prior General, Robert F. Prevost, O.S.A., addressed the Chapter. Noting that the Chapter was one of the largest in the Order, he called on members to move towards the future to meet the challenges that will be presented, reminding them “to strive as brothers” for collaboration among all provinces in North America. During the Chapter, a proposal for federation among the provinces of the United States and Canada was considered, along with those areas where such collaboration already exists. A recent example is the appointment of vocation directors over both the East and Midwest Provinces, as announced and highlighted in the 2012 spring edition of The Augustinian. However, history shows that collaboration had been in practice during the founding of the mission in Nagasaki, Japan in 1952, which was co-sponsored by the Provinces of the Midwest and the East. While the mission in Peru was founded in the 1960s by the Midwest Augustinians, when Peru became a Vicariate, friars from Villanova serving at the Villanova mission in Chucosanas were “loaned” to the Midwest Province. Under the Federation, this intention to collaborate in identified areas of mutual interest is formalized.

In establishing this Federation, the statutes called for the position of a “Prior of the Federation,” to be elected by the four Prior Provincials from among the current Prior Provincials. On April 2, 2012, in a historic first meeting of the Provincials of the Federation of Augustinians of North America, the Very Rev. Bernard C. Scianca, O.S.A., Prior Provincial of Our Mother of Good Counsel Province in the Midwest, was elected for a two-year term. The other Prior Provincials, Fr. Anthony M. Genovesi of the eastern U.S., Fr. Gary E. Sanders of western U.S., Fr. Francis J. Galvan of Canada, and Fr. Francis J. Galvan of Canada, comprise the Council for the Federation’s Prior. In his role, the Prior of the Federation is primarily responsible for convoking meetings, presenting matters to his council for discussion and for maintaining a record of minutes.
Assisting the Prior of the Federation is the Executive Director of the Federation, Fr. J. Thomas Potho, O.S.A., of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, who was elected to this post by the Provincial Chapters during the April 2nd meeting. His responsibilities include the oversight of commissions appointed by the Federation Council, oversight of any assignments given to individuals by the Federation Council, and the organization of non-council meetings convened by the Prior of the Federation. The Executive Director will also present matters to the Federation for discussion, and identify emerging areas for future collaboration. His responsibilities also include advising the Federation Council about any difficulties met by those commissions and individuals, as well as Augustinian boards, that have bearing on the workings of the Federation. Currently, a budget is in place that was approved by the Federation Council. The Executive Director will be responsible for preparing the annual budget and implementing the budget, while requiring approval of the Federation Council. In assuming this post, Fr. Tom, formerly the treasurer and director of the Federation, will relocate to Chicago, where he has also been appointed the prior of St. Augustine Friary. Matters brought to the Federation Council by the Prior of the Province are only approved by the unanimous consent of the Prior and the Council. As the Augustinian Provinces in the United States and Canada look to the province of St. Thomas of Villanova as the Augustinian Province in the United States and Canada, the region is known as the Augustinian Province in the United States and Canada.

**History**

**East**: Province of St. Thomas of Villanova

Augustinians came to the United States in 1926, when Matthew Carr arrived in Philadelphia. Soliciting funds, he purchased land in July 1926, to establish the foundation at St. Augustine Parish in Philadelphia. In 1949, Augustinians purchased property west of the city, which became a farm and an academy. Villanova University has its roots in this foundation. Because a province needs friars, the establishment of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova was a slow process. In 1974, with 29 friars and 14 professed, the Province was established and dedicated to the patronage of St. Thomas of Villanova. Fr. Thomas C. Sullivan, O.S.A., was appointed prior provincial. With the establishment of the Province and a location to educate men who wished to join the order, locations grew. From Philadelphia and Villanova, the Province expanded its mission, founding parishes and schools in New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts, the Midwest and California.

**Midwest**: Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel

With the growth of the population in the Midwest in the early part of the 20th century, the Archdiocese of Chicago, James Quigley, invited the Augustinians of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova to the diocese to establish parishes and schools. In 1925, Father James F. Green, O.S.A., was sent to Chicago, becoming the first Augustinian to serve in the midwestern United States. Quickly, Fr. Green made plans for a church and school dedicated to St. Rita. The Province experiences quick growth and expanded from Chicago to foundations in Wisconsin and Michigan, also founding Cascia Hall, a preparatory school in Tulsa, Oklahoma. At the 1938 Chapter, a commission was established to pursue the creation of a new Midwest province. On May 26, 1941, the Province of Our Mother Good Counsel (Chicago) was created and existing Augustinian foundations in the Midwest were placed under the care of the newly created Province. At the first Chapter of the new Province in 1945, archbishop John F. Cardinal Mendel, O.S.A., was elected prior provincial.

**West Coast**: Province of St. Augustine

The early part of the last century also saw population growth in California. The Bishop of Los Angeles, John Cantwell, recognized a need for priests and negotiations started in 1920, under Provincial Nicholas Vassey, to bring Augstinians from Villanova to the west. Arriving in San Diego in 1921, plans proceeded quickly for St. Augustine High School and the Parish of St. Thomas Aquinas was established in Ojai, Calif. In 1925, Augustinians established the Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Hollywood. On March 17, 1969, the Province of St. Augustine was established. Fr. John J. Ferrence, O.S.A., was named prior provincial and existing Augustinian foundations in the western United States were placed in the care this new Province.

**Canada**: Province of St. Joseph

Canada’s first Augustinians were from the German Province and they first established parishes in the United States. In 1920, St. Rita’s in Racine, Wisconsin was founded (and transferred in 1979 to the Midwest Province). There were also foundations in Florida, Mexico and women, Wisconsin. However, an organized province began in 1938, when five German friars arrived in Nova Scotia. Eventually, the Augustinians founded communities in the Archdioceses of Toronto (1942), Vancouver (1943), and Otsuwa (1952). Shortly after World War II, a vice province was established in Canada. The Augustinian Province of St. Joseph was established on November 12, 1967 and Stanislaus K. Treu, O.S.A., became its first provincial.

**Augustinian Schools and Parishes Served by the Augustinians**

**Colleges & Universities**

**East**

- Villanova University, Villanova, Pa.

**Secondary Schools**

**East**

- Malvern Preparatory School, Malvern, Pa.
- St. Augustine Preparatory School, Richland, N.J.

**Midwest**

- Austin Catholic Academy, Ray, Mich.
- Providence Catholic High School, New Lenox, Ill.
- St. Rita of Cascia High School, Chicago, Ill.

**West**

- St. Augustine High School, San Diego, Calif.
- Villanova Preparatory School, Ojai, Calif.

**Canada**

- St. Thomas of Villanova College, King City, Ontario

**Parishes**

**East**

- Florida
  - Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Bokkeva
  - St. Elizabeth Seton, Napiers
  - St. Katharine Dreux, Cape Coral

- Pennsylvania
  - Our Mother of Good Counsel, Bryn Mawr, St. Augustine, Philadelphia
  - St. Nicholas of Teatine, Philadelphia
  - St. Rita of Cascia National Shrine, Philadelphia
  - St. Thomas of Villanova, Rosemont/Villanova

- New York
  - Our Lady of Good Counsel, Staten Island
  - St. Augustine, Troy
  - St. Mary of the Assumption, Waterford
  - St. Nicholas of Teatine, Bronx

- Massachusetts
  - St. Augustine, Andover
  - St. Augustine, the Assumption, Lawrence

- Japan
  - Our Mother of Consolation, Nagasaki
  - St. Augustine, Tokyo
  - St. Augustine, Fukouka
  - St. Monica, Nagoya

- South Africa
  - Our Lady of Mercy, Kwa-Zulu, Natal
  - St. Aloysius, Kwa-Zulu, Natal
  - Our Lady of Grace, Castro Valley

- Hawaii
  - All Souls Catholic Church, Myrtle Creek
  - Sacred Heart, Hawaii

- Canada
  - Sacred Heart, King City, Ontario
  - Sacred Heart, Delta, British Columbia

**Basketball**

- Malvern Preparatory School, Malvern, Pa.
- Villanova University, Villanova, Pa.
- St. Augustine Preparatory School, Richland, N.J.
- Malvern Preparatory School, Malvern, Pa.

**Photos by Bryan Smith**
FR. RICHARD G. CANNULI

“Ever Ancient, Ever New”

during his time in the Order, Fr. Richard received his BFA from Villanova, his MFA from Pratt and took courses at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, in Philadelphia. He also became certified as a liturgical design consultant. He taught art during the years Villanova granted a BFA, and was Chair of the Art and Art History Department for eleven years. He became the Chair of Villanova’s Theater and Studio Art in 2008 when Fr. Peter Donohue, O.S.A., was named President of Villanova. He is also the Director of the Art Gallery at Villanova and Curator of the University art collection.

Initially known for his watercolors, Fr. Richard traveled extensively and took groups to Italy over the summers, where he would teach watercolor painting and drawing. Wherever he went, he painted watercolors—of piazzas in Italy, misty mountains in China, St. Basil’s in Russia, and minarets on mosques in Turkey.

Travel has informed and transformed Fr. Richard’s art significantly, most especially when, in 1986, he met and began to study iconography with Russian icon writer, Vladislav Andrejev. In doing so, he began a spiritual journey, learning icon writing in the 15th-century Russian Byzantine style. There are 22 steps to writing an icon and a canon specifying certain rules and colors, etc. “Icons are the visual Word of God,” Fr. Richard said to a group of Villanova students taking his class in iconography, “it’s a spiritual journey...it has nothing to do with the individual, it has to do with your spirituality...the final image is what it’s meant to be.” Fr. Richard’s icons are a major facet of this show and he is teaching icon workshops in the cities where his tour stops.

Fr. Richard was born in 1947 in the heart of the South Philadelphia Italian section where a large population of mostly southern Italian immigrants (from Sicily, Campania, Abruzzi and Calabria) settled during the 1861-to-1910 period. The Italians brought their culture and their skills to bear on the city and the surrounding region with stone and ironwork, sewing, cooking and selling their wares at the 9th Street outdoor curb market.

The other notable possession they brought with them was their Roman Catholic faith. Italian churches and schools in South Philadelphia were built within blocks of each other, the tradition of small shrines and grottos in yards and gardens continued, and large public celebrations of feast days were (and still are) held in the streets around these churches.

This was Fr. Richard’s world growing up at 19th and Mifflin, an only child with close relationships with his parents, his grandparents, his aunts, uncles and his cousins. The ancient roots of Roman Catholic ritual, of devotion, of veneration and mysticism were filtered down to Fr. Richard through his grandparents and parents, to whom he has dedicated his exhibit.

During his early years Fr. Richard attended local South Philadelphia schools: St. Thomas Aquinas grade school and St. John Neumann High School, graduating in 1964. After high school he worked at Boeing Vertol and took a few college classes at Temple and St. Joseph’s Universities. Fr. Richard had no contact with the Augustinians until 1986, when he met Br. Bill Hartkin, O.S.A., at St. Rita of Cascia Parish (also in South Philadelphia), where Richard was making a novena to St. Rita for his aunt Rita, who was ill. After that contact with Br. Bill and other friars, Fr. Richard entered the Order on September 8, 1967, was professed on August 28, 1970. It was 27 years later that Br. Richard decided to become a priest, and he was ordained at St. Thomas of Villanova Church by Bishop Louis A. DeSimone on October 30, 1999.

Fr. Richard was also born in 1947, and his work has explored and engaged with the ancient roots of Roman Catholic faith, focusing on the tradition of iconography.

Most of us know the rush of emotion when we experience an artist at their core—when their view of life and their world becomes ours for a moment in time.

Such is the case with the images that Richard G. Cannuli, O.S.A., presents to us in “Ever Ancient, Ever New”—Sacred Treasures. More than just an exhibit of art, it is a spiritual journey through Fr. Richard’s eyes and hands, a show that cracks into his soul, giving us a view of a skilled artisan; a contemporary artist; an Augustinian; a priest; a son and grandson who connects with, gives homage to and reverences his family’s faith traditions.

During his time in the Order, Fr. Richard received his BFA from Villanova, his MFA from Pratt and took courses at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, in Philadelphia. He also became certified as a liturgical design consultant. He taught art during the years Villanova granted a BFA, and was Chair of the Art and Art History Department for eleven years. He became the Chair of Villanova’s Theater and Studio Art in 2008 when Fr. Peter Donohue, O.S.A., was named President of Villanova. He is also the Director of the Art Gallery at Villanova and Curator of the University art collection.

Initially known for his watercolors, Fr. Richard traveled extensively and took groups to Italy over the summers, where he would teach watercolor painting and drawing. Wherever he went, he painted watercolors—of piazzas in Italy, misty mountains in China, St. Basil’s in Russia, and minarets on mosques in Turkey.

Travel has informed and transformed Fr. Richard’s art significantly, most especially when, in 1986, he met and began to study iconography with Russian icon writer, Vladislav Andreyev. In doing so, he began a spiritual journey, learning icon writing in the 15th-century Russian Byzantine style. There are 22 steps to writing an icon and a canon specifying certain rules and colors, etc. “Icons are the visual Word of God,” Fr. Richard said to a group of Villanova students taking his class in iconography, “it’s a spiritual journey...it has nothing to do with the individual, it has to do with your spirituality...the final image is what it’s meant to be.” Fr. Richard’s icons are a major facet of this show and he is teaching icon workshops in the cities where his tour stops.

Fr. Richard was born in 1947 in the heart of the South Philadelphia Italian section where a large population of mostly southern Italian immigrants (from Sicily, Campania, Abruzzi and Calabria) settled during the 1861-to-1910 period. The Italians brought their culture and their skills to bear on the city and the surrounding region with stone and ironwork, sewing, cooking and selling their wares at the 9th Street outdoor curb market.

The other notable possession they brought with them was their Roman Catholic faith. Italian churches and schools in South Philadelphia were built within blocks of each other, the tradition of small shrines and grottos in yards and gardens continued, and large public celebrations of feast days were (and still are) held in the streets around these churches.

This was Fr. Richard’s world growing up at 19th and Mifflin, an only child with close relationships with his parents, his grandparents, his aunts, uncles and his cousins. The ancient roots of Roman Catholic ritual, of devotion, of veneration and mysticism were filtered down to Fr. Richard through his grandparents and parents, to whom he has dedicated his exhibit.

During his early years Fr. Richard attended local South Philadelphia schools: St. Thomas Aquinas grade school and St. John Neumann High School, graduating in 1964. After high school he worked at Boeing Vertol and took a few college classes at Temple and St. Joseph’s Universities. Fr. Richard had no contact with the Augustinians until 1986, when he met Br. Bill Hartkin, O.S.A., at St. Rita of Cascia Parish (also in South Philadelphia), where Richard was making a novena to St. Rita for his aunt Rita, who was ill. After that contact with Br. Bill and other friars, Fr. Richard entered the Order on September 8, 1967, was professed on August 28, 1970. It was 27 years later that Br. Richard decided to become a priest, and he was ordained at St. Thomas of Villanova Church by Bishop Louis A. DeSimone on October 30, 1999.

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Finally, we come to the stained-glass pieces. In Fr. Richard’s career as a liturgical design consultant, he has worked in stained glass across the country. He has several memorable pieces on the campus of Villanova, including the window to commemorate Villanova alumni who were victims of 9/11 and the vibrant color-blocked windows in the chapel of St. Thomas Monastery. There are only a few pieces of stained glass in the show, one of which is a debut: the stained-glass bishop’s miter. It is intriguing, imaginative and fanciful in its dimension and creativity. It is totally Fr. Richard.

It was on a student trip to Italy that Fr. Richard began riding around Southern Italy, particularly Sicily, the home of his paternal grandparents. On these rides he began photographing the edicole, ubiquitous roadside religious shrines set in small buildings—or niches set on sides of the buildings. In the meantime, Fr. Richard was beginning to use photo transfer, a process that places photo images on substrates. For this show, Fr. Richard has taken his photographs of the shrines, added other images through a computer program called Photoshop and printed the final image on linen canvases.

The stage was set for the lines of connection to take root in a new expression of Fr. Richard’s art that is organic to his personal history, family history, artistic self, and spiritual self as it’s evolved into different, complex realities. These realities became his mixed-media pieces in the show, where his photos on linen canvases are framed, embellished with objects and hand beading, to form new layers. All layers he creates are informed by his knowledge, his personal spirituality and his reverence of earthly items that connect him with the angels and saints, Joseph, Mary, Christ and the Trinity.

Another major facet of the show is Fr. Richard’s vestments. He learned to sew from his mother and his aunts and uncles. Over the years, when Fr. Richard was commissioned to do an entire seasonal set of vestments, he would do the design and the machine sewing, but his aunts and mother would work under his direction to do the hand stitching and beading. Richard’s mother and his aunts are no longer with us, so the thousands of beads and precious gems you see in the show were stitched by Fr. Richard, to add contrast and color. The painted, beaded and printed areas of the garments are sometimes playful, but they all provide a point of entry into Fr. Richard’s art and spirituality.

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If you were able to tour the show with Fr. Richard he could likely give you the background on every line in an icon, every bead (some custom made for the show), every gem, every saint and every image. It’s a unique show where this artist’s belief in eternal life is at the heart of the display. It’s all part of the window into Fr. Richard’s world of prayer; the mirror of his solitude and the reflection of his spiritual life. “Ever ancient, Ever new” refers to St. Augustine’s prayer describing God in The Confessions. This exhibit shows us God through Fr. Richard’s unique expression of “Sacred Treasures” and a soul’s muse that is “Ever ancient, Ever New” too.
Fr. Anthony M. Genovese, O.S.A., Awarded Honorary Doctorate Degree, Delivers Commencement Speech at St. Thomas University, Miami, Florida

Prior Provincial, Fr. Mickey Genovese, O.S.A., was the commencement speaker at graduation last May at St. Thomas University in Miami, Florida. Fr. Genovese was awarded an honorary doctorate of Humane Letters by St. Thomas University. Formerly known as Biscayne College, the school was founded by the Augustinians at the request of the Archbishop of Miami in 1961. This year’s commencement marked the 50th anniversary of the school’s graduation exercises. Congratulations to St. Thomas on this anniversary and congratulations to Fr. Mickey on receiving the honorary doctorate degree.

You can watch Fr. Mickey receive his honorary degree and give his commencement address on YouTube at this address: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51HaQF8m2Q

Fr. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A., Receives Peace Award

Fr. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A., was awarded the Peace & Dialogue Award for 2012. The award, given by the Philadelphia Dialogue Forum and the Peace Island Institutes, was presented on April 19, 2012, at the annual Friendship Dinner. This award recognizes efforts of the individual to promote peace and understanding as a matter of community service. Both the Philadelphia Dialogue Forum (PDF) and the Peace Island Institutes (PII) utilize in their efforts the help of Academics and Professionals within the community, to foster dialogue, understanding and peace in society.

Fr. Ellis, who presently serves as the Villanova’s vice president of academic affairs, established Villanova University’s Center for Arab & Islamic Studies.

To receive a copy of The Augustinian magazine, send your name and address to communications@augustinian.org.

Augustinian Novices and Pre-Novices

NOVICES OF THE RACINE COMMUNITY WERE WELCOMED ON AUGUST 12, 2012. LEFT TO RIGHT BACK ROW: DAVIN MILLER (CHI), BRIAN BARKER (CHI), BERNARD CISSEL (CHI), CHRISTIAN KENTISH (GERMANY), AND CODY FRASER (CHI). LEFT TO RIGHT FRONT ROW: JOE RUIZ (CHI), ALDO POTENCIO (VIL), BRYAN KERN (VIL), AND FR. JACK FLYNN, O.S.A., DIRECTOR OF NOVICES.

Fr. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A., Receives Peace Award

Dr. Leonard Swidler, professor of Catholic Thought & Interreligious Dialogue, Temple University, presents the Peace & Dialogue Award for 2012 to Fr. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A.

Renewal of Vows

In June 2012, at the Intermediate Assembly of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, three friars renewed their simple vows for one year. Bienvenido Rodriguez and Joseph Murray are currently at the theologicate at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Craig McMahon, who has just completed his pastoral year at the mission in South Africa, will return to Chicago to complete his theology studies.

Bequest from Br. Jude Sanelli, O.S.A.

Brother Jude Sanelli, O.S.A., grew up in the parish of St. Nicholas of Tolentine, in South Philadelphia. In 1973, Brother Jude opened a personal care home for the needy, “Our Mother of Good Counsel Center,” within a half-mile of the parish church. This small residence, while it was in operation, housed up to 35 women, providing not only the care and attention residents required, but also a homelike atmosphere, including meals, activities, transportation and companionship for those who lived there.

Brother Jude died in 2001. A generous donation was received by the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, with proceeds from the sale of the property.

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Fr. Stephen J. Baker, O.S.A., Receives the Nicholas S. Rashford, SJ, Award for Outstanding Dissertation

Fr. Stephen J. Baker, O.S.A., has received the Nicholas S. Rashford, SJ, Award from St. Joseph’s University for his outstanding dissertation. The doctoral faculty receives nominations for the award; the recipient is chosen whose dissertation reflects the following: high intellectual achievement; moral discernment reflecting spiritual values; and a transforming commitment to social justice. The dissertations must lend a substantive contribution to educational research, bringing new insights to what is already known.

Third International Augustinian Laity Congress

The Third International Augustinian Laity Congress was held in Rome at the Augustinianum from July 11-17, 2012. The theme of the Congress, “Being the Body of Christ in the World Today,” was taken from the Augustinian Laity guidebook, *On the Way with Saint Augustine*. At the Congress, the third printing of the English text, with a new translation by Gary N. McCloskey, O.S.A., was published. Over 140 people attended, including 20 from the Provinces of Canada, Chicago and Villanova, who participated in presentations and discussions on Augustinian spirituality in the Family and among Young People. Dr. Joseph Kelley of Merrimack College and Bishop Giovanni Scanavino, O.S.A., retired Bishop of the diocese of Orvieto-Todi gave inspiring presentations, which led to much discussion of the congress theme among the participants. Patrick Didomenico, director of the Augustinian Volunteers, was one of the Young People who presented. Fr. Gary N. McCloskey, O.S.A., facilitated the group processes of the round tables, as well as other aspects of the Congress. Lay Representatives elected at the last Congress led discussions about future directions of international Augustinian laity work, which affirmed a proposal that the Friar’s International Commission for the Laity be formed along the lines of the five zones of the Order, which are animated by inter-provincial organizations and federations (Africa (AFA), Asia/Pacific (OSAAA), Europe (OAE), Latin America (OALAX) and North America (FANA)).

North American participants agreed to form a coordinating council to support the elected North American Lay Coordinators (Bill O’Connor, Villanova Chapter; Russ Summerton, Cape Coral (Fla.) chapter) in building networks of communication across provincial borders, creating a North American laity web page and web presence, and planning a North American Augustinian Laity Congress in the next two years. The work of participants in the Congress was enhanced by spiritual time spent at St. Rita’s shrine in Cascia, as well as at Sant’Agostino and Santa Anna in Rome.

Thank you Catholic Press Association for recognizing *The Augustinian* magazine, its Editor and Associate Editor, and the Augustinian.org website with six awards!

Stay on top of news and events from the Augustinian world – sign up for Augustinian eNews at www.augustinian.org.
Fr. George F. Riley, O.S.A., is celebrating his 50th year as a priest and his 50th year on campus at Villanova University, where he currently serves as a special assistant to the president for Alumni and External Relations. In this position, which he has held for 21 years, Fr. Riley attends Villanova alumni chapters all over the United States. During his 50 years at Villanova, Fr. Riley has taught religious studies and served in administrative positions with the University. He has also served on weekends at many parishes at the southern New Jersey shore resorts, in Atlantic and Cape May counties. He has received many awards, among them the “All-American Football Loyalty Award” for his service as chaplain to the Heisman Trophy Foundation, as well as Philadelphia’s own “Commodore John Barry Award.”

Given by the American Catholic Historical Society, the Barry Award recognizes an American who, by professional and personal service, as well as accomplishments, has distinguished himself through contributions to the Catholic Church and the community.

On Sunday, May 20, 2012, Merrimack College in North Andover, Massachusetts, awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Augustinian Education to Fr. George F. Riley, O.S.A., Ph.D., during commencement ceremonies. Recipients of honorary degrees were noted as embodying the college’s mission and values. Persons honored were noted as embodying the College’s mission and values. Persons honored were noted as embodying the college’s mission and values.

Kevin M. DePrinzio, O.S.A.

Fr. Kevin M. DePrinzio, O.S.A., attended Monomoy Bonner High School, Duxbury, Mass., where he met the Augustinians. After graduating from Saint Joseph’s University, Philadelphia, Pa., with a BA in English and a Secondary Education Certification, he entered the Province’s Pre-Novitiate Program, located at Augustinian College, Washington, DC. He professed first vows in 2000, and completed theological studies at Augustinian College and the Washington Theological Union, receiving an MA in Theological History. Fr. Kevin served his pastoral year as school minister at Monomoy Bonner High School. He was ordained to the priesthood on July 11, 2004. Fr. Kevin served in campus ministry at Merrimack College, North Andover, Mass. In 2007, he was appointed vocation director for the Province and worked in campus ministry at Villanova University. He also resided and worked in the Province’s Pre-Novitiate program at Bellesini Friary in Ardmore, Pa. This fall, Fr. Kevin will pursue a doctoral degree in spiritual theology at Catholic University in Washington, DC.

James D. McBurney, O.S.A.

Fr. James D. McBurney, O.S.A., professed first vows in 1978. He received an MA from Washington Theological Union and was ordained on May 12, 1984.

He has served at parishes in Florida and Pennsylvania. He served at the National Novitiate in Racine, Wisconsin, as prior and as novice director. While pursuing studies in spiritual direction at Neumann University, Aston, Pa., he taught theology at Malvern Prep and served as the campus minister. He served in diocesan ministry at St. Rita of Cascia in Philadelphia and he served as the vocation director (2002–2007). In 2008, he returned to parochial ministry as pastor of St. Augustine in Philadelphia. Fr. Jim’s most recent assignment is as novice director at Bellesini Friary in Ardmore, Pa.

Michael J. Slattery, O.S.A.

Fr. Michael J. Slattery, O.S.A., a member of the Midwest Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel, was born in Rockford, Illinois. He attended St. Augustine Seminary in Holland, Michigan, and was ordained to the priesthood on May 7, 1977.

Fr. Slattery has taught at Mundel Catholic High School and St. Rita High School, both in Chicago, Illinois. Parish assignments have included Holy Rosary in Kenosha, Wisconsin; St. Clare of Montefalco in Chicago and St. Jude in Lemont, Illinois. Fr. Slattery has served as vocation director and as part of the formation team for the Midwest Province. He did formation studies at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pa. He has served as treasurer of the Midwest Province and at various times, he has served as a counselor. He was most recently elected to the Midwest Council in 2010.

Effective July 1, 2012, Fr. Slattery was appointed as pastor at St. Augustine Parish, in Philadelphia, Pa.

Michael P. Sullivan, O.S.A.

Fr. Michael P. Sullivan, O.S.A., professed first vows in 1960 and was ordained on September 9, 1967. He has served the parish ministry in upstate New York, on Long Island and in the Bronx. He received an MA in Counseling from St. John’s in Queens, New York in 1971 and was appointed to the Marriage Encounter movement. He has served two terms on the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Movement’s National Board of Directors. Since the early 1980s, Fr. Michael has served in the Province’s Vocations Ministry. Fr. Sullivan has traveled around the United States and Canada, as well as Australia and South America, giving retreats to parishes and other groups. Where he is not traveling for his ministry, Fr. Sullivan resides at St. Thomas Monastery in Villanova.

TO CONTACT FR. DEPRINZIO: Burns Hall 800 E. Lancaster Avenue Villanova, PA 19085
TO CONTACT FR. MCBURNNEY: Blessed Stephen Bellesini Friary 111 Argyle Road Ardmore, PA 19003
TO CONTACT FR. SULLIVAN: St. Augustine Rectory 241 North Lawrence Street Philadelphia, PA 19106-1195
TO CONTACT FR. SULLIVAN: St. Thomas of Villanova Monastery 800 E. Lancaster Avenue Villanova, PA 19085
The Augustinian Development Program funds its goals in the year-to-year to which the Augustinians are called to collaborate with committed lay women and men, benefactors, and friends to bring Christian ideals into real life situations, especially for those in need around the world.

To help continue to foster this mission after a successful capital campaign, the Province in 2006 decided to embark upon a comprehensive development program that incorporated all the key areas of philanthropy. This meant focusing on annual, planned, and capital gifts in addition to events. It also required reaching out and inviting a broad base of support. All of these key areas were then integrated into the various programmatic priorities of the Province.

A core group of philanthropic leaders was assembled to provide the leadership. Men and women, already successful in their own chosen careers, formed the first Development Council. Under the leadership of Charley Connolly, a culture of philanthropy — already strong among the leadership — would invite and gather increasing advocates for the Augustinians to help support and strengthen the mission.

Meeting three times a year as a group, subcommittees gather as needed to address, review, and implement action plans for:

• Annual appeal, the Augustinian Fund, which has grown each year, raising in excess of $6.5 million.
• The 2012-13 goal is $1,375,000.
• Estate planning program, which last year recorded eight bequests totaling $185,500.

Guided by the true perspective of philanthropy, these men and women—aware of their own many blessings—embossed giving back as a way of life.

Annual Fund co-chairs, Jim O’Connor and Bill DiStipio, reflect this spirit so well. Asked recently why he is so generous to the Augustinians while continuing his generous support of Villanova as well as other causes, Jim O’Connor adapted a well-known quote:

“Some people walk into our lives and are quickly gone ... others stay awhile, leaving footprints on our hearts.” — Richard D. Appaci, O.S.A. and other Augustinian Friars were such persons. I want to make sure the Friars are taken care of as well as my alma mates.”

In a similar vein, Bill DiStipio noted: “The Augustinian Fund is a way for me and my family to express our sincerest gratitude for the presence of the Augustinians in our lives.”

“Blessed by a seamless transition of leadership, the Council today remains resilient in its commitment to advance everything Augustinian to meet the needs of a changing world.”

Margaret “Meg” Sheetz, age 35, is the President and CEO of Operations of Medifast, Inc. In March 2011, Meg also became the CEO of Take Shape for Life, which is one of Medifast’s divisions. Ms. Sheetz supports a number of charitable organizations and is also a member of the Villanova President’s Leadership Circle. She holds a bachelor of arts degree from Villanova University and received an Executive MBA from Loyola University (Md).

In April 2011, Meg was awarded the 2011 Baltimore Smart CEO award. This distinguished award is given to CEOs, COOs and CFOs who have demonstrated creative management vision, leadership philosophies, innovative strategizing and undeniable work ethic.

James H. Stewart

Mr. Stewart is the former President of Malvern Prep. In his 42 years of service to the School, Mr. Stewart has ensured that Malvern remained committed to its Augustinian heritage and its values of truth, unity and love, and hopes to share this commitment with a wider segment of society.

A graduate of Monsignor Bonner High School, Mr. Stewart earned a BA in Spanish from LaSalle University, an MA in Spanish from Middlebury College, and an MA in educational administration from Villanova University.

Mr. Stewart and his wife, Mary, who passed away in 2006, were affiliated to the Order of St. Augustine on May 3, 2004, at a special ceremony. Affiliation is the highest honor given by the Augustinian Order upon graduation. In 2011, whereas he had been antes to the Order, but not before a mutual respect between his fellow Augustinians and himself was established.

Brad remained at Villanova until graduation, in 1971, whereas he joined the U.S. Marines as an officer, retiring as a colonel in 1997. At his death, Brad was executive chairman of the Board of Medifast, Inc., fifth on Fortune Magazine’s 2011 Fastest Growing Companies. He never had a board meeting without honoring our brave men and women serving our country. He was the proud vice chairman of the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Foundation, which has an impact on the lives of so many children across our country annually at Christmas time.

As a layperson, Brad remained in every way an Augustinian throughout his life, as demonstrated by his closeness to the friars and dedication as a major benefactor to them. He loved his time with the Augustinians and never wavered from his faith. He fell in love with Shirley, marrying in 1971. They enjoyed two beautiful and happily married daughters, Kelly and Meg, who grazed them with four grandchildren (and a fifth on the way!).

Brad was loved and respected by all on our Development Council. He was instrumental in our successes, employing his gifts of leadership and sound advice. The generosity of his spirit lives on through his wife Shirley and his children. In fact, Brad’s daughter, Meg Sheetz is taking his seat on the Augustinian Fund’s Development Council. We miss you Brad and are hopeful that we will all be together someday honoring your Lord.

Semper Fi,
Charles P. Connolly, Jr.
Chair, Augustinian Fund


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Semper Fi,
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Chair, Augustinian Fund

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