THE AUGUSTINIAN

DISCOVERING GOD IN TUSCANY p. 4

FRIARS MAKE SOLEMN PROFESSION & NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF VOCATIONS p. 8

THE CONFESSIONS BLOG p. 12
Parish Retreat with Fr. Michael Sullivan, O.S.A.

Father Michael P. Sullivan, O.S.A., travels the country year-round providing parishes with unique and dynamic retreats that leave parishioners renewed, inspired, and laughing. Fr. Michael visits the Augustinian parishes of Resurrection of Our Lord in Dania Beach in Florida in January. Access his complete schedule at the link below.

JANUARY 26-30, 2008
Resurrection of Our Lord Parish
441 N.E. 2nd St.
Dania Beach, FL 33004-4100
PHONE 616-519-3019
WEB www.augustinian.org/praching.htm

Holy Week Retreat

Join the Augustinian friars in beautiful Maggie Valley, North Carolina, for a special weeklong retreat at the Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center.

MARCH 16-23, 2008
Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center
103 Living Waters Lane
Maggie Valley, NC 28751
PHONE 828-926-3833
WEB www.catholicretreat.org

Gregor Mendel: Planting the Seeds of Genetics

This traveling exhibit from The Field Museum in Chicago delves into the life of Gregor Mendel, O.S.A., and the origin of the study of genetics. Learn more about this fascinating friar, naturalist, and botanist, whose experiments have shaped today’s understanding of genes, crossbreeding, and heredity.

OCTOBER 13, 2007
- JANUARY 6, 2008
Center of Science and Industry
Columbus, OH

Augustinian Retreat

Plan for a different kind of vacation next summer – make a retreat in the Great Smoky Mountains of North Carolina! Fr. Robert Durweke, O.S.A., will lead retreatants on a special Augustinian-centered retreat dubbed “Eveer Ancient, Eveer New: Naming One’s Spirituality” giving participants the opportunity to identify and deepen aspects of their own spirituality. Visit www.catholicretreat.org for a complete list of retreats offered throughout the year.

JUNE 23-29, 2008
Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center
103 Living Waters Lane
Maggie Valley, NC 28751
PHONE 828-926-3833
WEB www.catholicretreat.org

Vision of Vatican II Retreat

Fr. Mark Garrett, O.S.A., and Fr. Robert Durweke, O.S.A., will present a retreat examining the vision of Vatican II and the ways one might live its spirit of dialogue more fully today. Titled “2020 Foresight: Sharpening a Vatican II Vision for the Church and World,” participants will be given the opportunity to reflect on their relationship with God, the Church, and the world.

JUNE 30-JULY 4, 2008
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103 Living Waters Lane
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PHONE 828-926-3833
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Dear Friends,

Is Saint Augustine relevant in today’s world? You bet, and not just to those of us wearing the Augustinian habit. Chances are, if you are receiving this magazine, you already feel the same.

Sometimes we can take it for granted. Stories like those found in this issue of The Augustinian remind us of Augustine’s relevance for all of us searching for meaning in the modern world.

Such relevance can be found at the Convento di Sant’ Agostino, a thirteenth century Augustinian convento that hosts religious and laity from around the world. They come for prayer, reflection, and a deeper connection with God. One of the first foundations of the Augustine Order, it remains a constant witness to Augustinian spirituality and a more prayerful way of life. In today’s world, such witness is needed more than ever. And people are coming.

So too are people coming to the Order. In our own Province, friars Jorge Cleto, O.S.A., and Michael Scaletti, O.S.A., recently made their solemn vows to the Order. You’ll be introduced to these young men in the pages of this magazine. You’ll also meet our new vocation director, Kevin DePirro, O.S.A. Attracting vocations in today’s world is an ongoing challenge, but Saint Augustine and his spiritual legacy are not only relevant today; they are appealing. I am excited by what our way of life has to offer, and as we share our story, the Augustinians have faith that Augustine and his spiritual legacy are not only relevant today, they are appealing. I am excited by what our way of life has to offer, and as we share our story, the Augustinians have faith that

One of the people we’ve recruited to help tell that story is Saint Augustine himself. The

The Augustinian is a publication of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova. It features, addresses, changes, and other correspondence, contact:

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AUGUSTINIAN

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VOLUNTEER LETTERS

San Diego

The more we learn (and suspect) about the lives of all the kids, the sadder it is. I have said before that I do not lose feeling depressed. That it is still true, but there are those moments. The moments when I’ll hear something that happened, or a thing that one of them endured, and it is almost too much. The kinds of things that make anyone feel sick and upset when you think about them, and are especially upsetting because we care so much about these kids. Anger. Frustration. Sadness. I give into them. I guess those negative feelings that creep up when I think of all the hardships in my kids’ lives don’t really help anybody. Instead, I think they are all transformed into something else. Hope. Compassion. These things are far more useful and productive when it comes to issues like these. To be faced with the sometimes very depressing issues presented by my kids’ lives and yet feel happy and inspired— that is the power of Hogar Infantil La Gloria.

DAN RODERICK
Augustinian Volunteer, San Diego Community
San Diego, 22, is from Burlington, MA, and graduated from Merrimack with a B.S. in Sports Medicine. This year, she is volunteering at Hogar Infantil La Gloria orphanage in Tijuana, St. Patrick’s School in San Diego, and the Villa Nueva housing community in San Ysidro.

CHICAGO

“Ordinary people who make a simple, spiritual commitment under the lordship of Christ make an extraordinary impact on their world.” is a quote by John Maxwell, hanging on the wall of the St. Margaret’s of Scotland library that I now call “my office.” This bright and cheerful space filled with scattered sunlight was not always a desirable destination for the nearly 400 students who roam the halls of St. Margaret’s. A space that is intended for learning and exploring the works of hundreds of writers looked like an attic that had been untouched for years, expect for the occasional visit to switch boxes of decorations for the different holidays...

My days are now filled with students stirring around the bookshelves choosing a new book to read and it is hard to imagine the library in those first few weeks. The excitement on students’ faces as they walk into the library for the first time is priceless. Looking into their eyes has clarified why I chose to commit to a year of service.

JEANNIE MACCUNE
Augustinian Volunteer, Chicago Community

Jeannie MacCune, 22, from Plymouth, MA, is a recent graduate of Merrimack College, where she majored in Sociology and Communication Studies. She is spending her volunteer year working as the librarian at St. Margaret’s of Scotland School in Chicago.
DISCOVERING GOD IN TUSCANY

OVERLOOKING ITALY’S TUSCAN COUNTRYSIDE, IN THE SMALL WALLED MEDIEVAL TOWN OF SAN GIMIGNANO, IS ONE OF THE AUGUSTINIAN ORDER’S EARLIEST FOUNDATIONS – THE CONVENTO DI SANT’ AGOSTINO.

BY MICHAEL T. DOLAN
Fr. Lowery was part of that first community, and he remains there today. Fr. Lowery, together with Fr. Ian Wilson, O.S.A., from the Province of Ireland and Scotland, attended to the needs of the people of San Gimignano; provide hospitality to the many visitors to the convento and its adjacent church, the Chiesa di Sant’Agostino; and maintain the physical upkeep of the 13th century building where they reside. All the while, they maintain a dedicated life of prayer, contemplation, and simplicity.

Overseeing the convento’s attached church, Chiesa di Sant’Agostino, just one of two churches in San Gimignano, keeps the friars busy.

“The Augustinians have been in San Gimignano for over 700 years and it people expect a lot from us,” says Fr. Lowery. “We marry them, baptize their children, accompany them in their sickness and bury them.”

The Augustinians also oversee a parish retreat group and a laetus dux prayer group. In addition, Fr. Wilson is also a volunteer in the town ambulance corps as well as its chaplain.

But the ministry of the Augustinians goes much beyond the townspeople. Originally intended to provide hospitality to the Order, the community’s mission at San Gimignano has grown in its outreach. “With the passage of time,” says Fr. Lowery, “the range of hospitality has broadened to embrace the whole Augustinian family. Augustinian Recollects and Augustinian Discalced, Augustinian Sisters, and particularly Augustinian laity and lay groups.”

They come for many reasons – retreats, spirituality courses, congresses, experiences of prayer and community, artistic interests, or simply as a spiritual pit-stop for pilgrims walking to Rome by the Via Francigena, the medieval road that went from Canterbury to the Eternal City.

Of the 300 or so people who stay at the convento during the course of a year, the vast majority are closely connected to the Order of Saint Augustine. Courses and workshops on Augustine, his writings, and Augustinian spirituality have been held for friars from throughout the Order could spend brief times each day for prayer, and guests at the convento are encouraged and welcomed to join the community in prayer. In the small chapel of the convento, one discovers the Church at work: a community of individuals from all walks of life, from all parts of the globe, gathered together in prayer.

Leaving the chapel, one needs only to take a few dozen places to enter the historic 13th century church attached to the convento, Chiesa di Sant’Agostino. The church is a must-see for tourists visiting San Gimignano, and the Augustinian community provides constant hospitality and outreach to passersby. Among other famed works of art, the church is home to Benozzo Gozzoli’s seventeen-panel fresco depicting the life of Saint Augustine.

“With the passage of time,” says Fr. Lowery, “by creating an atmosphere of silence and prayer and being helpful and informative in showing the artwork of the church.”

Living in a 13th century convento and being charged with a mission of hospitality provides its own set of challenges. Over the past several years, Fr. Lowery and Fr. Ian have worked to maintain and improve the physical plant itself. Parts of the convento have been restored, with additional work planned for the future.

That future work is dependent upon grants from foundations and financial support from the community. More than a vacation house, Fr. Lowery sees the convento as a place for prayer, study, and community experience. Daily life within the convento gives witness to this. The Augustinian community gathers four times each day for prayer, and guests at the convento are encouraged and welcomed to join the community in prayer. In the small chapel of the convento, one discovers the Church at work: a community of individuals from all walks of life, from all parts of the globe, gathered together in prayer.
Friars Make Solemn Profession & News from the World of Vocations

Jorge L. Cleto, O.S.A.

Jorge Cleto, O.S.A., age 37, was born and raised in the Dominican Republic. He has 11 siblings, four brothers and seven sisters. After studying for seven years at a diocesan seminary in the Dominican Republic, Jorge was introduced to the Augustinians and left the seminary to pursue ministry in a parish setting.

Michael Scuderi, O.S.A.

Michael Scuderi, O.S.A., the oldest of three siblings, was born and raised in the Philadelphia suburbs. He is 41. He received his secondary education at Haverford High School in Havertown, PA, and graduated from Villanova University in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Commerce and Finance. After graduating from Villanova, Michael went into the diocesan seminary in the Dominican Republic, Jorge was introduced to the Augustinians and left the seminary to pursue ministry in a parish setting.

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Five Men Enter North American Novitiate

This August, five young men formally began their novitiate year at the Augustinian Novitiate in Racine, WI. As novices, these men will spend an intense year in reflection and growth in self-knowledge, exploring Augustinian spirituality, the Augustinian way of life, and developing their prayer lives. This year’s novices hail from four different Provinces: Craig McMahon of the Villanova Province, John Payne and Eugene Mariano of the West Coast Province, Peter Lamprecht of the Poland Province, and Carlos Jerónimo Díaz Pesquera of the Province of Michoacán (Mexico).

House of Studies Established in Chicago

As reported in the previous issue of The Augustinian, the North American Provinces established a new house of studies in Chicago, IL. After the closing of Augustinian College in Washington, D.C., this past spring, students moved to Chicago late this summer to begin studies at the Catholic Theological Union. The new community at Saint Augustine Friary consists of ten professed students and four friars from the Villanova and Midwest Provinces. Fr. Joseph Gentile, O.S.A., serves as the Formation Director for the students and Fr. Luis Viera, O.S.A., serves as the community’s prior. A dedication and blessing for the new building and community was held on November 17.

The Augustinian Way of Life

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On November 4, 2007, two friars made their solemn profession of vows to the Order of Saint Augustine – Jorge L. Cleto, O.S.A., and Michael R. Scuderi, O.S.A. Fr. Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., Prior Provincial of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova, received the vows of both friars at the ceremony, held at Saint Thomas of Villanova Parish in Philadelphia, PA. He is now finishing up studies in Chicago at Saint Augustine Friary and plans to complete his degree at the Catholic Theological Union in the fall of 2008. When his formation and studies are completed, Michael would like to work with the underprivileged and handicapped.

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St. Leo School sits adjacent to the Augustinian mission church of St. Leo’s in the “Valley of a Thousand Hills” in the impoverished Kwa Zulu Natal region of South Africa. For the vast majority of the children attending school there, the simple meal they receive at St. Leo’s is their only sustenance of the day. Thanks to donors to the Augustinian missions, these impoverished children now receive fruit each and every day at school, providing them not only with nourishment, nutrition, and energy, but with hope as well. The Augustinians are grateful for the support of donors to the missions, and the children of St. Leo’s send their thanks!
Yes, MySpace, the social networking website popular among today’s youth. And yes, Saint Augustine, the fifth-century doctor of the church. The Augustinians created a profile for Saint Augustine on MySpace to reach out to new audiences and new friends, and Augustine is doing just that.

Through his profile, “Gus” is able to socialize in cyberspace by creating online friendships with those interested in learning about the Augustinian tradition and Augustinian spirituality. The page includes links to music and books written by Augustine, a listing of Augustinian related websites, a video about the Augustinians, photos of Augustine and the places he lived, and a blog written by the saint himself. Also included on the profile are standard biographical information and interests found on most social networking sites, including Gus’ favorite books, music, movies, and hobbies, not to mention his zodiac sign (Scorpio) and a list of his heroes (Saint Paul, among others!).

The blog, as posted twice weekly by Augustine himself, started on his feast day, August 28, and continues through April 24, 2008, the feast of his conversion. Augustine will blog The Confessions in its entirety, using a translation edited by the late Fr. John Rotelle, O.S.A., and published by New City Press in association with the Augustinian Heritage Institute. With the book’s autobiographical nature, The Confessions is well suited for the blog medium, and friends and visitors to the site regularly post comments and share their own reflections.

The Augustinians also hope professors and students take advantage of the Confessions blog and Gus’ MySpace page. Professors who include The Confessions as reading material on their syllabi can use Augustine’s profile as a supplement to course materials, and students are able to post comments on individual entries of the text. The site is proving to be very successful, a testament to the popularity of Augustine, his Confessions, and the very human life narrated therein. Featured in dozens of newspapers, websites, blogs, and magazines, Augustine’s page has collected over 12,000 hits since its launch midyear. He also has a growing number of “friends” from all across the globe – over 800 and counting – who Augustine can contact regularly through special news bulletins.

“The site has certainly been a marketing success, but it has gone much beyond that,” says Michael Dolan, Director of Communications for the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova, who launched the site together with Villanova University student Theresa Kozul, a senior communications major. “More than simply marketing,” he says, “the site has become a springboard for ministry.”

Evidence of this can be found in frequent comments that Gus’ friends post to the site and the emails he receives from those seeking to delve deeper into Augustinian spirituality. To cite just a few:

“Looking forward to blogging to The Confessions. I want to read it again.”

“You’ve just given me reason to enjoy MySpace again. The Confessions changed my life, and brought me to the Augustinians.”

“These words give me insight into the depth of God in us and the world.”

“The Confessions were a real blessing in my healing. Thanks for making it accessible to so many.”

“Prior to reading Augustine’s Confessions, I thought of Saint Augustine as the Doctor of Theology. I imagined him living a perfect, saintly life in a time so long ago, yet I could never relate. After reading his Confessions, the centuries of time separating us melted away. I realized he was too a flawed person. He too struggled to overcome temptation, make sacrifices, and find meaning to life. His Confessions are an inspiration.”

Such comments reflect the true potential of the Province’s MySpace initiative.

More than marketing, it is ministry. And with Augustine himself at the keyboard, it’s quite a powerful ministry at that.

http://www.myspace.com/saintaugustineofhippo

VISIT GUS ONLINE AT WWW.MYSPLACE.COM/SAINAUGUSTINEOFHIPPO
WILLIAM J. MAHONEY

After graduating from Merrimack College in 1964, Mr. William J. Mahoney joined the Augustinians and ministered in various capacities for the Province — as high school teacher, Vocation Director, and Personnel Director. He left the Order in 1981, but his love for the Province is still strong today. He continues to admire so many Augustinians and value the important work they do. He is a Charter Member of the Province’s Development Council, and has worked tirelessly to help raise funds to support the Augustinians and their ministries.

AM: Why are you involved with the Province’s Development Council?

WJM: I was asked by Fr. Jim McCartney, who was a classmate of mine in the seminary and a good friend for many years. I was thrilled to be asked to join the Council and to help the Augustinians with their important work.

AM: What does the Development Council need to do to succeed?

WJM: We need to let people know the new challenge they are facing. Due to an aging Province population, the friars can no longer count, as in the past, on their salaries to meet their financial obligations. This is true not only in caring for their aged and infirm, but also in supporting their traditional ministries.

In addition, they now need financial support to continue and grow the new initiatives of the Province, such as the Augustinian Volunteers, the Prison Ministry, Peace and Justice and a new mission in South Africa. Asking for money is something new for Augustinians and for most people on the Development Council. It is not easy. We need to become more comfortable doing it!

People give to people. The Augustinians and those on the Development Council have countless friends and contacts. Our most important job is to share the Augustinian story with them and provide them with the opportunity to help — to be part of something powerful.

AM: What value do Augustine and Augustinian spirituality have for people today?

WJM: Our world today is more complicated and complex than in years past. For this reason, using Augustine as a role model is even more appropriate today.

In his early life we know that Augustine struggled. His mother, Monica, was constantly praying for him, hoping that he would mend his ways. However, he was a person who spent most of his life searching — trying to find God, but later admitted to looking in so many of the wrong places. What was special about Augustine was that he continued to search. He persevered until he finally realized that all along it was God who was actually pursuing him!

Today, in this fast-paced world, a role model like Augustus can inspire us to persevere in taking the time to identify the beauty of life and to recognize how God’s love touches us and those around us.
St. Augustine Statue Marks Merrimack’s 60th

Merrimack College in North Andover, MA, founded by the Augustinians in 1947, celebrated its 60th anniversary with a special celebration on October 12. In addition to a campus-wide liturgy and reception, a statue called “St. Augustine, the Learner” was dedicated and blessed as a new addition to Merrimack’s campus. The statue originally resided at Augustinian College in Washington, D.C., but traveled north to Merrimack when Augustinian College closed its doors earlier this year with the founding of the Augustinians’ new North American province.

Father Joseph Farrell, O.S.A., Earns Doctorate

This summer, Fr. Joseph Farrell, O.S.A., earned a doctorate in sacred theology and summa cum laude honors from the Gregorian Pontifical University in Rome. After successfully defending his doctoral dissertation, titled “Rendering an Account: An Augustinian Spirituality of Accountability,” Fr. Joe returned to the United States, where he currently serves as Director of Programming and Outreach at Villanova University’s Office of Mission Effectiveness. In this role, he is coordinating a spring semester pilgrimage to Italy for faculty and staff. The Pilgrims, similar to one started in 2005, include students, faculty, and staff of the university in Richland, NJ, are set to move into the Buondonno Forum, a new 100,000-square-foot building nearing completion on the school’s campus. Bishop Joseph Galante, Bishop of the Camden Diocese, presided over a ceremony to bless the cornerstone on November 24, 2008, in Nagasaki.

Cornerstone Blessed at St. Augustine Prep

Students, faculty and staff at St. Augustine College Preparatory School in Richland, NJ, are set to move into the Buondonno Forum, a new 100,000-square-foot building nearing completion on the school’s campus. Bishop Joseph Galante, Bishop of the Camden Diocese, presided over a ceremony to bless the cornerstone on November 24, 2008, in Nagasaki.

Augustinian Youth Encounter in Sydney

The Ninth Augustinian International Encounter for Young Adults will be held July 21–27, 2008, in Sydney, Australia. The first such gathering to be held outside of Europe, the event brings together young adults from around the world to join together in celebration and sharing of Augustinian community. It directly follows next year’s World Youth Day, which will take place July 15–20 in Sydney. For complete information—including a blog, photo gallery, and song competition for the Augustinian Young Adult Encounter—visit www.aye2008.org.

Augustinian Martyrs to be Beatified

Within a year’s time, the Augustinian Order will have witnessed the beatification of nearly 100 holy men and women. On July 11, Pope Benedict XVI confirmed the martyrdom of nearly 100 servants of God. Of these 400, 98 were friars who were martyred in Spain during the Spanish Civil War (1936–1939). Fr. Joe Pietera, O.S.A., who was martyred in
**Alfred J. Ellis, O.S.A.**

After 42 years of serving in parishes throughout New York and Massachusetts, Fr. Alfred Ellis, O.S.A., answered a call – at the age of 71 – to join the Augustinian mission in South Africa. Today he serves as pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Church in Durban, South Africa.

**Fr. Ellis’s story includes serving as pastor of Saint Margaret of Scotland Parish in Maggie Valley. Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center, a retreat house also staffed by the Augustinians, is directly adjacent to the small parish, and both sit in the foothills of the beautiful Great Smoky Mountains.**

**William A. McGuire, O.S.A.**

Fr. Bill McGuire, O.S.A., recently stepped down from his role as Vice President for Administration at Villanova University to assume the role of Treasurer for the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova. Fr. McGuire, who served in a variety of roles at Villanova since 1979, succeeds Fr. Tony Burrascano, O.S.A., who served for 15 years as Province Treasurer. In his new role, Fr. McGuire oversees the finances of the Province and the financial needs of its missions in Japan, Peru, and South Africa.

**TO CONTACT Fr. ELLIS:**

Our Lady of Mercy Church
79 Old Main Road, Kloof 3610
Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa

**TO CONTACT Fr. MCGUIRE:**

Augustinian Provincial Offices
214 Ashwood Road
Villanova, PA 19085

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**John T. Denny, O.S.A.**

Since his ordination in 1967, Fr. John T. Denny, O.S.A., has ministered less than half a dozen miles from his hometown of Havertown, PA. For eleven years he served at Monsignor Bonner High School in Drexel Hill, first as chaplain and teacher, later as principal, and eventually as president. In 2002, after working for a year as the Vocation Director for the Augustinians, he was named the first chaplain of Villanova University’s Law School, where he served through this past summer. Now Fr. Denny finds himself trading in the suburbs of Philadelphia for the mountains of North Carolina, where he serves as pastor of Saint Margaret of Scotland Parish in Maggie Valley. Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center, a retreat house also staffed by the Augustinians, is directly adjacent to the small parish, and both sit in the foothills of the beautiful Great Smoky Mountains.

**TO CONTACT Fr. Denny:**

Blessed of Levico
27 Murphy Dr., P.O. Box 1359
Maggie Valley, NC 28751-1359

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**Joseph F. Girone, O.S.A.**

He served there for thirteen years when, in 1994, he began a four-year stint as a missionary in Peru. Returning to the United States in 1998, Fr. Girone has since served as pastor at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Staten Island, NY, and at Saint Augustine Friary in Villanova, PA. While at Villanova, he also held the position of Associate Director of Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese of Wilmington, Delaware. In 2005, Fr. Girone returned to the Bronx, where he ministers as pastor of Saint Nicholas of Tolentine Parish in the Bronx, NY.

**TO CONTACT Fr. GIRONE:**

Saint Nicholas of Tolentine Friary
2145 University Avenue
Bronx, NY 10468-6102

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**Francis A. Eigo, O.S.A.**

He was not only a quiet gentleman but a man of action – he was also a man of faith – and a true friend and great comfort to my family, most especially, when my husband was ill and subsequently celebrated his final Mass at St. Mary’s in Fieldolf, NY.”

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**Joseph L. Shannon, O.S.A.**

“Father Shannon will be remembered by this family as a true friend and a great comfort to my family, most especially, when my husband was ill and subsequently celebrated his final Mass at St. Mary’s in Fieldolf, NY.”

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**Edward V. Hatrick, O.S.A.**

“His everyday life found out with faith in action.”

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**IN PARADISUM**

The following friars were recently called home to God. You can read full biographies of these Augustinians, and post your own reflections or favorite memories by the sea together.

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**DIED:**

9/10/1959
Fr. Edward V. Hatrick, O.S.A.
BORN: 1/8/1911
ORDAINED: 9/10/1949
FIRST PROFESSION: 11/27/1929
FIRST PROFESSION: 7/18/1937

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**DIED:**

8/21/2007
Fr. Joseph Shannon, O.S.A.
BORN: 9/10/1949
ORDAINED: 1/8/1930
FIRST PROFESSION: 9/10/1959
FIRST PROFESSION: 2/10/1964

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“Father Shannon will be remembered by this family as a true friend and great comfort to my family, most especially, when my husband was ill and subsequently celebrated his final Mass at St. Mary’s in Fieldolf, NY.”

“Joe Shannon was one of the best teachers I ever had. He was such a person to me in giving me his notes from the General Archives on several early American Augustinians, which I used to write several historical articles.”
A contribution to the Augustinian Fund goes far – in miles, in lives and in spirit.

In today’s world, the selfless work of the Augustinians is invaluable. How can we make sure the work continues? By asking you to pray for our success and support our vision by contributing to our annual appeal – the Augustinian Fund.

Contributions to the Augustinian Fund support key missions and programs of the Augustinian friars of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova, including the Augustinian missions, the Augustinian Volunteers, and new initiatives including justice and peace and prison ministries. The Augustinian Fund also supports our aged and infirm friars.

Please choose to make the Augustinian Fund part of your annual giving. Be part of something powerful.

Support the Augustinian Fund

On October 11, the Augustinians of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova launched their 2nd annual fund drive with a special kick-off event at the historic Montrose Mansion in Radnor, PA. Jay Wright, head coach of Villanova University’s men’s basketball team, was the featured guest speaker for the evening.

The Augustinian Fund was established in 2006 to provide support for the Augustinians and their many ministries. In its inaugural year, $624,000 was raised for the Augustinian Fund, easily surpassing its $500,000 goal. Building on last year’s success, the Augustinians hope to raise $700,000 through this year’s annual fund campaign.

Chairing this year’s Augustinian Fund are Mary Ellen Maggitti of Devon, PA, and James Delaney of Havertford, PA, both strong supporters of the Augustinians and members of the Province’s Development Council.

Annual Report Update


Capital Campaign contributors include:

Mr. Joseph Mooney (The Bread of St. Nicholas of Tolentine)
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick O’Hara (The Bread of St. Nicholas of Tolentine)
Connolly Family Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Connolly, Jr. (The Charity of St. Thomas of Villanova)
Dr. Joan and Mr. Thomas Lynch (The Vision of Lorenzo Spirale)
Dr. Helen and Mr. James Lafferty (The Vision of Lorenzo Spirale)
Mr. and Mrs. J. Eustace Wolfington (Gifts in Kind)

Augustinian Fund contributors include:

Dr. Joan and Mr. Thomas Lynch (Ministry Advocates)

The Province is grateful to all its donors and supporters for their generosity and friendship.

Contribute online at www.augustinianfund.org

Donations to the Augustinian Fund may also be sent to:
The Augustinian Fund, P.O. 340, Villanova, PA 19085-0340

Questions or additional information, please call 610.527.3330, ext. 221.

Remember the Augustinians in your Will

Remembering the Augustinians in your will is a special way to help the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova continue its many good works:

Augustinian Province of St. Thomas of Villanova
214 Ashwood Road, Villanova, PA 19085

For more information on legacy gifts, call 610.527.3330, ext. 265, or write to us at development@augustinian.org.

“The Augustinians are indebted to our many friends and supporters. They enable us to continue to fulfill our mission of serving God by serving others.”

— Fr. Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., Prior Provincial, Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova
Sacred Earth

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The Augustinian Press features books on Augustine and Augustinian life and spirituality, cards and prints featuring artwork by contemporary Augustinian artists, music by Augustinians, and much more. All proceeds from sales of the Augustinian Press support the care of the infirm and elderly friars of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova.

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