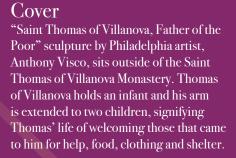




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Inauguration of the Fr. George F. Riley, O.S.A. Fund For Augustinian HealthCare Leadership Committee

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The Augustinian Province of St. Thomas of Villanova

Villanova University



Honoring Fr. George F. Riley, O.S.A.

Saturday, October 23, 2021

6:00 PM Cocktails • 7:00 PM Dinner

Villanova University

800 E. Lancaster Ave. Villanova, Pennsylvania

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Dear Friends.

The day we have awaited has come! It is the day of a new spring, new life and new beginning – not only through a change of season nor by way of Easter's hope-filled invitation – though these are certainly and powerfully present – but this year, in a special way, in the throwing open of barred doors and the bursting forth of new light after a long and difficult Winter of isolation, shadows, sickness and sadness for so many people all over God's good earth. We are ready to sing "Alleluia" and to encourage and pray for those whose journey to this new day is still continuing.

As we move forward, we will not soon forget what a challenging experience we have had – nor should we. We need to remember in order to honor the lost and the hurt, to acknowledge our own pain and grief, and to give thanks that we have passed through to a better time. Hopefully, we have learned some vital lessons these past many months, about ourselves, the value of life and the importance of setting priorities.

Remembering is such a significant and precious faculty of the human mind and heart. It is, in large part, what we have done in many of the following pages of this magazine: remembering people and events, near and far, so as to draw them close again and to give thanks, to show honor and to pay tribute. We remember our yesterdays and celebrate our todays so as to create new memories for tomorrow!

Many blessings,

father Michael

Fr. Michael



Augustinian Bishop William Ambrose Jones A Centerry





William Ambrose Jones

his current year, 2021, we observe the 100th anniversary of the death of one of two friars of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova who were called to serve the Church as bishops. The first, and possibly the better known of the two, was Bishop Thomas Galberry, O.S.A., bishop of the Diocese of Hartford, CT from 1876 to 1878. Bishop Galberry's name is familiar, in part, due to his early ministry as pastor of St. Augustine Church in Troy, NY, as well as St. Mary's Church in Lawrence, MA, and as president of Villanova College. He served, also, as appointed superior of the friars in the United States for eight years and then as first elected prior provincial of the newly established province of St. Thomas of Villanova until his election as bishop. Unfortunately, Bishop Galberry served only two years as bishop before his untimely death at the age of 45.

he other friar-bishop was William Ambrose Jones, who lived many decades after Bishop Galberry and who served considerably longer in his diocese, and farther afield than the first. William Jones was born in Cambridge, NY on July 21, 1865, and was baptized there in the Augustinian Church of St. Patrick by Fr. Ambrose Mullen, O.S.A. William completed his elementary and secondary studies in local schools and arrived at Villanova in 1883 to begin his college studies. He entered the Augustinian novitiate there in February 1886 and made his first profession of vows on February 6, 1887. He did his philosophical and theological studies at Villanova and was ordained to the priesthood on March 5, 1890, by Archbishop Patrick Ryan in the Cathedral of Sts. Peter and Paul, Philadelphia.



Villanova Chapel consecrated by Bishop Jones in 1907



As a young priest, Fr. Jones served first at St. Augustine Parish in Philadelphia and, in January 1896, was transferred back to Villanova to become assistant to the director of novices. Seven months later he was elected subprior of the Villanova monastery community and novice director, while teaching Latin and mathematics at the college as well. In 1896 he published the first American edition of the very popular Augustinian Mission Manual. At the Provincial Chapter of 1898 he was elected first counselor of the prior provincial.

On January 25, 1899, Fr. Jones set out with Br. George Woolsey, O.S.A. for Cuba to settle arrangements with the local bishop of Havana for a mission of the province in that country. They were given charge of the Capilla de San Agustin, which served an active English-speaking congregation, and in 1901, the province opened a day academy for boys with Fr. Jones as

rector and president. In 1903 the capilla was exchanged for the Parish Church of El Cristo wherein the academy was able to expand in order to meet the demand for an increased enrollment.

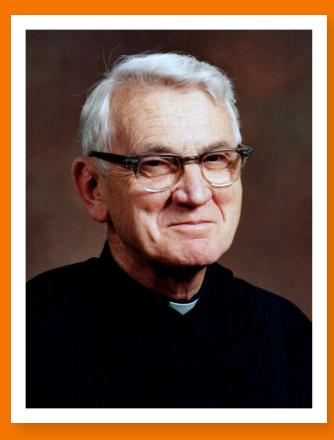
Pope Pius X named Fr. Jones bishop of Puerto Rico in September 1906. He was ordained by the Apostolic Delegate of Cuba, Archbishop Joseph Aversa, in Havana, on February 24, 1907 in the Church of El Cristo. Ten days later he was installed as bishop of the oldest diocese in the New World. Outstanding among the initiatives he undertook during the fourteen years of his leadership were visitations to the more than 100 churches and chapels and one million souls which the diocese contained, the championing of the rights of the impoverished peasant population, including the construction of homes for their use and the extension of educational opportunities for

youth. The great energy which Bishop Jones exerted on behalf of his people earned him the title "Father of Catholic Action in Puerto Rico."

Afflicted repeatedly with yellow fever, he returned north where he was admitted to Greylock Rest in North Adams, MA, in September 1917. After a few months he returned to San Juan but remained in delicate condition. Finally, he entered St. Joseph's Hospital, Philadelphia, on September 4, 1920 with a serious liver condition. He died there on February 17, 1921 at the age of 56.

Bishop Jones' funeral took place on February 23 in the Church of St. Thomas of Villanova, which the bishop himself had consecrated in 1907. Archbishop Giovanni Bonzano, Apostolic Delegate to the United States celebrated the Solemn Pontifical Requiem Mass with several other bishops in attendance. Fr. John Nugent, O.S.A., preached the eulogy, after which internment took place in the Community Cemetery at Villanova.

Seventy years later, at the request of Bishop Jones' successor in San Juan, Cardinal Luis Aponte, Bishop Jones' body was exhumed and returned to Puerto Rico on October 22, 1977, where it was reinterred in the newly renovated cathedral of the diocese in the presence of Augustinian Prior General, Fr. Theodore Tack, O.S.A. and John Cardinal Krol, Archbishop of Philadelphia.



n June 5, 2021, Fr. Joseph Getz, O.S.A., the senior-most member of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, observed the 70th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. This milestone marks seven decades of generous service both to the faithful, as well as to his brother religious. This latter exercise of ministry continues still at St. Thomas Monastery where Fr. Getz has been stationed these past eleven years.

Fr. Getz was ordained to the priesthood at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. by John M. McNamara, Auxiliary Bishop of Washington. Bishop McNamara holds the distinction of having ordained some 2,000 men to the priesthood during his 33 years as bishop.

Father Joseph Getz, O.S.A. By Father Michael Di Gregorio, O.S.A., Prior Provincial Getz, O.S.A. 70th Amiversary

oseph J. Getz was born on July 14, 1924, in Atlantic City, NJ. He is the son of the late Peter F. Getz, an architect, and the late Eleanor A. Herbert Getz, whose family includes two other sons and three daughters. Fr. Getz was baptized at Holy Spirit Church, Atlantic City, NJ and attended St. Malachy Parish School, and LaSalle High School, both in Philadelphia, PA. In 1942, he became a postulant of the Order at Augustinian Academy, Staten Island, NY, and was received as a novice in September 1943. After a year at Good Counsel Novitiate, New Hamburg, NY, he professed simple vows on September 10, 1944 and solemn vows on September 10, 1947. He then attended Villanova College from 1944 to 1948, where he received a BA in Philosophy and pursued theological studies at Augustinian College, Washington, DC, until completion in 1952.

The newly ordained friar's first assignment was to Our Lady of Good Counsel Novitiate, New Hamburg, NY, as assistant novice master. This two-year assignment was followed by five years as associate pastor of St. Nicholas of Tolentine Parish, Jamaica, NY. The Jamaica parish was considered a special training ground for many young priests of the province with its large parish school and engaging chaplaincy to nearby Queens General Hospital. In 1959, he began what was to become a twelve-year appointment as associate at St. Denis Parish, Havertown, PA. Here, among his various duties, he was especially active with youth programs and with the reorganization and embellishment of the extensive parish cemetery. At the conclusion of his assignment to St. Denis, a farewell reception in Fr. Getz's honor, brought 3,000 people together to bid him thanks and farewell, so appreciative were they for his years of generous service to the parish.

of Priesthood

From 1971 to 1981 Fr. Getz served as pastor at St. Patrick Parish, Cambridge, NY. Here he built the new friary. He then served as pastor at St. Augustine Parish, Philadelphia, PA, the province's first foundation, and in 1983, was asked to coordinate the care of the sick and elderly of the province with an assignment to St. Thomas Monastery and its health care facility. He remained in this position for ten years, during four of which he also taught religion at the Day School of the Sacred Heart in Bryn Mawr, PA.

In 1993, Fr. Getz returned to parochial ministry as pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Cambridge, NY. In 1997 he was assigned to Assumption/St. Paul Parish, Mechanicville, NY, and in 2005 to St. Augustine Parish, Troy, NY. During the period from 1997 to 2010 he assisted at St. Joseph Parish, New Windsor, NY, and at St. John Parish, Goshen, NY, and spent much time visiting local nursing homes and hospitals. In July of 2010 Fr. Getz returned to St. Thomas of Villanova Monastery, as a very active member of the community, taking his turn celebrating the community's daily Mass and bringing communion to friars unable to attend.

During recent months, while visits to the monastery had to be restricted due to COVID-19 and the second floor Health Care Unit was isolated for the safety of infirm or bed-ridden friars, it was Fr. Getz who celebrated Mass daily in this unit and brought the sacraments to those there in need, continuing to practice what he once said was his



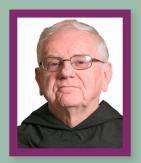
"ardent desire to save souls, to teach the young and to care for the elderly."

Congratulations Fr. Getz!
Thank you for your ministry and example.
Ad multos annos!

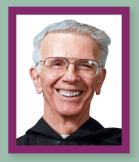
Friar Jubilarians Celebrating 25 Years or More

Priesthood

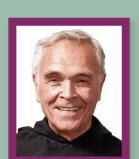
60 Years - 1961



John Deegan

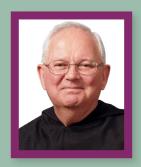


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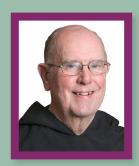


John O'Rourke

50 Years - 1971

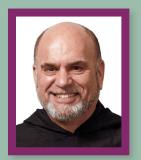


John Flynn



William Waters

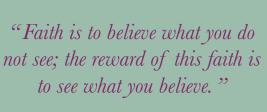
25 Years - 1996



Jorge Reyes



Luis Vera

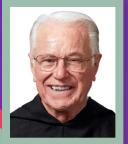


- Saint Augustine



Stephen Curry

Religious Profession 70 Years - 1951 60 Years -60 Years - 1961



Jam<mark>es Martinez</mark>

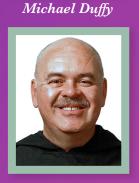


John McKenzie



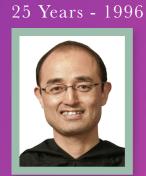


John Deary



50 Years - 1971

Anthony Burrascano



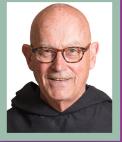
Hiroyuki Shibata



Kiyotsugu Yamano



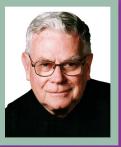
Edward Doherty

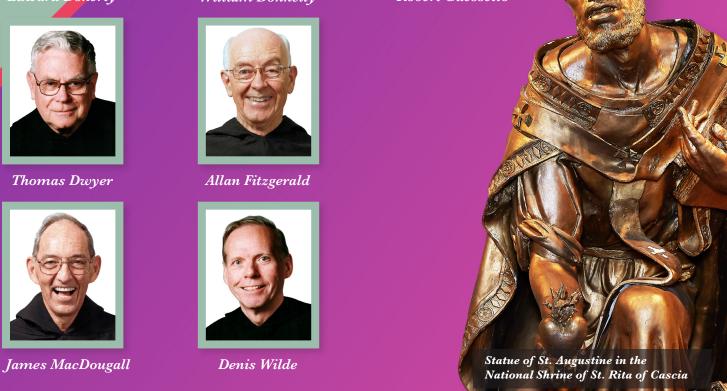


William Donnelly



Robert Guessetto





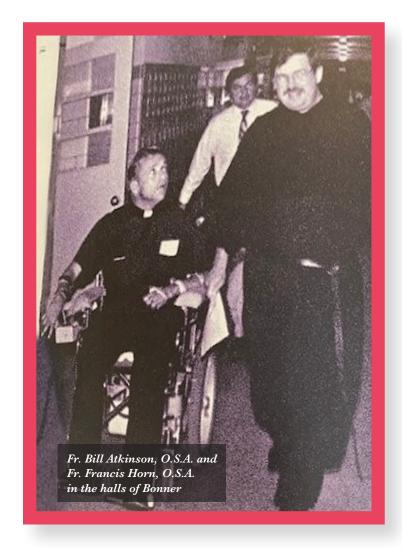
The Friars of Monsigner Bonner High School

By Father Francis J. Horn, O.S.A.

Bonner High, we're loyal; Bonner High, we're true. We will fight, fight we Friars, ...

hese opening words to the famous "Bonner Fight Song" are well known to almost any student who has walked the hallowed halls of Monsignor Bonner High School. Since the opening in September 1953 of Archbishop Prendergast High School for Boys to the freshmen who would become the first graduating class from Bonner, until June 2009, when a personnel shortage forced the Province to withdraw its commitment to staffing this apostolate, the Augustinian Friars of the Province of St. Thomas of

Villanova provided both inspiration and the mascot for the diocesan high school located in Drexel Hill, PA. Over the span of those 56 years, more than 150 Augustinian Friars served as administrators, teachers, counselors, chaplains, moderators of activities and athletic teams, and friends and confidants to numerous students, faculty, and staff at the school. In one way or another, they touched the lives of the more than 20,000 graduates during that period.



rom the very beginning, the Augustinians provided a special "flavor" to the educational experience of Bonner students. Even first-time visitors could detect something unique about the atmosphere at the school. Although not always named, a true sense of community was deeply ingrained in the fabric of Bonner by the Augustinians who shared their life in common while living and praying together in the monastery located on the campus. The friars translated the fraternal spirit of their religious life into their ministry at the school, resulting in a sense of family, brotherhood and a true concern for others.

Thus, for example, a Fr. Ed Dixey, O.S.A. who could single-handedly control a lunchroom of 600 hungry boys, could also be found with some of those same young men in a pick-up game of basketball after school; a Fr. John Melton, O.S.A. could regularly be available in his office late into the evening to help a senior decide on (or get into) college; a Fr. Al Smith, O.S.A. could make it enjoyable (as well as spiritually beneficial) for members of the Bonner Breakfast Club to serve Mass at 6:30 a.m. in the monastery; a Fr. Bill Atkinson, O.S.A. could turn a Saturday detention into a personal growth experience.



Fr. John Melton, O.S.A. offers a Bonner senior advice on college. Fr. John served at Bonner for 32 years, from 1956 to 1988

As a result of the dedication and example of the friars, Bonner proved to be a fertile ground for religious vocations. Not only have numerous graduates been ordained diocesan priests, and many others joined various religious congregations, but hundreds of alumni, attracted by their experience at Bonner, have entered the Augustinian Order. While many later discerned that theirs was not a call to priesthood or consecrated life, nearly 100 Bonner Friars have been ordained or solemnly professed in the Order of St. Augustine. Currently, 29 members (25%) of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova are alumni of Monsignor Bonner High School. Twenty-five living members of the Province have served at the school in one capacity or another.

The Augustinian Friars plan to rekindle the great relationship they have enjoyed with all Bonner "friars" at a celebration scheduled for November 13, 2021 (birthday of St. Augustine) at the school.



Augustinian Friars and Bonner Alumni Friendship Gathering



Join Us! Saturday, November 13, 2021 Cocktail Reception

The Augustinian Friars will host a Friendship Gathering at Bonner Prendergast High School in Drexel Hill, PA to reconnect with alumni of Msgr. Bonner High School. Friars who graduated from Bonner and who served on either the administration, faculty or staff will return to Bonner Prendie to reminisce with alumni and to rekindle the many friendships that were made during the friars' 56 years at Bonner.

For more information and to R.S.V.P. after July 15, 2021, visit:

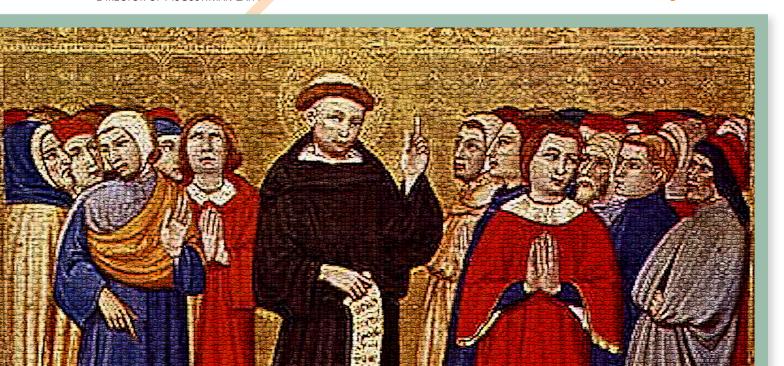
AugustinianFund.org/Bonner

Contact: Julia Phifer, Associate Director of Advancement

phone 610.527.3330, ext.239 email: julia.phifer@augustinian.org

Augustinian Companion

By Father John Deary, O.S.A., Director of Augustinian Laity



any individuals come to know St. Augustine, his story, and his insights into Christian life, and find him to be a valuable model and guide. Some express a desire to continue their faith journey with Augustine at their side. While lay individuals often come to know the Augustinians through the pastoral care the friars offer and the printed materials distributed, many people today are just as likely to find us through the internet and popular social media platforms or have discovered our Augustinian Journey App, without any direct personal acquaintance with Augustinians or our ministries.

he Order of St. Augustine is composed of four distinct groups: Friars, Contemplative Nuns, Laity and Religious Institutions that follow the Rule of St. Augustine. In 2019, at the Order's 186th General Chapter, Fr. Michael Di Gregorio, O.S.A., Prior Provincial, proposed the idea of an additional group called Companions of St. Augustine to help journey with our new acquaintances, creating bonds of friendship and connection through Augustine. This

contemporary path to Augustine is relevant in that though the concept of community is a fundamental aspect of Augustinian life, there are people who cannot regularly participate in community life because of their distance from Augustinian communities, limitations of health, or some other legitimate reason, but who wish, nonetheless, to follow the spiritual path of St. Augustine.

The Way of Augustinian Companions:

- 1. The primacy of Jesus Christ in Augustinian spirituality *Companions* strive for a conscious, deliberate and continual relationship with Christ intentionally through reflection, personal prayer, and good works. This personal relationship with Christ should inform all other relationships, choices and actions.
- 2. The soul of Augustinian spirituality is charity The Companion is committed to the practice of charity in the form of respect, generosity, kindness, forgiveness, patience and service within one's circles of engagement, beginning with family, neighbors and associates but always reaching outward.
- 3. Augustinian spirituality finds nourishment in Scripture The Companion's personal reflection on the daily Scripture readings for Mass or from the Liturgy of the Hours is a recommended practice of life, acquainting one with the core values of faith, especially the person and teaching of Jesus.
- 4. Augustinian spirituality is a summons to conversion Conversion of life is an ongoing process that is fostered by attentive reflection. Conversion is expressed and celebrated through the Sacrament of Reconciliation and penitential practices, observing faithfully Augustine's teaching on moderation.
- **5.** Augustinian spirituality favors prayer The practice of daily morning and evening prayer unites the *Companion* with other Augustinian spiritual seekers as well as with the universal Church. This can take the form of the Liturgy of the Hours following the Augustinian Calendar or some other prayer. Participation in frequent Eucharist, where possible, is also recommended.
- **6.** Augustinian spirituality is at the service of evangelization All Christians are called to a life of service and to the proclamation of the Gospel in word and action. Evangelization occurs in different ways according to the responsibilities, opportunities and talents of individuals. Each *Companion* needs to find his or her path in this regard.
- 7. Augustinian spirituality has a marked ecclesial significance Our fundamental identity is rooted in baptism, through which we become disciples of Christ and members of the Church. The choice to pursue an Augustinian spiritual path gives form and structure to our basic Christian endeavor rather than place us in some exclusive class within the Church.
- **8.** Familiarity with St. Augustine and with his life and his works adds a particular focus in our living of the Christian vocation. This occurs through acquaintance with him, especially through the prayerful reading of his *Confessions* and other writings by and about Augustine.

The Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, in turn, commits to welcome, assist and accompany *Companions* with the means available to us. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. An official registration of those who make application to walk the spiritual path of St. Augustine as *Augustinian Companions*. This registration, under the care of the Director of Augustinian Laity, is maintained at the Office of Provincial Administration.
- 2. Each Augustinian Companion will be paired with a friar or member of a Secular Fraternity for more direct contact via email, telephone or personal visits for support, the sharing of experiences, etc.
- 3. Augustinian Companions receive communications of the Province, including the Province Augustinian magazine, Province eNews and other pertinent items of Province and Order information.
- 4. Augustinian Companions are welcome to meet periodically with a fraternity and to participate in regional or Province-wide gatherings of Augustinian Laity as feasible.
- 5. Augustinian Companions are considered members of the Augustinian Family and are included in the spiritual benefits that accrue to other members of the Order by virtue of religious profession or commitment to a Secular Fraternity.
- 6. Following a one-year period of discernment from the time of application and with the approval of the Director of Augustinian Laity, the *Augustinian Companion* Candidate will be presented with the symbol of membership.

Join the

Companions
of Saint

Augustine

Augustinian

Companions
journey with friends

Contact Us!

Fr. John Deary O.S.A.
email: jfdosa@yahoo.com
phone: 610.525.0147

Mother of Murdered Son

Cites reason for deadly violence By Father Paul Morrissey, O.S.A. FROM CATHOLICPHILLY.COM MARCH 24, 2021

> Click to Learn More About the Justice and Peace Ministry

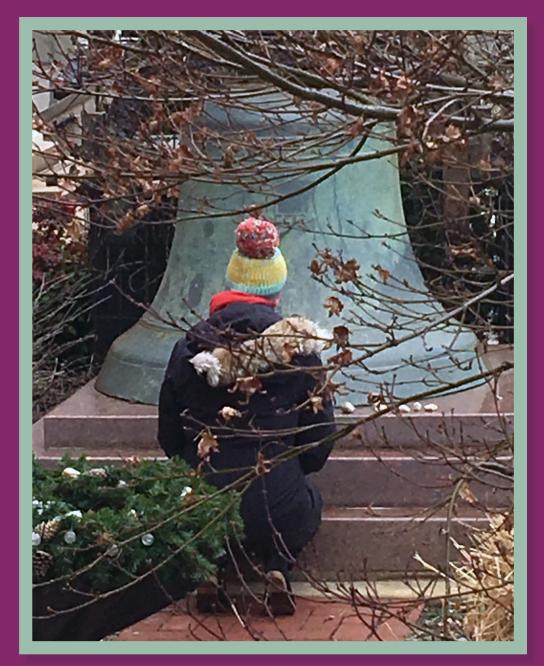
Fr. Paul with Healing Garden visitors

Very day, buried in the Local Section of the Philadelphia Inquirer, appear notices of those shot and often killed the night before in the streets of Philadelphia. Much of the time they are young Black men, occasionally a woman, from North or Southwest Philadelphia. Even children, hit by a stray bullet.

Often at the end of the paragraph, usually not mentioning the victims' names, is a sentence:
"Police reported no arrests."

These continual murders of human beings are horrific. What happens to the families of the victims and the killers? Is there no hope for young Black men other than to pack a gun and kill or be killed? These human beings wind up dead or in jail. What if you were one of the parents of these young men or women?

Why are we solving our conflicts with guns? What can we do to change this? What kind of hope can we offer to young Black males who are so vulnerable? We can complain about their violent lives, but do we know anything about them? What if you were born into a situation where selling drugs was the only job that is available to you?



The "secret" Healing Garden at St. Augustine's Parish was dedicated in the Spring of 2015, "for healing, forgiveness and peace for victims and offenders of violence in Philadelphia and beyond." We called it "secret" to entice passersby to come up the stairs to visit it, and they do. It is especially touching to see young people, some who may normally not go into the Church, kneeling and praying in silence, or just standing in front of the "bell that still can ring" with the crucifix on it.

While serving as a chaplain at the Philadelphia Prison, I had the opportunity to meet with survivors of crimes. During one of these encounters, I met the mother of one of these young Black men. Victoria's son Emir, just 21 and an expectant father, was shot seven times in the back by a friend, "Randy." Victoria shared with me her reaction to this horrible news in a way that was both tragic and insightful.

- continued on next page

REMEMBER AND PRAY

for healing, forgiveness, and peace for offenders and victims of violence in Philadelphia and beyond.

Dedicated in the Spring of 2015 by The Augustinian Defenders of the Rights of the Poor and Adeodatus Prison Ministry

In the Words of a Mother

For me it was devastating. I did not want to live anymore. I was suicidal.

It was very frustrating waiting for the police to catch the perpetrator. I was trying to hold off my son's friends from taking any action of their own. I told them I didn't want anyone else murdered. I didn't want anyone going to prison. I said, 'Let the police handle it.' It was hard, as the days went on, to keep calm. The police knew who it was.

When nothing really happened from the police end, I switched from sorrow to anger. I thought: I know where "Randy" hangs out. He was walking around the community and that was upsetting to me. He's walking around, and he's killed my son. So, I can get a gun too. Just go where he hangs out and kill him. I didn't care about my life. I didn't even care about going to prison.

But it came to me that I had four daughters, and my mother was still alive. My daughters had already lost their brother. My mother had lost her grandson. She was grieving. This was a turning point for me. They would really be done if I did that. That's when I decided to live. I said how dare I take my own life when my son didn't even have a choice? He was murdered. How dare you

take a life and cause more pain and suffering and misery? At that point I (was) going to try to live the best life I can live. Life is so fragile.

I went to speak at a prison with my daughter. She is a policewoman. Some of the prisoners were lifers. Some who were there for murder were interested in their victims' mothers, but were not allowed to contact them. I said, "I just don't understand how someone could kill someone, unless it's self-defense. I just don't understand killing someone over money or drugs. I just don't understand it." So one of the guys said, "Miss Greene when you're out on the streets selling drugs, all you think of is stuff, material things, what you want to have. When you become like that, you cease to be human. And when you cease to be human, you can murder." And I've never forgotten that. Materialism ... stuff ... to fill in the emptiness.

To help heal our pain and do something with our anger, my four daughters and I go around telling our story. We go to youth facilities trying to make an impact. We established The EMIR Healing Center - "Every Murder Is Real" - named after my son, Emir, where we serve and support families and communities who have been affected by homicide and violence.



One of the things I learned from these young men who come to our groups is this: The homicide of young Black men is the direct result of racism. The racism has truly worked well. Young Black men live in a society where they are looked upon as a danger. They

learn: "You're dangerous, you're hopeless, you won't be successful. You're a loser. Your life doesn't really matter. Whatever problems you have are your fault."

If you live in that kind of a society, your self-esteem is crushed. So, they think: "My life doesn't really matter. And if you're Black, your life doesn't matter either. So that's why I can kill ya. Your life doesn't matter, my life doesn't matter, and nobody cares about us."

So, it's really internalized racism.
They internalize what the larger society says about them, and they believe it. And that's why they will kill because, "Oh he disrespected me." I believe they have taken in this racism, this lack of self- esteem, not feeling loved or nurtured. It is killing them and us.

ictoria's insights are powerful, and a key to changing our approach to our city's scourge of killings, up 37% this year so far. Victoria's view that much of Black-on-Black killing comes from internalized racism – could help all of us examine our consciences. Whether we are White or Black or Brown, how might any of us be contributing to a belief that young Black lives don't matter? And how might you and I take concrete steps to heal this now? A few ideas follow:

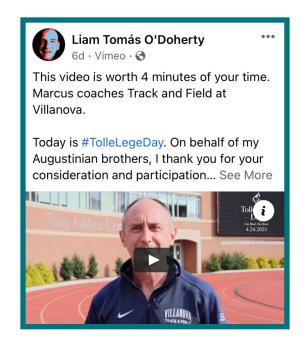
- 1) Notice how you might unconsciously think of young Black men: dangerous? violent? untrustworthy?
- 2) Try to make contact with some of these young men at a supermarket check-out counter, a gym, at your child's school/university event, or even a nod as you pass them by in the street.
- 3) Try to read one of these reports of another killing with the eyes of a Black mother, father or sibling. Contact EMIR and visit them. (EMIR, Every Murder is Real, 59 E. Haines St., Philadelphia, 19144)
- 4) Read about their lives, including many who wind up in prison, with a book such as "Just Mercy" by Bryan Stephenson.
- 5) Pray that you might treat them with the respect God has for them, even if they don't quite believe this themselves yet.

► Click to Watch Thank You Video





By Madonna Sutter, Director of Advancement



The Augustinian Friars first-ever giving day was a resounding success as over 900 friends and relatives of the Augustinians came together to celebrate the Feast of the Conversion of St. Augustine and the Augustinian charism in which we so happily share.

hanks to your generosity, we shattered our original goal of 424 donors early in the day. At 6:00 PM we set a new goal of 711 donors for 7/11/1796: the date in which Fr. Matthew Carr. O.S.A. arrived from Ireland and established the first foundation for Augustinians in America at St. Augustine Church in Philadelphia. We also decided to set a dollar goal of \$250,000. With three hours left to midnight, the goal of 711 donors was no more and when all was said and done, 938 donors from 32 states in the U.S. contributed 976 gifts for a total of \$364,000 on our inaugural Tolle Lege Day!

Please plan to join us next year as we come together on One Day with One Mind and One Heart on Sunday, April 24, 2022. Consider serving as a Tolle Lege Day Ambassador to help us spread the word in support of the friars' lives, their ministries and the Augustinian mission.

Thank you to our Tolle Lege Day Ambassadors and the Augustinian Friars who contacted friends and family all over the world to ask for support of the friars' way of life and their ministries. Your hard work and outreach was key to our success!



Thank you to our 2021 Tolle Lege Day Ambassadors

Lynne Adducci Leonard Anthony N. Alfano Fr. Stephen Baker, O.S.A. Joseph Barowski Robert Bellenghi Joanna Bowen Tracy and Patrick Brala Tara Bramwell Erin Buckley Kathleen Byrnes Robert Byrnes Charles Connolly, III Fr. John Deegan, O.S.A. Anthony Dellomo Fr. Kevin DePrinzio, O.S.A. Fr. Michael Di Gregorio, O.S.A. Andrew DiDomenico Susan and Andrew DiLoreto Matt Dinehart Theresa Dobbin Brendon and Kathleen Dolan Fr. William Donnelly, O.S.A. Fr. Christopher Drennen, O.S.A. Patrick Duffy Judith Dunn Raymond Falzone Fr. Joseph Farrell, O.S.A. Robert Fredericks Deacon William Gabriel, O.S.A. Fr. Paul Galetto, O.S.A. Marie Graney Joan Hawley

Nancy Sharts-Hopko Jonathan Jerome Jack Johannes Joseph Kelley Catherine Kolongowski Thomas Larkin Catherine LeBlanc **Edward Lis** Fr. Daniel Madden, O.S.A. Bridgette Maloney Maria Manna Fr. James McBurney, OS.A. Fr. James McCartney, O.S.A. Erin McGarry Lizann McGowan Killmeyer Andrew McKeough Robert and Carol McKiernan Fr. Daniel McLaughlin, O.S.A. Lacie Michaelson Fischley Joseph Micucci Fr. Paul Morrissey, O.S.A. Fr. Joseph Mostardi, O.S.A. Francis "Chip" Moynihan Jeffrey and Suzanne Mullen Matthew and Christine Mullen Timothy and Kelly Mullen Anne and Dennis Murphy Fr. Joseph Murray, O.S.A. Fr. Joseph Narog, O.S.A. James O'Connor Fr. Liam O'Doherty, O.S.A. Fr. Richard O'Leary, O.S.A. Marcus O'Sullivan Joseph Pescatrice David and Mary Ellen Pietruszynski Eric and Chrissy Quisenberry Cher Rago

Chesley Turner 6d · ** One Day. One Mind. One Heart. Be a part of #TolleLegeDay by making a gift to the Augustinian Fund. Use the link in my bio to donate, and support these amazing friars and the good work they do. Let's reach 424 donors in 24 hours! Unity, not uniformity. Restless, but nev... See More Tolle Lege Day One Mind. One Heart.

Barbara Riley Kelsey Rode Michael Ryan Keri Salanik Thomas Sanzone Samuel and Carmel Scuderi Elaine Sharer Christopher Soltis Terry Sousa Peter Sousa Fr. Michael Sullivan, O.S.A. Madonna Sutter Chesley Turner Colleen Tegler John Warnock Fr. James Wenzel, O.S.A. James Wroblewski Janine Zozaya



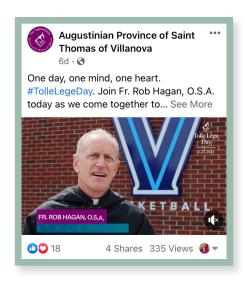
- Fr. Joseph L. Narog, O.S.A.
- Eric R. Quisenberry

Deacon Jeremy Hiers, O.S.A.

- Fr. Joseph L. Farrell, O.S.A.
- Fr. Liam T. O'Doherty, O.S.A.

Br. Michael Riggs, O.S.A.

Fr. Joseph S. Mostardi, O.S.A.





Over the parish's history of two and a quarter centuries the church steeple and bells have been a sign of our significant presence, as a beacon, and of our contributions to the larger community

t. Augustine Roman Catholic Church in Philadelphia is celebrating its 225th anniversary! Its rich Augustinian roots run deep and wide, but the countless number of people whose relationship with God has grown within the parish community during the past 225 years is the most central part of St. Augustine's history. Countless milestones have been celebrated. From baptisms to first holy communions to weddings and ordinations, to anniversaries and funeral masses. Most current parishioners, some of whom recently have chosen to become Catholic, are young adults and Filipinos who live outside the geographical boundaries of the parish. They choose the parish because it is known to be a welcoming community and because of the richness of the liturgical music as well as its beauty, historical relevance in Philadelphia and its connection to Villanova University. Yearly, sixty to seventy couples celebrate the sacrament of marriage in this

t. Augustine Parish was the first foundation of the Augustinian Order in the United States. It was founded in 1796 by Fr. Matthew Carr, O.S.A. when he came to Philadelphia from Ireland. Fr. Carr developed the parish to serve the increasing number of German and Irish immigrants who settled in the northern sections of the city. Nicholas Fitzmaurice Fagan, a notable architect, designed the church which, when completed in 1801, was the largest church in Philadelphia. In 1811, Fr. Carr established St. Augustine Academy which later became Villanova College, in 1842, and is now Villanova University. St. Augustine parish is also the home for several Augustinian Volunteers each year. It is here that the first commencement ceremony for the Augustinian Volunteers took place 21 years ago.

beautiful church.

In 1844, nativist riots destroyed the church building and as a result of the failure to protect the church property, the Philadelphia Police Department was incorporated. The church was rebuilt in 1847. Frescos were painted on the ceiling by artist Nicola Monachesi. These are believed to be the oldest frescos in any religious building in the United States. A parishioner, Henry Thunder, Jr., organized the Choral Society of Philadelphia and its accompanists which developed into the Philadelphia Orchestra. The first Philadelphia performance of Handel's *Messiah* was at St. Augustine. In 1992, an image of Santo Niño, (the Holy Child Jesus), was installed at

St. Augustine Parish is known for its footing of new life.

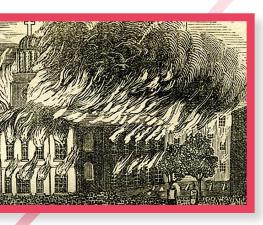


Ceiling fresco by Nicola Monachesi

St. Augustine Church. The parish was designated as the National Shrine for devotion to Santo Niño in North America. Since then, in Philadelphia, every third Sunday in August, the Filipino community in the parish celebrates

a Sinulog Festival which honors the Señor Santo Niño de Cebú which is honored and celebrated in the Philippines earlier in the year.

The interior of the church is abundantly surrounded by eight paintings depicting the life of Augustine. They were created in 1898 and 1899, in Italy, by artist, Tito Troja. The paintings reflect Augustine's conversion in the garden, his baptism, Monica, his mother and himself, Monica's death, Augustine giving the *Rule* (the way of living) to the friars, Augustine talking to a young person about the Holy Trinity, Augustine Speaking at the Council of Carthage and his death. These hang beautifully throughout the church and are valued treasures that are currently in need of restoration to mend the cracks in the paint and to re-stretch the canvases. Each restoration will cost about \$75,000.



1844, nativist riots destroyed the church building

In conjunction with, and in celebration of St. Augustine's 225th Anniversary:

- Archbishop Nelson J. Perez will celebrate the Sinulog on August 15th
- On October 10th a special liturgy will take place with the Philadelphia Police Department recognizing its origins at the parish
- As a fundraiser the parish is asking parishioners and friends for a birthday gift of \$22.50 or \$225.00, \$2250.00 or \$22,500.00
- Depending on the state of the pandemic, other possible social celebrations will be posted on the parish website

Did you know?

• Scenes from three Hollywood movies were filmed at St. Augustine Church; Sixth Sense (1999), The Shooter (2007) and 21 Bridges (2019) because of the beauty and significance of the church



- George Washington contributed \$50.00 to what would be equivalent to \$1000.00 dollars today to the building of the first church
- The Sister Bell of the Liberty Bell was housed at St. Augustine Parish for many years

Contact Us!

St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church 243 North Lawrence Street (GPS: 250 North 4th Street) Philadelphia, PA 19106

Phone: 215.627.1838

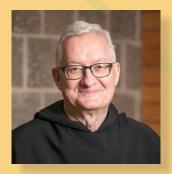
email: staugustineparish09@gmail.com website: St-AugustineChurch.com

Vocation Motivation

By Father Joseph L. Narog, O.S.A., Director of Vocations

► Click to Watch the Priestly Ordination of Brs. Elizandro, William and Jeremy

ecently, I was reflecting on a quote that's on the back of the prayer card for my ordination to the priesthood. Although it's from a sermon St. Augustine preached on the anniversary of his ordination as a bishop, he'd likely apply it to his ordination as a priest, as well. To paraphrase Augustine – "Where I'm terrified by what I am for you, I am given comfort by what I am with you. For you I am a priest; with you, after all, I am a Christian" (Sermon 340, 1). With this quote in mind, I had the opportunity to sit down with three of our friars, deacons – Br. Elizandro Contreras, O.S.A., Br. Bill Gabriel, O.S.A, and Br. Jeremy Hiers, O.S.A., who are to be ordained to the priesthood on June 26th, 2021. Here are just a few of their answers to the questions that I asked them. I'd encourage you to watch the full conversation at Augustinian.org/Vocations. It's both informative and inspiring. Let's continue to pray for them and for all vocations!



Fr. Joseph L. Narog, O.S.A. Director of Vocations



Fun Facts

Br. Jeremy:

One of my passions has always been flying.



Br. Elizandro:

I get relaxed while cleaning, and even while organizing.



Br. Bill:

I like coaching basketball.

Watch full video at: Augustinian.org/Vocations

Fr. Joe:

If you had to name one fun fact about yourself, what would that be?



Fr. Joe:

s you know, we're first called to be Augustinian Friars. And then there's what we might refer to as "the call within the call" – our call to live out our ministry as friars, either as brothers or priests. In both cases, there are things that might terrify us and things that comfort us as we consider God's call. In your responding to that call, by taking the step toward ordination to the priesthood, what has attracted you and what challenges do you foresee?

Br. Elizandro:

I believe something that really attracted me since the beginning is the possibility to be a good Christian. I believe that every vocation starts with that. We're baptized, then we get involved in the Church, and after that you learn a little more about the ministries the Church has and what you are attracted to... To participate in Jesus' ministry of proclaiming the Gospel; that is something that is solid in my heart... There are many challenges and the first one is myself. I'm always thinking, will I do it well?...

Br. Jeremy:

Since becoming an Augustinian, I've fallen in love with our way of life, our community charism and the many ways we as brothers serve the people of God... And what really excites me about the idea of serving as a priest, there's moments when you really get to be there for people. The very good moments in their lives but also some of the tragic... And in terms of what terrifies me, I think it's just always the unknown...

Br. Bill:

...The precious moments of people's lives that we can accompany them through and to know that we are entering in such sacred moments. And sacramentally as a priest, that's one of the main calls. And to do that and to be invited to do that, is very attractive mainly because of the experience of the friars that I've known that have ministered to me. I've seen what good that can do and what graces can come from that... The scary part is that the needs are so great. And not just now, but always... And so, it requires quite a bit of humility to allow people to minister with me and to help me grow as a minister.

Fr. Joe:

As friars preparing for ordination, what does it mean for you to be an Augustinian priest? Is there anything distinctive about being an Augustinian and a priest?

Br. Jeremy:

...What I think it means to be an Augustinian priest is to bring the gift of community in whatever ministry you are in. And so, as brothers, we live in a community, we support one another and we teach each other how to support one another. And then that's a gift we can share with those we're called to minister with... For me, that became very personal during my first year of formation when I lost my younger brother to a tragic death. The brothers came and surrounded me during that time and taught me how to be community to other people when they suffer loss... So, I think to be an Augustinian and a priest means really bringing the gift of what we enjoy together to specific ministries.

Br. Bill:

...There's this being called forth by God into the ministry of the Church and to meet the needs of the people where they are. And so, I think the Augustinians uniquely do that by listening to God's people. There's a flexibility that's a part of the Augustinians where we're not so regimented to certain institutions necessarily...the Augustinian priest is one who's willing to take the risk for the sake of love...

Br. Elizandro:

...as an Augustinian you are in a community where all of us will take care of each other. We feed ourselves in this community life – we pray together, we have a meal together, support each other, take care of each other. It is a different way of ministry. When you are an Augustinian priest, you are there to minister with others, so you have to be the one who has the initiative of leadership to help others look for their relationship with God. You have to be attentive to their needs... To be an Augustinian priest, you would be able to share your experience with others... I think the most important gift that we have is community and to share what we receive to others as priests.

Fr. Joe:

In the 21st century, with all of the options available to you, and with some of the struggles facing our Church and the world, why become a priest now? What gives you hope as you respond to this "call within a call"?

- continued on next page

Br. Bill:

This is a really good question because it speaks to the reality in which we will find ourselves and do find ourselves, that is quite divisive and not God centered, where people are very restless, are seeking meaning and suffering is very high. I think the call of the priesthood is a call from God... I think that's what led me here first and foremost. And to do that as an Augustinian with my brothers is hopeful...

Br. Elizandro:

I think there is something special in being a part of the change. I know that we're facing very difficult moments within our Church and in the world, but God is still calling us and working within us. He's also working in the lives of many people. For me it's that hope coming from the same people, the people of God. Seeing their faith gives hope to me, that I'm doing the right thing. I am a part of something that is looking for a change. A change for the Church, a change for the world. That is part of our



foundation as an Augustinian – we were founded to respond to the needs of the Church. I feel that we are in the right place in the right moment...

Br. Jeremy:

I was reflecting back six years ago when I was handing my boss my resignation letter, and he says, why in the world are you leaving a perfectly good career to go into this abyss of unknown, with all of the challenges the Church is facing?... That question has stuck with me the whole time because I've asked it over and over again, why am I here? And that's because I'm drawn, I think to the idea of being part of something I truly believe will make a difference in the world – our faith... That's what gives me hope and helps me stay optimistic even in the worst of times. Our faith has something to offer, our charism has something to offer, and you know what, it's worth the risk and I'm jumping in. Let's do it!





By Jonathan Jerome, Director of the National Shrine of Saint Rita of Cascia

very year, for the past 114 years, the National Shrine of St. Rita of Cascia has invited pilgrims, patrons and devotees from around the world to join us in South Philadelphia for our Solemn Novena and Feast Day celebrations. These ten days in the middle of May are a celebration of our Catholic faith, our Augustinian identity, our South Philly personality and our deep love for a saintly woman whose virtuous life continues to inspire us.

ut we weren't sure what to expect this year. Would there be an increase in eager pilgrims looking to return after a virtual novena and feast day last year? Or would we see a smaller number of people gather because of lingering COVID-19 concerns and a prolonged absence from church? Throughout our planning and preparation process, as these uncertainties grew, we turned to our beloved patroness and advocate in prayer. Lucky for us, St. Rita knows something about perseverance and hope in the midst of uncertainty.

There is no question that St. Rita heard our prayers and interceded with God on our behalf! Throughout the novena and especially on the feast day, faithful patrons gathered once again to celebrate virtually and in person! Three bishops, countless Augustinians, hundreds of benefactors, and 60 volunteers joined us from dawn to dusk as we prayed for healing, peace, and

reconciliation in our communities and within ourselves. EWTN broadcast our noon Mass to millions of people throughout the world. And, even with COVID-19 restrictions in place, six Masses and 20 confessors barely met the needs of those who joined us on the feast day.

The overwhelming joy experienced during these sacred days was matched only by the immeasurable grace received. It was another powerful testament to God's goodness!

As the 6,500 roses around the Shrine begin to whither though, we have started to wonder what comes next. We are not interested in returning to life pre-pandemic, and we are certainly not interested in returning to life during the pandemic. Instead, we are looking confidently into the future at what lies ahead! This past year provided us an opportunity to pause and look at our mission



and ministry with new eyes. As the only national Augustinian Shrine in the United States, it is not that difficult for us to imagine a place where every day is an experience of radical welcome and meaningful encounter. We don't want to wait until May every year to share our story. St. Rita of Cascia is a saint for all people. We think St. Rita's message of healing, peacemaking, reconciliation, and forgiveness is just as important and needed today as ever before. In our pursuit of a deeper relationship with God, we want to honor the storied legacy of the Shrine by sharing St. Rita's story every day. We hope you'll join us!

Cascia Center Update

In a matter of only three months, the long-awaited and highly anticipated Cascia Center will be completed! It's hard to believe that August 10th marks the one-year anniversary of the groundbreaking celebration.

Over the past year, an impressive five-story building has emerged at the corner of Ellsworth and Broad Streets that intentionally highlights the existing beauty of the Shrine, while also paying tribute to the historic architecture of South Philadelphia. Led by the architectural firm of Cecil Baker and Partners, what was once a distant dream has quickly become a beautiful addition to the legacy of the Augustinians in Philadelphia!

In April, the roof was finished and the windows were installed. Shortly after, the brickwork began and interior walls were hung. As artwork, landscaping, furniture, and finishes become the next set projects to be tackled, it's easy to get caught up in the excitement of the progress! Friars, staff, patrons and pilgrims are anxious to see the construction finished, but they are even more eager to begin using the building to foster a community of peace that inspires and builds fullness of life.



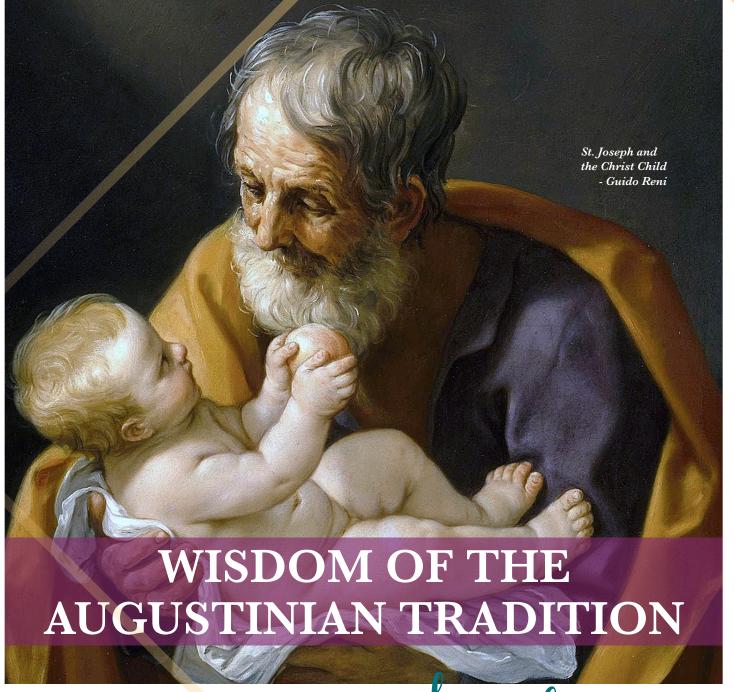


Connect with Us!

National Shrine of Saint Rita of Cascia email: admin@SaintRitaShrine.org facebook: @SaintRitaShrine instagram: @saintritashrine

website: SaintRitaShrine.org phone: 215.546.8333

Click to View Images from 2021 Feast Day



Year of Saint Joseph

o not hesitate to gaze also on that most holy man, Joseph, as he trembles in the presence of the miraculous event, standing perplexed and overawed at so great and so wonderful a happening. He is astounded, but at the same time he rejoices; he is filled with amazement, but with happiness as well; his spirit is afire within him and he dare not lift his gaze to the sublime majesty of the scene. How exceedingly happy you are, Joseph! How true you now perceive that word to be which was spoken to you by the angel: What is born of her is of the Holy Spirit (Mt 1:20)! Now indeed you have seen this miraculous, sacred birth: you have seen it, and you are witness to all that has happened. Look how great is the glory God has willed to confer on you and consider how you can best serve this child for whom the angels are singing nuptial songs."

Contemplation

By Father Michael Di Gregorio, O.S.A., Prior Provincial

ope Francis, in his
Apostolic Letter,
Patris Corde, issued last
December 8th, declared
this the Year of St.
Joseph and called
for its observance
as such
throughout

With a
Father's
Heart

these current months until its conclusion on December 8, 2021.

The Letter, whose title in English is rendered With a Father's Heart, was issued to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the designation of St.

Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX in 1870. Pope Francis begins his letter by stating "With a Father's heart: that is how Joseph loved Jesus."

St. Thomas of Villanova many years ago spoke of the fatherly heart of Joseph in a Christmas Sermon he preached, a segment of which is quoted in these pages. Thomas notes the variety of emotions which Joseph experienced at the birth of Jesus: perplexity, awe, astonishment, joy, amazement and happiness. Anyone of us – and perhaps fathers most of all – can appreciate such a variety of sentiments, knowing as we do the circumstances of the birth of Mary's son, and the events that led up to it. All the more can we imagine Joseph's state of mind and heart, knowing what Scripture tells us was at first a great dilemma for him and only later a great act of faith-filled acceptance.

The heart of Joseph had to have been a tender heart, at once sensitive and understanding, generous and grateful, to contain in successive moments all that St. Thomas attributes to him in the face of the ordinary, and yet altogether unique, event of Jesus' birth. St. Thomas himself, of course, understood well the movements of a fatherly heart, steeped as he was in the heart-theology of St. Augustine and in the father-like vocation to which he was called several times as religious superior among the friars of Spain, and later as pastor of souls in his role as Archbishop of Valencia. This was the man who had said to his people gathered in the cathedral one day, "Augustine gave his brothers the heart as their standard, so that they might understand that they were to consecrate all their intelligence and effort to perfecting the heart." And Thomas met that standard well himself, as evidenced by the great affection which people had for him.

All of this is to say that St. Thomas knew of what he was speaking. His own heart, schooled well by parents

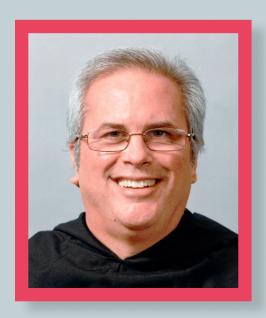
distinguished for their generous empathy towards the needy and forgotten, and later formed by the spirituality of the saint with a restless heart on fire with love, recognized easily the marks of Joseph's love and so can say with simple assurance, "How exceedingly happy you are, Joseph!" Happy, not so much for having



St. Thomas of Villanova

been privileged to witness the birth of Jesus, nor for having been chosen to play such an integral part in that birth, but happy for being capable of so great a love, the love of a father's heart, a love and happiness, therefore, that are not far from any of us.

In Paradisum



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

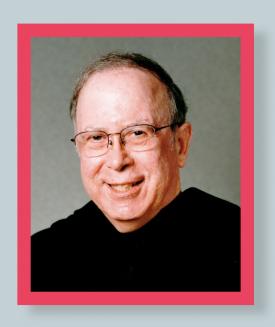
April 12, 1954 - February 13, 2021

oseph Francis Girone was born on April 12, 1954, in Bryn Mawr, PA, one of three sons of Joseph Girone and Angela Tate. He was baptized at St. Denis Church, Havertown, PA, on May 9, 1954 and attended St. Denis School and Archbishop Carroll High School, Radnor, PA. He enrolled at Villanova University in 1972 and was received into the Order as a novice in August 1974. Following his novitiate year in New Hamburg, NY, he professed simple vows on August 23, 1975 and then returned to Villanova where he completed his BS degree in Education in 1977. He pursued theological studies at the Washington Theological Union, Washington, DC, was solemnly professed in May 1980, and was awarded his MA in Theology in 1981. Joseph was ordained to the priesthood on September 19, 1981 at Our Mother of Good Counsel Church, Bryn Mawr, by Bishop Patrick Ahearn, Auxiliary Bishop of New York.

Fr. Joe's first assignment was to St. Nicholas of Tolentine Parish, the Bronx, NY as parochial vicar, where he ministered both to the English-speaking and Spanish-speaking parishioners. In 1988 he was also named director of Casa Tolentino, the initial formation program for Hispanic men discerning a vocation to the Order, and director of Hispanic Vocations for the province. In 1994, he volunteered for the Peruvian Missions and was named pastor of Parroquia San Jose Obrero in Chulucanas. He returned to the United States in 1999 and served as parochial vicar at Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Staten Island, NY. From 2001 to 2005, he was a member of the St. Augustine Friary Community, Villanova, while serving as Assistant Director of Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese of Wilmington, DE. In 2005, he returned to the Bronx as pastor of St. Nicholas of Tolentine Parish, where he remained until 2016 when he was transferred to St. Augustine Preparatory School, Richland, NJ, and became a member of the faculty.

In 2019, Fr. Joe began chemotherapy treatment for cancer but faithfully and determinedly continued his ministry in the classroom. In early 2021, he contracted the coronavirus and shortly after was admitted to the hospital. He passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 13, 2021 in AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center, Pomona, NJ.

Fr. Joe was a conscientious and dutiful religious, and a zealous pastor and educator, whose special interest was always for the poor, a significant factor in his apostolic preferences. Even in his last assignment in the classroom, he volunteered to spend the summer months ministering among the poor with our friars in Panama. Fr. Joe was 66 years old at his death and had been a professed religious for 45 years.



Father Richard L. Foley, O.S.A.

May 21, 1934 - March 12, 2021

ichard Leo Foley was born on May 21, 1934, in Salem, MA, the only child of Leo B. Foley and Mary E. Hyde, and was baptized on June 12, 1934, at Immaculate Conception Church, Salem. He attended St. Clement Academy, Canton, MA, Howe-Manning School, Middleton, MA, Richmond School, Danvers, MA, and St. John's Preparatory School, Danvers, MA. He transferred in 1951, before his last year of high school, to Augustinian Academy, Staten Island, NY, as a postulant. Dick was received into the Order as a novice on September 9, 1952, and following a year at Good Counsel Novitiate, New Hamburg, NY, he professed simple vows on September 10, 1953. He then attended Villanova University from which he received a BA degree in Philosophy in 1957. On September 10, 1956 he made his solemn profession of vows at Villanova. He pursued theological studies at Augustinian College from 1957 to 1961 and was ordained to the priesthood at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC, on June 4, 1960, by Bishop John McNamara. He also studied at LaSalle College, Philadelphia, PA, where he received an MA in Religious Education in 1971.

Fr. Foley was assigned to St. Joseph Friary and Msgr. Bonner High School, Drexel Hill, PA, where he taught from 1961 to 1968. He then taught for a year at Austin Preparatory School, Reading, MA. Beginning in 1969, and for the next forty-three years, he ministered as an associate in various parishes of the Province. From 1969 to 1976, he was assigned to St. Mary Parish, Waterford, NY. In that latter year he was transferred to St. Augustine Parish, Andover, MA, where he remained until 1982. He spent one year at Holy Rosary Parish, Lawrence, MA, and then went to St. Augustine Parish, Troy, NY in 1983. In 1992 he was reassigned to St. Augustine Parish, Andover, MA, until, in January 2012, he retired for health reasons to St. Thomas of Villanova Monastery, Villanova, PA. In the last several years there he was cared for in the Health Care Unit where he passed away on Friday, March 12, 2021 at the age of 86, in the 68th year of religious profession and the 60th of priesthood.

Fr. Foley was a quiet, reserved friar, who carried out his responsibilities with great thoroughness, especially notable in the preparation of his homilies. Though initially hesitant about the thought of leaving the smaller community lifestyle he had become accustomed to for the larger community experience of the Villanova monastery, he quickly adapted to his new environment and spoke gratefully of the opportunity that had been given him.

By Madonna Sutter, DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT

Join the Movement



Madonna Sutter Director of Advancement

Dear Friends of the Friars,

lmost three years ago, I thought that it would be special for the Augustinians to have their own giving day, separate from a #GivingTuesday. So, we began to outline what a giving day for the Augustinian Friars might look like.

Fr. Michael and I were driving back from a St. Augustine Prep event and he asked me if I had made any decisions on the date and the name of our giving day. I had not. He wanted to know what I thought of naming the day, Tolle Lege Day, and having it on April 24th, the Feast of the Conversion of St. Augustine. My first reaction was, I've heard the words "tolle lege", but I'm not sure what it means. As Fr. Michael explained the meaning of "tolle lege" and its significance to this special feast day for the Augustinians, he put to rest any doubt I had. In fact, I cannot think of a more fitting and unique brand for our giving day. Thank you, Fr. Michael!

We had planned to launch Tolle Lege Day in 2020 but due to the pandemic, we transitioned from a day of giving to a day of prayer. On April 24, 2021, we launched our first-ever giving day and what a day it was! Our results far exceeded anyone's expectations (see page 18). The generosity of friends and family of the friars was astonishing and overwhelming.

Our success was largely attributed to the 90 or so lay collaborators and friars who served as Tolle Lege Day Ambassadors. Their outreach to family and friends made the difference in our success. I hope that others will consider becoming Ambassadors next year. The sky will be the limit for Tolle Lege Day 2022 on Sunday, April 24, 2022.

Thank you to all our donors and volunteers who together made our first Tolle Lege Day a very special and memorable day for the Augustinians!

Madonna Sutter, Director of Advancement email: madonna.sutter@augustinian.org • phone: 267.272.3048

Ensuring A Strong Presence of Augustinians Into The Future



Photo taken on a visit to the Augustinian Mission in Chulucanas, Peru. (1-r) Fr. Richard D. Appicci, O.S.A. and Anthony Dellomo are in the foreground

came to Villanova University in 1961 from Staten Island. I was lost and home sick. I had the good fortune to meet Fr. Richard D. Appicci, O.S.A. who took me under his wing and guided my lost soul. I met many other Augustinians through him and attached myself to the Augustinian charism and mission.

My friendship with Fr. Appicci grew and I kept in touch with

his family and him after he went to Peru to be a missionary. Upon his return to Villanova 20 years later, I reconnected with him. I traveled to Peru many times and became devoted to helping others by his example.

I have supported the Richard D. Appicci, O.S.A. Fund through my annual gifts to continue his life's work. I have named the Augustinians in my will because I want my legacy to be the bright light for young people in their faith and in giving back to those less fortunate.

Without Fr. Appicci, I would have never finished Villanova. He provided the light for me, and I hope my legacy provides that light for others.



CELEBRATING 15 YEARS | 2006-2021



















The Augustinian Fund was established in 2006 to build a reliable source of annual revenue to assist the Province in meeting its financial responsibilities. Years ago, the friars' earned salaries were sufficient to cover all our expenses. Today, however, with fewer friars in active ministry and salaried we must rely on the generosity of friends and benefactors to help us sustain and grow our way of life and the ministries we perform.

Be the difference, donate today!

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Upcoming Events:

visit: AugustinianFund.org/Father-Riley

Inauguration of the Fr. George F. Riley, O.S.A. Fund for Augustinian HealthCare Saturday, October 23, 2021 (Villanova's Homecoming Weekend) 6:00 PM Cocktails; 7:00 PM Dinner Villanova University • 800 E. Lancaster Ave. • Villanova, PA To R.S.V.P. or to purchase an ad in honor of Fr. Riley after July 1, 2021,

Contact: Madonna Sutter • Director of Advancement

phone: 267.272.3048 • email: madonna.sutter@augustinian.org

Celebrating the Legacy and Alumni of Msgr. Bonner High School Saturday, November 13, 2021 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cocktail Reception Msgr. Bonner & Archbishop Prendergast High School 403 N. Lansdowne Ave. • Drexel Hill, PA To R.S.V.P after July 15, 2021, visit: AugustinianFund.org/Bonner

Contact: Julia Phifer • Associate Director of Advancement phone: 610.527.3330, ext. 239 • email: julia.phifer@augustinianfund.org



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