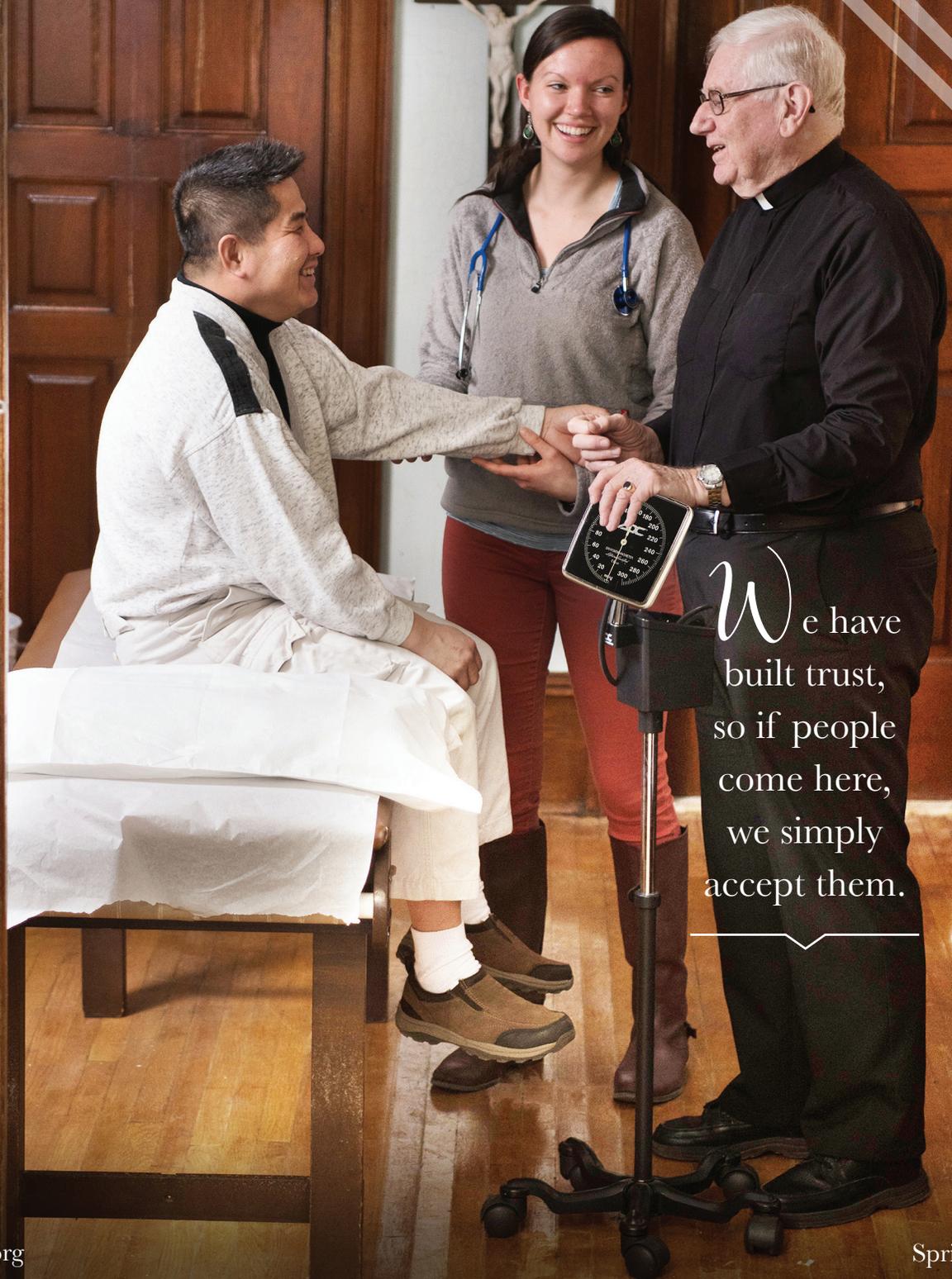


AUGUSTINIAN

Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova



We have
built trust,
so if people
come here,
we simply
accept them.

*Father Michael F. Di Gregorio, O.S.A., Prior Provincial
and the Augustinian Friars cordially invite you to the*

2018 SAINT AUGUSTINE MEDAL DINNER

HONORING

*The Most Reverend Louis A. DeSimone, D.D.
Retired Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia*



*Celebration of Mass 4:30 PM
Saint Thomas of Villanova Church
Villanova, Pennsylvania*

*Thursday, October 4, 2018
6:00 PM Cocktails
7:00 PM Dinner and Medal Presentation*

*The Philadelphia Country Club
1601 Spring Mill Road
Gladwyne, Pennsylvania*

*R.S.V.P. and Program Book Ad Deadline
September 4, 2018*

*To purchase a table, ticket or ad, visit:
AugustinianFund.org/medal-dinner*

*Proceeds to benefit the Care of the Elderly and Infirm Friars
Questions, contact Madonna Sutter, Director of Advancement
610.527.3330, ext. 265 or madonna.sutter@augustinian.org*



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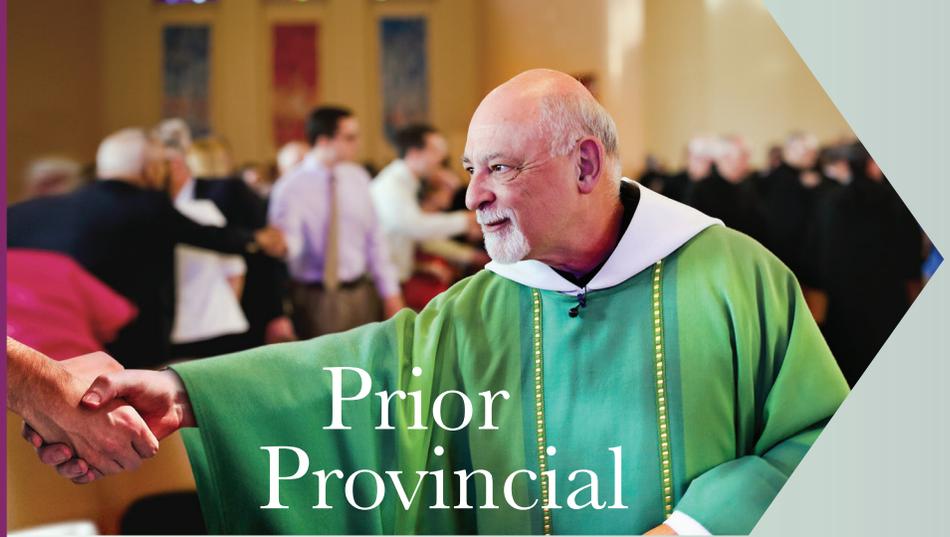
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*Dear Friends,*

Now that the long — and seemingly endless — winter has passed, and the bright warmth and vitality of spring has taken its place, many of us find ourselves occupied once again with rites of transition, such as school graduations, first communions, weddings or even retirement. For some of our friars, transition may take place by way of a change in local community or a new ministry! Many people are on the move once again — to vacation spots, summer homes, family gatherings and the like.

This is a Chapter Year for our Province, which means that in mid-June friars will converge on Villanova's campus to spend a week together — some 120 or so of us — deliberating on issues that pertain to our way of life, our ministries and to the selection of the individuals who will form a new province administration for the next four years. Transitions in leadership positions are also underway in some of our ministries. You will read more about all of these in the following pages.

It is no coincidence that this season that witnesses many changes comes in the wake of our Easter observance which proclaims at great length our conviction, rooted in the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection, that the ultimate transition from life to death is, in fact, a movement from one experience of life to another. Perhaps this is a useful way in which to reflect upon many of the far less definitive changes and transitions we experience continually along our journey. If some change or transition is in play for you, may it be gentle and life-giving.

Blessings,

Father Michael



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Prayer in a Community of Love

9



Our Mission

We Augustinians, inspired by the religious insight and teaching of Saint Augustine, and established as a Mendicant Order in the 13th Century, seek to live out our Christian vocation of love for God and neighbor in the fashion of Augustine, in communion of life and service to the Church. To seek God together is our common project. To share our discovery is our mission. Thus we have always been, and see ourselves still, as active contemplatives in the Church, called to impart to others the gifts we have received.

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Cover
A.D.R.O.P. Unity Clinic



Province

BY FATHER MICHAEL F. DI GREGORIO, O.S.A.

Some of you through this magazine, and others through personal contact with friars in one or another of our communities or ministries, are familiar with aspects of our Order's spirituality and the way in which we shape and order our lives as a religious community. You know that at certain fixed intervals, the friar whose name and face are identified with the office of Prior Provincial fades a bit into the background, and another takes his place. This is a healthy and positive feature of religious life which assures that leadership remain focused on the community it serves and not on the leader! Saint Augustine knew well the dangers and burdens which accompany leaders in the discharge of their responsibilities, and our Order wisely directs a limit to the term of office a leader may hold.



Life

a Time of Transition

The most recent transition in the ministry of Prior Provincial occurred four years ago this coming June when Father Mickey Genovese completed his term of office and the friars of the Province asked me to succeed him. Our process is a very democratic one in which every friar in solemn vows has an equal vote in the nomination and election of candidates for leadership. Several months ago, we initiated this process once again to surface nominees and then to elect the Prior Provincial for the period from June 2018 until June 2022. In February the ballots were counted, and my brothers asked me to continue for an additional four years.

The installation ceremony that inaugurates the new term of office will occur at the start of our Provincial Chapter in June, as it brings all Province members together for a weeklong gathering at Villanova. The Chapter is the true leadership body of the Province while it is in session. Here we review our life, discuss our present reality and plan into the future. We gather to pray and reflect, to discuss, to listen and make decisions. During this time, we will celebrate our brotherhood and our service to the Church. We will renew friendships and reminisce, break bread together and find ourselves refreshed. We will remember prayerfully and gratefully the twenty friars who have gone home to the Lord since June 2014, and we will celebrate the presence of those who have entered the community since then.



Leadership for Augustinians is not concentrated in a single individual. Accordingly, one of the responsibilities of the Provincial Chapter is the selection of friars who will form a Council of six members to advise and collaborate with the Prior Provincial in ordinary and extraordinary affairs of the Province. While the Prior Provincial nominates the individuals he would like to form this body, as well as the Province's Secretary and Treasurer, the membership must confirm them or choose others.

The election of an incumbent Prior Provincial to a second term suggests, of course, that there will be a reasonable amount of continuity from one term to the next, but it

does not signify that everything remains the same. An evaluation of four years of experience on the part of the leadership team as well as that of Province members,

“We gather to pray and reflect, to discuss, to listen and make decisions.”

together with the deliberations of the June Chapter and the program which it will approve, are all elements that will shape the direction of the Province for the coming term.

We invite you to join us in prayer during this period leading up to the Chapter and especially for its duration from June 10th to 15th, that we might listen well to God and to one another, be open and courageous, creative and energetic, generous and faithful in our desire to renew Augustinian life and in our service to the Church. ✠

2018 Provincial Chapter — Augustinians of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova will gather at Villanova this June 11-15. Father Michael Di Gregorio, O.S.A., who was re-elected to the position of Prior Provincial for a second term, will be installed at a Mass on Monday evening, June 11, at Saint Thomas of Villanova Church.

Pave the Way

the Rule

By JOANNA BOWEN



One does not have to spend much time with an Augustinian Friar in order to learn about the importance of community life. Friars share both material and spiritual goods as they travel together on a path to know God and serve others, living out Saint Augustine's *Rule* in the 21st century. In approximately the year 400, Saint Augustine wrote the *Rule*, a guide to intentional religious community life. Today, the *Rule* is one of the oldest monastic rules in the Church and followed by the Augustinian Friars and a diversity of religious orders across the world.



Volunteers

The Augustinian Volunteers began in 2000, with the hope of providing opportunities for young, lay people to journey together on a path of self-discovery and personal growth while creating an intentional way of living with one another. Additionally, this program would allow friars to introduce the Augustinian way of life to individuals who were committed to serving the poor and marginalized in partnership with the Order. As Father Joseph Mostardi, O.S.A., founder of the Augustinian Volunteers explained, "The legacy of Augustine should not and cannot be reserved only for friars."



Therefore, similarly to the Augustinian Friars, intentional community life plays a central role in the life of the Augustinian Volunteers. Volunteers are asked to prioritize community life and to seek opportunities to grow together in a community of love.

Communicating the Rule

The challenge then was how to communicate the *Rule* to young adults, who were committing themselves to the Augustinian Volunteers for only a year. Augustinian Friars

have their whole lives to learn how to live in intentional community, but Volunteers would have a finite amount of time to explore these values. Additionally, virtually all Volunteers are recent college graduates, exiting a time in their lives where individuality is prized, and independence is valued. "We needed to find a way to share what we [Augustinians] believe as a valid lifestyle based on the Scriptures to advocate for the Common Good as not just for Augustinians but for everyone who believes that we can share in common what we possess while sharing with those less fortunate than ourselves," Father Joe Mostardi says. "The *Rule* of Saint Augustine offers a method to anyone wishing to follow Christ in a more dedicated fashion without having to enter a religious community." With some creativity, building materials, and a little paint, Father Joe was able to practically communicate the *Rule* and its relevance to the community experience to volunteers.

Orientation

Each August, Volunteers participate in an eight-day orientation to mark the beginning of their term of service. For the first time, Volunteers meet their community members in person, share meals with Augustinian Friars, and connect with alumni of the program. It is at this time that Volunteers first explore the values that are part of living in a lay intentional religious community. To illustrate these values, Father Joe created 8 concrete pavers. Each paver represents a theme taken from Augustine's *Rule*, and one is revealed each day of orientation, creating a literal and metaphorical path for volunteers to follow while equipping them with tools and ideas that are necessary for harmony and growth in community life.



The pavers have become a beloved orientation tradition that are still used today. With dimensions of 18 inches squared and weighing nearly 20 pounds each, the pavers are a solid visual aid that cannot be ignored. The path begins with the same words that open the *Rule*, asking Volunteers to live with "one mind and heart intent upon God." Volunteers begin their journey by first looking inward: examining their identity, values, and their desires to be in service to one another. As the week continues, each new paver helps volunteers explore a different facet of community life, such as recognizing the diversity of thought, personality, and spirituality, seeking ways to

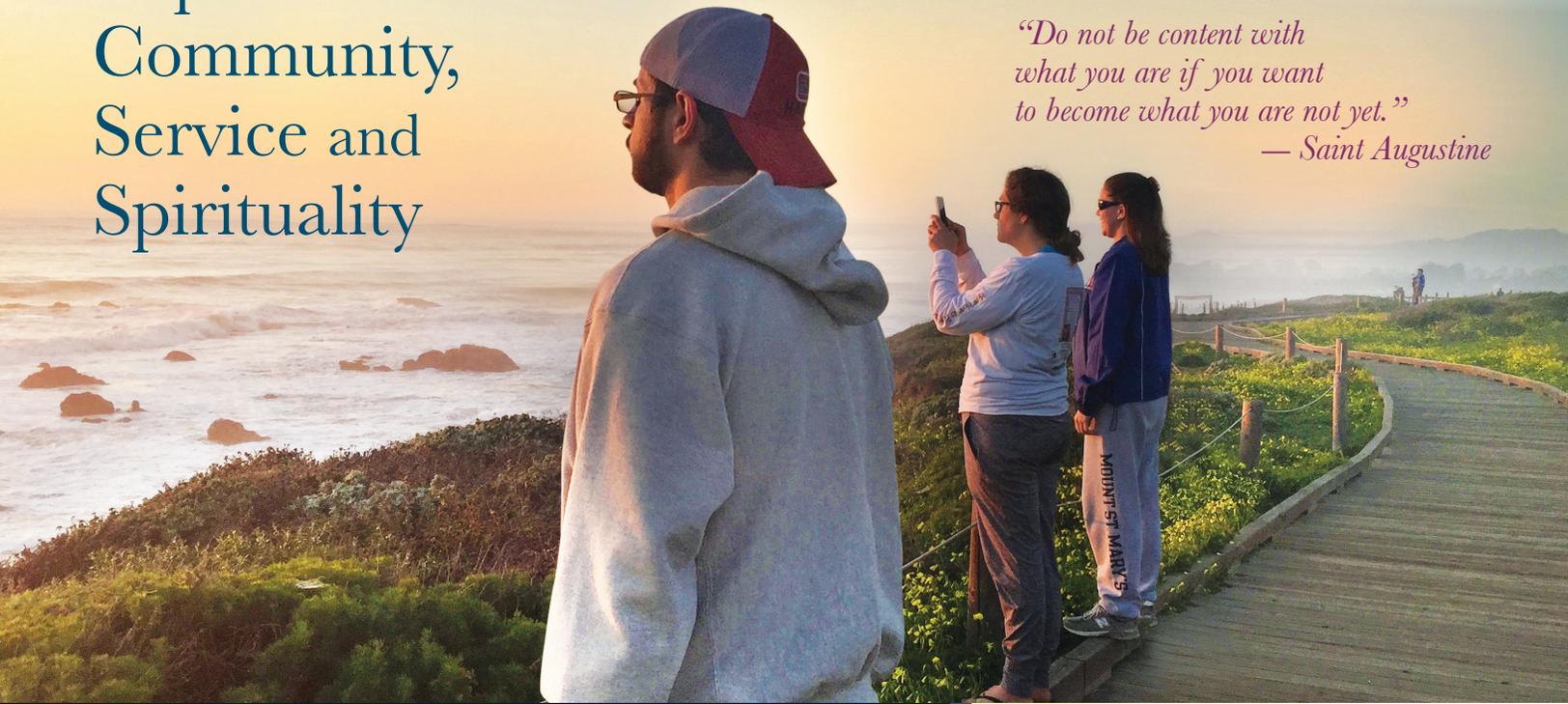
make sacrifices for the common good, and learning strategies to resolve conflict.

1600 years ago, when Augustine created his *Rule*, it's unlikely that he could have ever imagined that it would inspire a humble group of young adults on another continent to seek lives of faith and service. As Father Joe explains, "These young adults who have been a part of this

program for over 18 years are some of our best advocates as they continue to do service as married couples or single lay folks, sharing with their family and friends the legacy of this great saint. They not only support us in our ministry but continue to share with others the value of an Augustinian, mindset based on the philosophy and theology of Saint Augustine." ☩

Experience Community, Service and Spirituality

*"Do not be content with
what you are if you want
to become what you are not yet."*
— Saint Augustine



Are you a recent or soon to be college grad looking for an experience that will change your life?

Apply today: AugustinianVolunteers.org

Our Team



Joanna Bowen
Director



Hannah Kunberger
Associate Director



Taylor Gostonski
Assistant Director

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Pope Francis Coat of Arms

An Inspiring Welcome

On Saturday, April 14, 2018 at 12:10 pm, Pope Francis received in audience in the Clementine Hall of the Vatican, a delegation of Villanova University.



Dear Friends,

I am pleased to welcome you, Father President, the Council and the Board of Trustees of Villanova University, on the occasion of your meeting in Rome. I pray that your time in the Eternal City will be a source of spiritual renewal for each of you.

As an heir to the great Augustinian tradition of learning inspired by the pursuit of divine wisdom, your University was founded to preserve and pass on the richness of the Catholic tradition to new generations of students, who, like the young Augustine, seek true meaning and value in true life. In fidelity to this vision, the University, as a community of research and study, must also address the complex ethical and cultural challenges raised by the epochal changes affecting our world today. It is my hope that in every aspect of its life and mission, Villanova University will persevere in its efforts to communicate the intellectual, spiritual and moral values that will enable young people to participate wisely and responsibly in the great debates shaping the future of society.



One urgent aspect of this educational task is the development of a universal, "catholic" vision of the unity of our human family and a commitment to the practical solidarity needed to combat the grave inequalities and injustices that mark today's world. Universities, by their very nature, are called to be workshops of dialogue and encounter in the service of truth, justice and the defense of human dignity at every level. This is especially true of Catholic institutions like your own, which contribute to the Church's mission of promoting the authentic and integral growth of the human family towards its definitive fullness in God (cf. Ap. Const. *Veritatis Gaudium*, 1). No one knew better than Saint Augustine the restlessness of the human heart until it finds its rest in the God who, in Jesus Christ, reveals to us the deepest truth about our lives and our ultimate destiny. May these days of reflection, discussion and encounter confirm you in your commitment to the University's mission in the service of the truth that makes us free (cf. Jn 8:32).

With affection I commend you and your families, and the entire Villanova community, to the prayers of Saints Augustine and Monica, and to all I impart my Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of joy and peace in the Risen Lord Jesus.

Franciscus



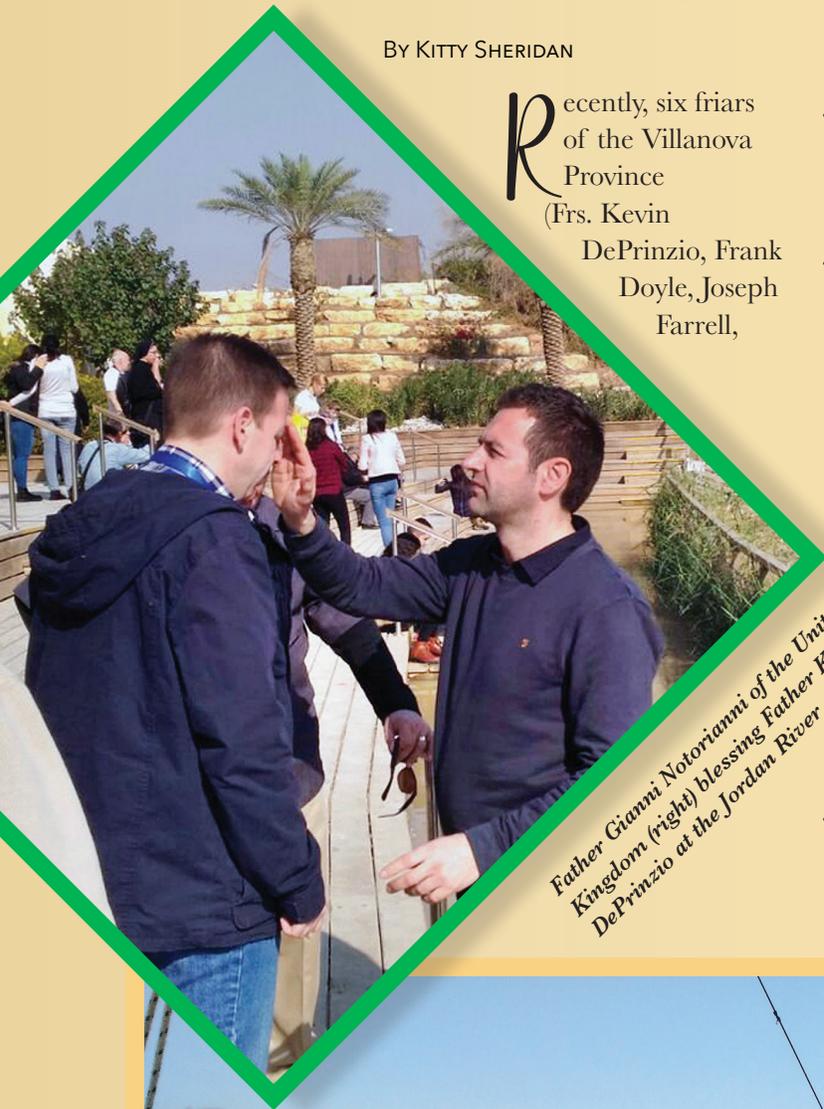
Friars on Pilgrimage

BY KITTY SHERIDAN

Recently, six friars of the Villanova Province (Frs. Kevin DePrinzio, Frank Doyle, Joseph Farrell,

Joe Mostardi, Craig McMahon, and Liam O'Doherty) made an eight-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land together with friars Gianni Notarianni of the Province of England and Scotland, and Hiroyuki Shibata, of the Vicariate of Japan. Together they visited a great many of the holy sites familiar by name to Christians everywhere — Bethany, Capernaum, Caesarea, Gethsemane, Jerusalem, the Mount of Olives — to name a few, under the guidance of a Palestinian Christian, who had grown up in the old city of Jerusalem, just yards from the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. His familiarity with the itinerary, coupled with his knowledge of scripture, archeology and theology, helped to make the journey an interesting, as well as a moving experience.

The trip had been a desire of several friars since 1999, but it never got off the ground until several months ago. When the decision to make it a reality was taken, Father Mostardi set out with a plan. “After reading Jim Martin’s book on Pilgrimage, I decided that the trip should be in the winter not summer given the heat and humidity of Israel.” With that piece in place, the friars from the Villanova Province departed on January 3, 2018.



Father Gianni Notarianni of the United Kingdom (right) blessing Father Kevin DePrinzio at the Jordan River



The pilgrims on a boat on the Sea of Galilee (left to right) Fathers Hiroyuki Shibata, O.S.A., Joseph Farrell, O.S.A., Joseph Mostardi, O.S.A., Craig McMahon, O.S.A., Gianni Notarianni, O.S.A., Kevin DePrinzio, O.S.A., Frank Doyle, O.S.A., and Liam O'Doherty, O.S.A.

to the Holy Land

Two of them had been to the Holy Land previously. Father Frank Doyle, had travelled there 30 years earlier, but



Father Hiroyuki Shibata, of the Vicariate of Japan, celebrating Mass

not as a pilgrim, and Father Liam had been there also, but on business. For the others, it was a first-time journey. Father Doyle made note of the big difference of being with a group of friars this time.

Each morning, one of the friars celebrated Mass for the group in one of the holy sites. On the first day, they visited Nazareth, the site of the Angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she was to be the Mother of God. It was Father Liam who celebrated there and who remarked how thrilling it was to be "within feet of where the Mystery of the Incarnation began," and where Father Farrell noted the excitement he felt seeing the place where "The Word became flesh." Here, at the conclusion of Mass, the friars joined in singing the *Salve Regina*.

At the site of the Sermon on the Mount, where Jesus preached to over 5000 people, the natural acoustics of the area were tested as one friar, without a megaphone or amplification of any kind spoke, and the others

standing 100 yards away were able to hear him clearly, demonstrating how such a great crowd could have heard

Jesus as he preached. Father Doyle recalled the Mass at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre as one of his favorite memories. This site is the location of the shrine of Jesus' tomb, now enclosed within a

large church. All eight friars stood shoulder to shoulder in the small inner space as Father Gianni celebrated the Mass at the spot where Jesus' body was placed after the crucifixion and where he rose from the dead.

A highlight for all the pilgrims was visiting the Jordan River on the very Feast of the Epiphany, where the Gospel passage of Jesus' Baptism was read. The friars renewed their Baptismal vows and then each dipped his hand into the Jordan River and traced the sign of the cross on another's forehead.

As for the spiritual impact of the pilgrimage: it will be ongoing, as the friars continue to

read and digest the scriptures and continue preaching. Travelling in the land where Our Lord was born, gathered his disciples, preached, was crucified, died and rose, was a moving experience and offered new perspectives on the Gospel. Several friars remarked on the pleasure they had in making this pilgrimage in the company of their Augustinian brothers, the honor of being able to celebrate the Mass daily in the holy places, and the opportunities they had experienced not only for spiritual growth, but the gift of grace that this pilgrimage brought them. As one friar commented, "If anyone is thinking of going to the Holy Land — or on any other pilgrimage — my advice is to do it and not put it off any longer. It is well worth it!" †

Salve Regina

Sung at the conclusion of Mass, on the first day they visited Nazareth, the site of the Angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she was to be the Mother of God.

*Mother of mercy:
our life, sweetness, and hope, hail.
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.
To you we sigh, mourning and weeping
in this valley of tears.
Turn then, our advocate,
those merciful eyes
toward us.
And Jesus, the blessed fruit of thy womb,
after our exile, show us.
O clement, O loving, O sweet
Virgin Mary.*

Vocation Motivation

BY FATHER JOSEPH NAROG, O.S.A.

Simply put, a vocation is “a summons or strong inclination to a particular state, way of life, or course of action.” What is it that God is calling us to do with the life that we’ve been given? With each vocation there comes a specific and often unique story. We each have a story. And, in recalling that story, I contend that it can energize us. I’ve seen this from my own experience, as I’ve shared my Augustinian vocation story with others — or when I’ve asked couples to recount how they met and eventually got married. Drawing on the energy of our stories, it’s my hope that we would become motivated to consider how we might play a role in vocation promotion, particularly to the Augustinian way of life. For I truly believe that we’re all vocation promoters; it’s not just a saying or a theory!



*Father Joseph Narog, O.S.A.
Director of Vocations*

Reflections

How was I attracted to the Augustinians and where did it lead me?

Father Kail Ellis, O.S.A.

My father was a Maronite Christian from Lebanon who settled with others from his village in Carthage, a small town in northern New York State, close to the Canadian border. It had long, bitter winters and short summers. I always wished it were warmer and less isolated. To paraphrase Humphrey Bogart: “Of all the places in all the towns in all the US, why did he have to settle there?”

As fate would have it, Carthage had something a lot of other places didn’t have — a church staffed by the Augustinians and a school, Augustinian Academy. My mother, who when she first came to the US spoke no English, but was fluent Arabic and French, found a friend in a French-Canadian Augustinian priest, Father Alfred Valiquette, O.S.A., with whom she could converse and receive the sacraments. She became fond of him and named my brother after him (“Alfred,” not “Valiquette”). My mother had a liking for priests, as she named another brother after a French Jesuit she knew in Lebanon, Father Joseph Delore. I am glad she stopped there; I have no idea what she would have come up with next.

While not named for an Augustinian, I was baptized by Father Edward B. May, O.S.A. I assume there was something in the holy water he poured over my head that drew me to the church. In reality, I think it was my mother as she was always dragging me to Mass, benediction and novenas. Later, I became an altar boy, and seemed permanently assigned to the 7 a.m. weekday Masses. After graduating from Augustinian Academy, I enrolled in the Jesuit LeMoyne College in Syracuse.

I had great experiences there, both academically and spiritually, and I began to consider seriously the priesthood. My father wanted me to join the newly established Maronite diocese in the US, but I felt called to the Augustinians because of their rich history and strong community life. The Augustinians I knew in Carthage were very kind and supportive.

I will always be grateful for the understanding and support I had during my seminary experience. One incident stands out. The daily seminary routine soon began to wear on me, and I became overwhelmed and depressed. One day, I stayed in my room. The master of students, Father Joe Keffer, came to visit — not to reprimand me, but to ask how I was doing and to encourage me.

Another important matter is that I was never discouraged in my studies. I wanted to get a master's degree in political science at Villanova; I did. I wanted to pursue a PhD in international studies and take courses in Middle East studies at The Catholic University and Georgetown; permission was readily granted.

After completing my PhD, Father John Driscoll, O.S.A., the president of Villanova, appointed me director of summer sessions and assistant professor of political science at the university. Five years later, he selected me as dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, a position I held for twenty-five years. In 2010, Father Peter Donohue, O.S.A., appointed me vice president for Academic Affairs. When I left that position in 2015, Father Donohue appointed me assistant to the president and dean emeritus of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

In my current position, I conduct research, write articles, edit a journal, and organize conferences in two areas that I love: the Middle East and the legacy of Gregor Mendel.

When I look back on my beginnings, I have to credit my immigrant father — and mother — who settled in that small northern town where the Augustinians served so long and so well. ✠



Parents of Father Ellis



My Augustinian Inspiration

Father Keith Hollis, O.S.A.

As a child, my home parish was Saint Augustine in Troy, New York. At a young age, I was impressed by the friars' attitude toward others. In their unique ways, they were always trying to make others' lives better. To me, the Augustinians' willingness to demonstrate and trust God's love to show up for others was awe-inspiring and I wanted to be just like them.

Today, I anticipate that within the flow of my day, something wonderful will happen. Situations and occasions are opportunities for me to get curious, be present and see what is needed for God's glory to shine. Every day I wake up and ask, "What will I do to help to make someone else's life better?"

*"United in One Mind
and Heart on the
Way to God."
— Saint Augustine*

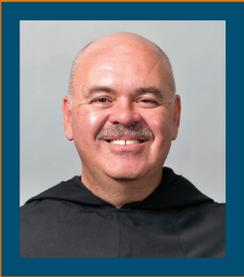
Contact Us!

Augustinian Vocation Office
email: vocations@augustinian.org
phone: 610.519.4674

Augustinian Defenders

BY CHER A. RAGO

Our Unity Clinic



*Outgoing Executive Director of A.D.R.O.P.,
Father Anthony Burrascano, O.S.A.*



*A.D.R.O.P. client with Father Deegan
and Augustinian Volunteer, Kelsey Rode*

A.D.R.O.P.'s Focus:

Educational Programs — An afterschool program, which offers tutoring two days a week at St. Anthony of Padua school in South Philadelphia.

Unity Clinic — A.D.R.O.P.'s Unity Clinic is a primary care clinic for the uninsured and underinsured of Philadelphia.

Restorative Justice/Adeodatus Prison Ministry — This ministry endeavors to foster the awareness of Christ in the lives of those on both sides of the prison walls. The Adeodatus Spiritual Support Group is for ex-inmates and their families.

About A.D.R.O.P.

The Augustinian Defenders of the Rights of the Poor, well known as A.D.R.O.P., was created with great care and thought by Father John E. Deegan, O.S.A. It is a non-profit organization that is an action arm of the Augustinian Office of Justice and Peace. Since Father Deegan's ordination in 1961, he describes most of his work as administrative. It was not until the end of his term as Prior Provincial in 2002, that he acted on his desire to get involved with Catholic Social Teaching.

History

Father Deegan clearly wanted to focus on Philadelphia because it is the place where the first Augustinian foundation was formed in 1796. Interested contributors to the new Saint Augustine Church were President George Washington,

of the Rights of the Poor



Father Deegan pictured with Belle Erickson, PhD, RN, Villanova University Retired and Emeriti Faculty, along with Villanova University nursing students right before doors opened to A.D.R.O.P.'s Unity Clinic

“Praise God with your whole self, that is not only with your tongue and voice but with your conscience, with your life and your works.”
— Saint Augustine

Commodore John Barry, Congressman Thomas Fitzsimons, and the financier Stephen Girard. Saint Augustine Church still sits today at Fourth and Vine Streets in Philadelphia. It was from these roots Father Deegan took initiative and began his mission in Philadelphia. He kept close the grounded principles of Catholic Social Teaching and the Augustinian spirit of service. Father Deegan points out, “By these principles, I was guided to lead my fellow Augustinian Brothers and the legions of dedicated lay men and women to serve our less fortunate brothers and sisters.”

A Response to a Need

To begin, Father Deegan and his team, through numerous meetings and surveys, examined the needs of the people in South Philadelphia, where the offices of A.D.R.O.P. were opened. The results identified a pressing need for primary care. A.D.R.O.P., compassionately responded by implementing the Unity Clinic, a place where the uninsured and underinsured can find primary care at no cost. Father Deegan created a collaborative model and joined with his resources to effect change. Our dear friend and Affiliate of the Order of Saint Augustine, the late Louise Fitzpatrick, dean of Villanova University’s College of Nursing, took the reins and lent a

hand to bring Father Deegan’s vision to life. In addition to the talents of the lay men and women who volunteer their time, Methodist Hospital Foundation’s generosity has also contributed to shape the Unity Clinic. Father Deegan expresses his gratitude, “Relationships and resources provided significant opportunity that was much greater than I had ever envisioned.”

The Unity Clinic’s home is located in the rectory of Saint Edmond’s Church and is a treasure, for there are only a few rare classic red-brick churches in the city. This massive structure is surprisingly situated in the middle of a neighborhood of row homes and surrounded by beautiful poised London planetrees which are known for thriving in adverse areas. Inside, the rectory is warm and inviting. The space has a homelike feel with a backdrop of rich, warm craftsmanship. There is an instant element of

The Vision Evolves

This June 20th, a shift will take place and A.D.R.O.P.'s team of missionaries will change. Our Prior Provincial, Father Michael Di Gregorio, O.S.A., comments, "Our current work on the Province's Strategic Planning Process provides an appropriate moment to look again at A.D.R.O.P.'s goals and programs, as well as the Church's many needs, in order to choose well our direction for the future."

Lacie Michaelson will begin her position as the new Director of A.D.R.O.P. Lacie is an alumna of the Augustinian Volunteer Program with service in Peru, as well as a graduate of Villanova's Campus Ministry Intern Program. She comes to her new position familiar with Augustinian values and spirituality and with fluency in the Spanish language, which can help A.D.R.O.P. in outreach at South Philly, the Bronx and Lawrence. At the same time, Father Arthur Purcaro, O.S.A., succeeds Father Deegan as Chair of A.D.R.O.P.'s Board of Directors. A great debt of gratitude is owed to Father Deegan for the vision and dedication with which he founded A.D.R.O.P. and has directed it until now in collaboration with others who have held the position of Director: Andrew Slike, Joseph Micucci, and more recently Father Tony Burrascano." ✠

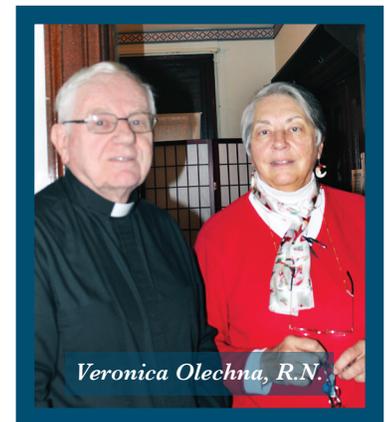
comfort offered as one who enters is greeted by the many dedicated and caring

volunteers. Father Deegan explains, "We have built trust, so if a person comes here, we simply accept them." This acceptance is a steadfast characteristic of an Augustinian.

Why It Matters

The Augustinians have been noted for many years as being educators and pastors. Being involved with the people of God in their everyday struggles, joys and successes is characteristic of an Augustinian ministry. Father Deegan embraces wholeheartedly the tenets of Catholic Social Teaching and affirms the need to educate ourselves and those to whom we minister on the basics of Catholic Social Teaching. However, education alone is not enough. We must put our beliefs into action. Father Deegan describes this path, "The physical works of mercy compel us to leave our ivory tower of academe and go out into the highways and byways of the world to bring the healing touch of God to our needy brothers and sisters. That is the reason that we get involved with a health clinic, which brings a healing touch to the body."

"We can not do without our clinic manager, Veronica Olechna's dedication and organization," says Father Deegan



Veronica Olechna, R.N.

What did I LEARN from an AUGUSTINIAN?

By JOE MICUCCI



Community Outreach

A Walk Down South Broad to Support Health Education & Care to the Underserved Organized by A.D.R.O.P. & Methodist Hospital Foundation raised more than \$3,000 on Saturday, June 2. You can still show your support for the cause at MethHospFdn.org/walk.

In 1961, Father Deegan taught me that the Augustinians stood for more than donuts and juice after serving Mass in the Bonner monastery basement; they stood for community, sharing and service to others.



1964 Monsignor Bonner yearbook photo: Joe Micucci (left) and Father Deegan (right)

In the late 60s and 70s, when the Church was going through the changes of Vatican II, he taught me that friendship was more important than ideology. In the 80s and 90s, he taught me that friendship picks up wherever it leaves off when you live in different places, as life fills your time, and you only get to enjoy an occasional dinner.

In the late 90s and early 2000s, he taught me that leadership is service to others, as he served as the Augustinian Provincial. As we moved further into the new century, he taught me that it is important to do concrete things to live your Christian values and, like Pope Francis would eventually tell us, "love of the poor is central to the gospel." And most

recently, he has taught me that you need justice to have peace and that the ministry of A.D.R.O.P., is the praxis arm of the Augustinian commitment to the poor. Father Deegan, like Augustine, is still restless and teaching and I am still learning.

Austin Scholars

BY FATHER RAYMOND F. DLUGOS, O.S.A.



Learning to Live with Augustinian Values

Growing in awareness of themselves and others while living closely together in community, pursuing knowledge and wisdom through study and learning, and generously offering themselves in the service of those in need all the while forming lifelong friendships, the Austin Scholars Living Learning Community at Merrimack College embodies the values arising from the Augustinian Tradition.

The Austin Scholars Community currently consists of 73 first year students and 36 second year students. In the next academic year, 64 new first year students will join the community while many of the current students will continue for their second and third years respectively.

Under the direction of Sister Jeanne Gribaudo, CSJ, Professor of Practice in

the Department of Religious and Theological Studies, and with the support of a generous grant from the Flatley Family Foundation, the Austin Scholars have evolved into one of Merrimack College's most distinctive signature

programs in fulfillment of the College's Mission to Enlighten Minds, Engage Hearts, and Empower Lives through the inspiration of the Catholic Faith and the Augustinian Tradition.

Students are accepted into the Austin Scholars program based on their willingness to incorporate intentional community living and service to the wider community into their college experience and academic program. The first year Austin Scholars share life together on two full wings of Ash Center, the oldest residence hall on the campus, while the second year Austin Scholars all share suites in the same building of the South Residential Village, one of the newest residence



Father Ray Dlugos, O.S.A., with the Austin Scholars, living the Mission of Merrimack College: Enlighten Minds, Engage Hearts, and Empower Lives through the inspiration of the Catholic Faith and the Augustinian Tradition

halls on campus. This close proximity to peers who share many of the same values and interests promotes close bonding and friendship quickly. But as is true in all human relationships, conflicts inevitably arise, the reality that community and friendship do not happen naturally and by magic emerges, and the skills and choices necessary for relationships to deepen and flourish need to be made. The Austin Scholars community provides the opportunities to learn these skills and make these choices and so prepare themselves well for every relationship they will have for the rest of their lives.

Each semester, the Austin Scholars take at least one academic course together and so add the additional shared experience of reading the same books, studying for the same tests, writing the same papers, and engaging the same questions. Sharing courses in Philosophy, Theology, the Life and Thought of Saint Augustine, and Christian Social Ethics invites the Austin Scholars to not only help each other succeed academically but engages their minds and hearts in the most foundational questions about life, its meaning, purpose and value; their particular call

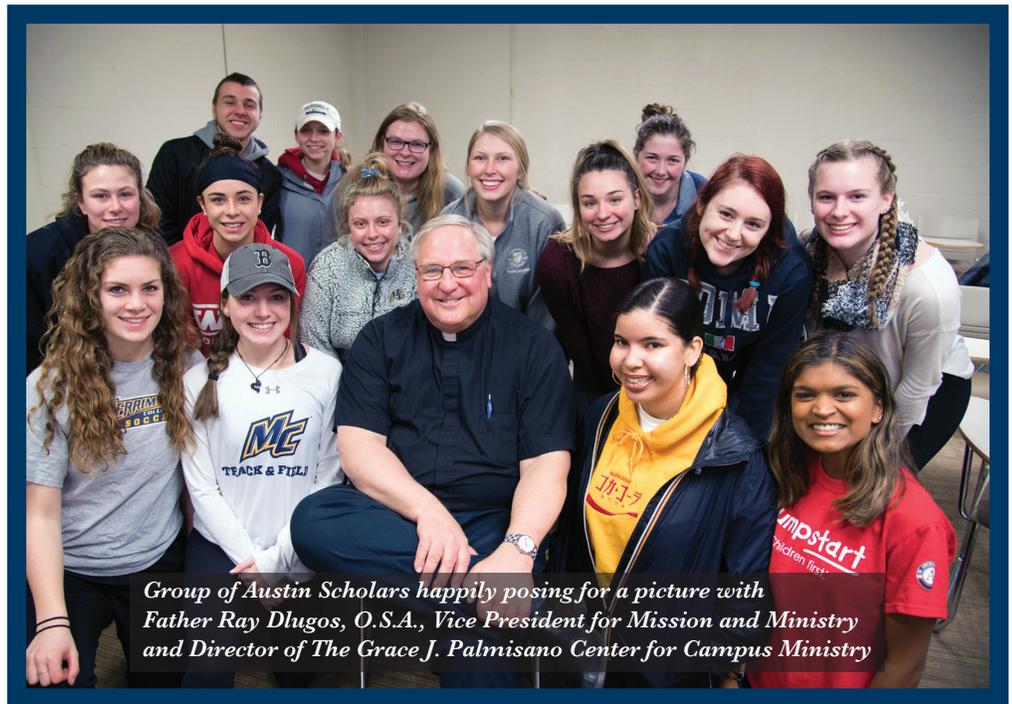
and responsibility that each of us has to God, each other, and to ourselves.

“Being an Austin Scholar has completely changed my college experience. It has shaped and formed me into the person I am today. It has made me realize how serving others can change not only other people’s lives but also mine.”

— Gabby Griffiths, 2nd year Austin Scholar



In addition to these typical and normal experiences for college students, each Austin Scholar is expected to spend 2 to 4 hours per week engaged in volunteer service to the wider community and



Group of Austin Scholars happily posing for a picture with Father Ray Dlugos, O.S.A., Vice President for Mission and Ministry and Director of The Grace J. Palmisano Center for Campus Ministry

especially to the least and most vulnerable of other brothers and sisters. Based on their interest and availability, Austin Scholars are placed at sites such as Mary Immaculate Health/Care Services in Lawrence, where they assist with the care and companionship of the elders of our community; Lawrence Catholic Academy, the Hands to Help Community Outreach Center, and

“The Austin Scholars are a community of peers who teach each other values that help us to grow in our spirituality and our academics. Being an Austin Scholar has taught me more about my own faith and what I can learn from a community that shares my values.”

— Kristen Scheeler, 2nd year Austin Scholar



Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School in Lawrence, as well as the Saint Louis School in Lowell, Mass., where they tutor, mentor, and befriend elementary and high school students; Lazarus House, the Cor Unum Meal Center, the Merrimack Valley Food Bank, where they help to feed the hungry and provide basic essentials for the poor and homeless; and the Notre Dame Educational Center in

Lawrence, where they assist immigrants to



the Austin Scholars and share his perspective of the world with them. This expands the number of Augustinian Friars the students meet beyond the handful of us that are living and serving at Merrimack College and to taste some of rich diversity of the Order. In February of 2017, Father Art Purcaro, O.S.A., spoke to the Austin Scholars about his passion for evangelization and service to the poor in the missions of Peru; in October of 2017, Father Rob Hagan, O.S.A., shared with the Austin

Walsh of the City of Boston, who shared his very Catholic perspective on public service and in March of 2018, they spent an evening with Cardinal Sean O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap., Archbishop of Boston, reflecting together on service to others.

Although very busy with all of this, Austin Scholars are strongly encouraged to become involved with the rest of life on the campus of Merrimack College. Many become Resident Advisors and Orientation Leaders. Several

“Austin Scholars has helped me open my eyes to those around me and realize my call to serve others. It has inspired me to get more involved and realize that I am passionate about working with inner city youth.”

— Sarah Whittier, 2nd year Austin Scholar

are Varsity Athletes and many more play club and intramural sports, with rugby having emerged as their sport of choice. They participate in the MORE retreat program available to all students and many assist as

our community to learn English and to navigate their way into our community.

Special events, speakers, and retreats scheduled throughout the year allow the Austin Scholars to slow down a bit and allow some deeper integration of all of these experiences to take place. Each year, Sister Jeanne invites an “Augustinian of Note” to meet

Scholars the profound spiritual journey on which he accompanied the Men’s Basketball Team at Villanova as they won the National Championship; and in the Fall of 2018, Father Joe Farrell, O.S.A., Vicar General of the Order in Rome, will visit the Austin Scholars to share his experience of the Order throughout the world. Austin Scholars have also met and heard from Mayor Marty

ministers at Sunday Liturgy. Individually they pursue their own academic major and develop their own interests and skills in all of the various student clubs and organizations. With that wider involvement, the Austin Scholars bring to the whole campus a visible, tangible, and very real experience of being Augustinian. ✠

“I have been very privileged to witness these students growing in their own personal confidence and sense of self efficacy as a result of being in a situation that is outside their comfort zone and discovering that they are equal to the challenge. I have seen them grow in their understanding of how much they share in common with others who at first seem so different.”

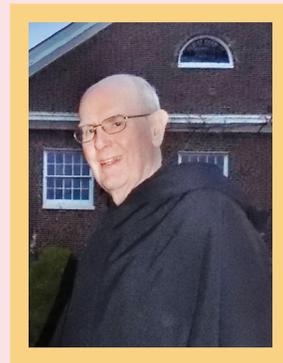
— Father Raymond F. Dlugos, O.S.A.

On The Move

Friars Make an Impact

Father Bill Waters, O.S.A., Creates a Lenten Program to Help the Community

Father Bill Waters, O.S.A., chaplain of the Philadelphia Drug Enforcement Administration and pastor at Saint Augustine Parish in Philadelphia implemented a Lenten Program focused on the use of drugs and addiction in our society with the goal of responding to “moral issues.” To aid in the need for change, Father Bill, along with a diverse group of parishioners, ranging from 20 to 70 years of age, including those married and single, a doctor, and a recovering addict, met each week during the six weeks of Lent. By referencing a Netflix series called *Dope* as an education piece the first four weeks, and then, brainstorming a response and creating a plan of action, the group rendered success as they are well on their way toward set goals. An uplifted participant noted, “It has been optimistic to be with a group of people who want to make a difference.”



Bryan Kerns, O.S.A., On His Way to Priesthood!

Brother Bryan Kerns was ordained to the diaconate on February 4, 2018 at Saint Augustine Parish in Andover, Mass., by Bishop Mark O’Connell of the Boston Archdiocese.

He will be ordained to the priesthood on June 15, 2018 at Saint Thomas of Villanova Church.



Bryan shares his thoughts as he approaches his final step to priesthood, “Often, after I have gone to confession,

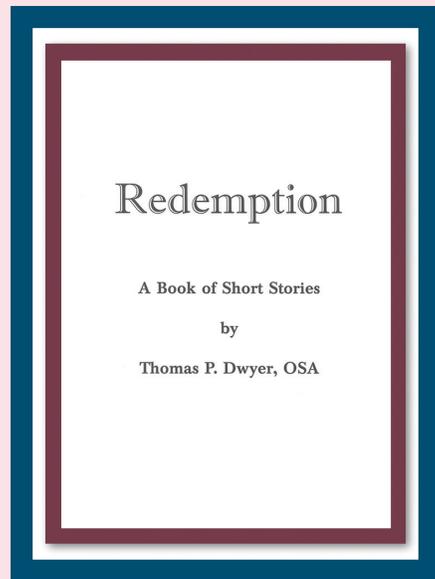
I think of what an overwhelming privilege it must be for the confessor to be with penitents at their most vulnerable, coming before the throne of God’s mercy to seek absolution, and how fundamentally humbling it must be for the priest to offer absolution and in some mysterious way aid the action of God’s mercy.

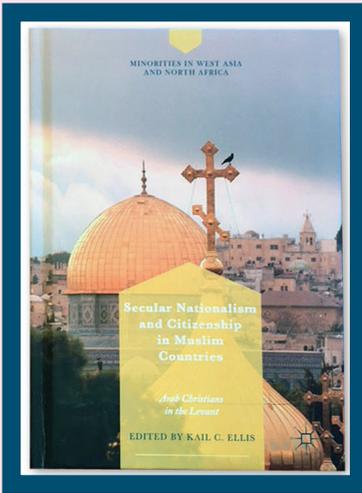
“With that in mind, ordination to the priesthood is not something upon which I embark lightly, and in fact I do

so with hands that tremble just a little. Not out of any reluctance or fear, but rather in view of the awesomeness of the responsibility conferred upon those who receive Holy Orders and of the trust that will be placed in me by the Church, the Order, and our Province.”

Tom Dwyer, O.S.A., Authors Short Stories

Father Thomas Dwyer, O.S.A., has written a collection of short stories that have been published in a volume titled *Redemption*. This is the third collection of short stories written by Father Tom, who served over 50 years as a missionary in Japan. In addition to the three volumes of short stories, he also wrote a book about his experiences as a missionary in Japan.





Kail Ellis, O.S.A., Edits Volume on Middle East

Father Kail Ellis, O.S.A., has edited a volume titled *Secular Nationalism and Citizenship in Muslim Countries, Arab Christians in the Levant*.

Father Kail serves at Villanova University as Assistant to the President and as a Professor of Political Science. Authors examine the Middle East, including the roots of Christianity, Arab-Islamic politics and the topics of religious freedom and human rights.

Augustinian Spirituality Course Held in Rome

Several friars from the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova participated in teaching classes for a course of study in Augustinian Spirituality that was held at the *Augustinianum* in Rome from January through the first week of April 2018. Fathers Richard Cannuli, O.S.A., Bill Faix, O.S.A., Joseph Farrell, O.S.A., Jack Flynn, O.S.A., Brian Lowery, O.S.A., and Gary McCloskey, O.S.A., participated. Topics included writing an icon of Augustine, Augustine's works, including the *Confessions*, the History of the Order and Augustinian Religious Life. Participants in the course included sixteen Augustinians: nine friars and seven sisters

from communities that are part of the greater Augustinian Family. They came from 12 countries: Algeria, Australia, China, Hungary, Indonesia (Papua), India, Kenya, Nigeria, Poland, Spain, Tanzania and USA.



Friars and participants of course at the Basilica Shrine of Our Mother of Good Counsel in Genazzano, Italy

Denis Wilde, O.S.A., Prepares Episodes for EWTN's Defending Life TV Series



Father Denis Wilde, O.S.A., a member of Priests for Life, recently recorded

episodes in Birmingham, Alabama for Defending Life, a television program on EWTN that will air this September. Defending Life highlights the pro-life movement, the issues it endures, and delivers realistic view points about protecting life at all stages. †

Who We Are

The Augustinian Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova sponsors Villanova University, Merrimack College, Malvern Preparatory School and Saint Augustine Preparatory School, and 10 parishes in the eastern United States. We oversee a variety of works, including inner-city ministries in the United States and foreign missions in Japan and Peru. We Augustinians collaborate with committed lay women and men, benefactors and friends, and draw on resources from our institutions and among our volunteers to translate Christian and Augustinian ideals into concrete activities wherever we serve.



Pope Francis visits with priests, religious and seminarians in Trujillo, Peru

Unity in Hope

BY FATHER JOHN J. LYDON, O.S.A.

a Sign of Grace

Our friars have been serving the needy of Peru since 1968, in 2002 Augustinian Volunteers joined them in Chulucanas, working together on community projects.

This past January 18 to 21, Pope Francis made his pastoral visit to Peru with the central theme or slogan being United in Hope. It was truly a festival of outpouring love and respect towards the Pope by the Peruvian people. He arrived late on the 18th to enthusiastic crowds that lined the road from the airport to the Vatican embassy's Apostolic Nunciature, a signal that this visit was going to be a massive expression of faith.

The following morning, he began the official activities heading to the Amazon rain forest, and the city of Puerto Maldonado. There he met with representatives of the indigenous peoples that populate the Amazon and told them that he specifically wanted this to be his first stop (even before his official visit to the heads of government) because they are the poorest and most forgotten of Peru's people. The large corporations, and the centralized governments do not take these people into account as they mark out the large swath of lands to be "developed." The indigenous people are seen as an obstacle and thus pushed aside. Pope Francis told them that they are the first voices that must be listened to, since they are the faithful guardians of God's creation from time immemorial. He also visited an orphanage called "The Little Prince,"

where he called the children the “stars that illuminate our night,” underscoring the special dignity that they have in God’s plan.

Upon returning to Lima Pope Francis met with the President, Cabinet and members of Congress expressing that the phrase that was the “slogan” of this visit, United in Hope, was a challenge to live by. He used the phrase to underscore the need of Peruvian society and its government to fight against corruption, which undermines hope and destroys unity. It was a clear message to a group, that the eyes of the average Peruvian are tainted with the hand of corruption. In the last four months, the government has been rocked with revelations of one corrupt act after another. Two ex-presidents are, or have been, in jail; one is in hiding in the U.S., and the current president barely escaped impeachment because of corruption charges. The Pope was gentle but firm about the need for change.

The following morning, Pope Francis headed to Trujillo, which he chose to visit because it was one of the most affected cities in the

massive floods of March 2017, when hundreds of families lost their homes and all their possessions. He first celebrated the Mass before a million people (the city’s population is 700,000) on the beach (picture on opposite page), which was highlighted by an expression of popular piety unseen before in the history of the country. From all over northern Peru, 40 religious statues, the patron saints of every major city and state, were brought by their devotees to participate in the Papal Mass. They arrived in Trujillo five days earlier, and as each statue entered the city, with bands and dancing, great crowds gathered. The night before the Pope’s arrival all the statues were carried in a miles-long procession, from the Cathedral to the beach where the Mass was to be celebrated. The statues were kept for the night on the beach, in a festival of song and prayer, preparing for the Pope’s arrival. Because the beach is beside the airport, the Pope’s plane flew right over the crowd to land. As it approached, the million-strong crowd started to wave and scream and the choir chanted the Ave Maria. After landing, Pope Francis boarded his Popemobile and was driven around so that all could get at least one close view of him before Mass.

After Mass, Pope Francis headed to the area worst affected by the flooding of the previous year, the barrio of Buenos Aires, where he met with those that had lost everything (here they are called the

damnificados). He then continued to the Cathedral, having lunch in the Archbishop’s residence. After lunch, he visited with the priests, religious and seminarians who were gathered a few blocks away. On his way there, Pope Francis noticed a sign that family members held up. It said: “My name Trinidad. I am 99 years old and blind. I just want to touch your hand.”



Seeing the sign, the Pope ordered the driver to halt, and walked back to the elderly lady in a wheelchair who was surrounded by her family (pictured above). Pope Francis gave her a great hug and blessing. This human touch captured the imagination of social media throughout Peru.

Pope Francis then arrived at the colonial school to give his talk to the clergy and religious, underscoring the need to be a missionary church and going out to the more remote and abandoned areas by following the example of the great Peruvian Saint and Bishop, Saint Turibius. After the talk, three gifts were presented to the Pope by the Archdiocese. Since I was one of the two general coordinators for preparing the papal visit to Trujillo, I was given the privilege of presenting Pope Francis with a wood carving (pictured left) of the Virgin of the Door (*Virgen de la Puerta*), who is the patron of the state of La Libertad, where Trujillo



is the capital. It is a statue that the Augustinians brought to the mountain town outside Trujillo (Otuzco) in the 1600's, when pirates invaded Trujillo and started to march toward Otuzco. The people put the statue in the door entering the walled city. The pirates stopped their march and turned around sparing the town, and thus the name of the Virgin of the Door as protector of Trujillo was born.

At the end of the clergy and religious meeting, the Pope headed to the main plaza of Trujillo for a prayer service in honor of the Virgin Maria, and there he crowned the statue of the *Virgin de la Puerta*, and proclaimed her "Mother of Mercy and Hope," two of the central themes close to the heart of Pope Francis. He finally left Trujillo after the full day to return to Lima, where on the following day he celebrated the closing Mass of his visit to Peru with 1.5 million people in attendance.

The Pope's visit to Trujillo elicited a great expression of faith. Every place along his path was filled with people just hoping to have a glimpse of him. Trinidad wasn't the only specially privileged person to touch the hand of the Pope,



Father John Lydon, O.S.A., with the Popemobile used during the Pope's visit to Peru

as he would stop the Popemobile to greet a special person, always someone who was sick, in a wheelchair, or had a baby in their arms.

In his three days here, he united a country as no other figure has done. Massive crowds traveled for days to the three places that he visited and where he sowed Unity in Hope. ☩

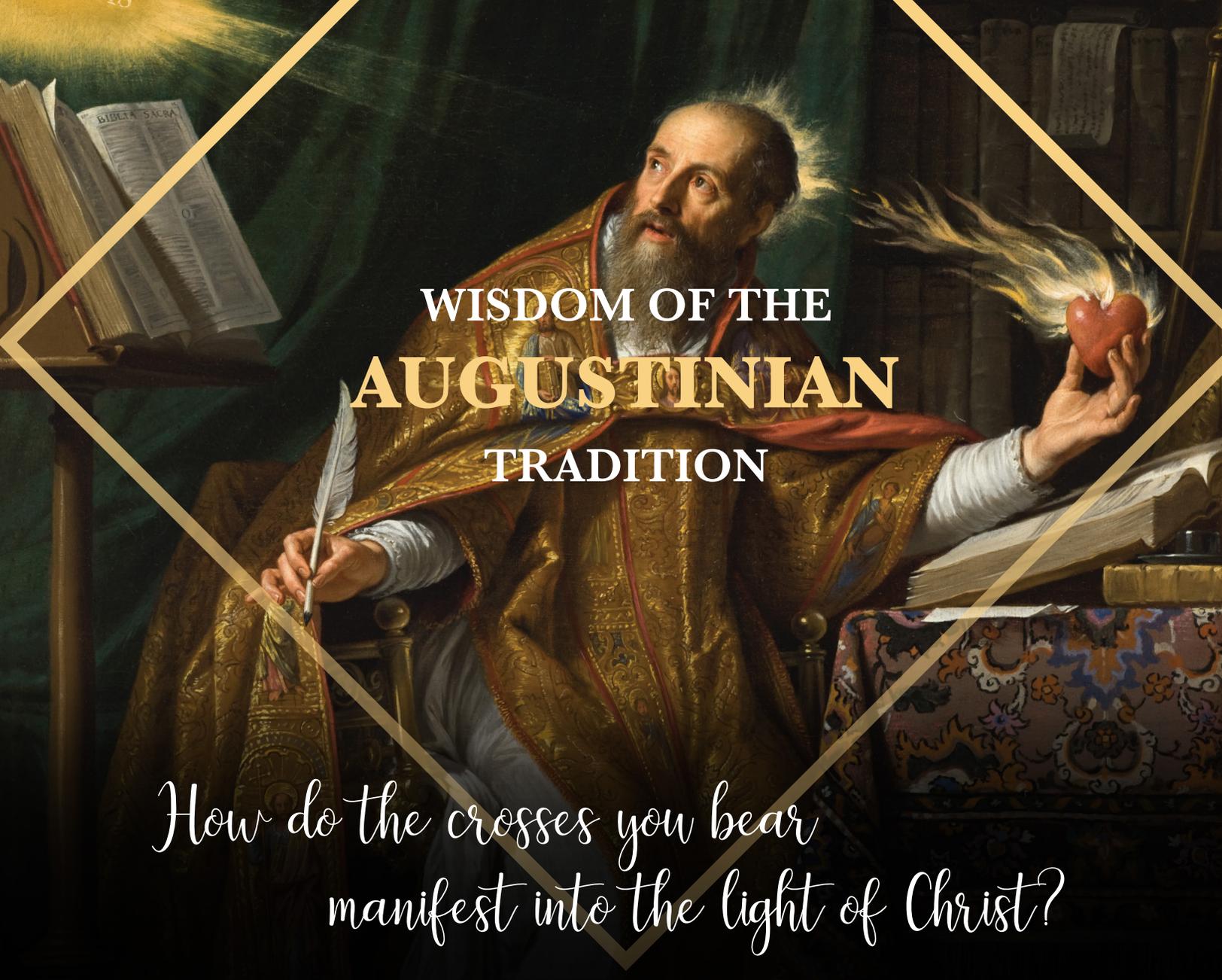
Contact Us!

Augustinian Foreign Missions
missions@augustinian.org

The Pope's visit was a sign of grace because in spite of the divisions caused by the corruption of the "political class," the Peruvian people were united in their joy that the Pope would visit them. They became united in hope, that the country (i.e., the people) are greater than the problems. It was an uplifting spirit of celebration that was sorely needed in the country.

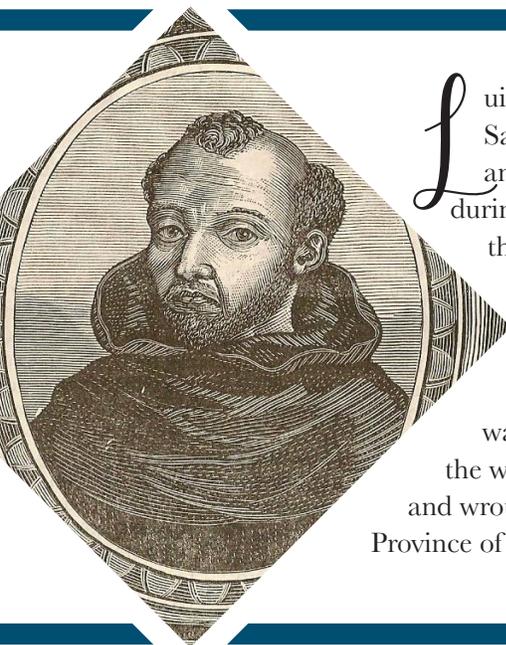
— Father John J. Lydon, O.S.A.





WISDOM OF THE AUGUSTINIAN TRADITION

How do the crosses you bear
manifest into the light of Christ?



Luis de Leon [1527-1591] was a Spanish Augustinian Friar, professor at the University of Salamanca, writer and poet, who is lauded as one of the masters of the Spanish language and of Spanish literature. He was an independent thinker whose spirit and openness during the period of the Inquisition made him suspect in certain quarters. For translating the Old Testament Song of Songs from medieval Latin to modern Spanish without previous Church approval, he was denounced in 1571 and was imprisoned for five years while awaiting trial. He was eventually acquitted and cleared of all charges of heresy and returned to his classroom on January 29, 1577, opening his class with the statement, “as we were saying yesterday.” Outstanding among his various writings was his masterpiece which has the English title, *The Names of Christ*. Fray Luis edited the writings of his contemporary, Teresa of Avila, at the express wish of King Philip II, and wrote a commentary on her work. He was elected Prior Provincial of the Augustinian Province of Castille at the age of 62 but died nine days later on August 23, 1591.

Excerpt

In the Gospel Christ commands us all to take up our cross. He does not tell us to take up another's but bids us to carry our own. He does not wish a nun to neglect her duties as a religious and burden herself with the cares of a married woman; nor does it please him for a married woman to neglect her duties and turn into a nun. The married man pleases God by being a good husband; the friar by being a good religious; the merchant by running his business properly. Even the soldier serves God by showing courage when circumstances demand it, and by being content with his pay, as Saint John says. And the cross which each of us has to bear, and by means of which we are to attain union with Christ, is the very duty and obligation imposed on each one of us by our state of life. Those who fulfill the duties of their condition do God's will and accomplish his purpose. They win an unblemished name and reputation and, as though by the labor of the cross, reach the rest they have merited.

Luis de Leon, O.S.A.

Father Kevin DePrinzio, O.S.A.

Contemplation

Sixteenth Century Spain is often described as a time of the country's "Golden Age," marked positively by significant and unique contributions to art, architecture, and literature, as well as theology and spirituality. Interestingly, such richness was born out of a tense time both politically and religiously. The united kingdoms brought about by the marriage of Isabella and Ferdinand provided positively a newfound sense of renewal of and purpose for a strong Catholic culture with an emphasis on spiritual formation and practice, while at the same time expelling Jews and Muslims from the land and forcing conversions for those who stayed. Fear of heresy, both mis-informed and misunderstood theology and practice, even if subtly expressed, was symbolized by the work of the Spanish Inquisition.

These were the days of some of the "greats" in the tradition, with Ignatius of Loyola, Teresa of Avila, and John of the Cross as the most well-known faces of renewal and reform. Among them, perhaps lesser known, at least outside of Augustinian circles, are the friars Thomas of Villanova, Alonso de Orozco, and Luis de Leon, each of whom offers his own example of a life of holiness through prayer and ministry to God's People. Luis de Leon, for one, a contemporary of Teresa and John, offers much by way of his writings and teachings, and is even responsible for editing and publishing Teresa's autobiography after her death, *The Book of Her Life*, which he himself entitled. And like Teresa and John, Luis was investigated by the Inquisition, in fact twice, which included for him imprisonment for almost five years. Despite such hardships and challenges, he stayed the course in his commitment as an Augustinian friar, and as a preacher and teacher, even while in prison, using the time to compose poetry and begin his most famous work, *The Names of Christ*.

In other words, in struggle, in carrying his cross, Luis de Leon harvested much fruit, and not merely for his own benefit and merit, but more importantly for the sake of the world. One of the phrases Augustinians recite at the end of our common Morning and Evening prayer each day is the statement, "We worship you, O Lord, we venerate your Cross, and we praise your Resurrection: through the Cross, you brought joy to the world." That some of Luis de Leon's greatest contributions came from such dark, yet "golden," times provides a concrete, lived expression for this Augustinian mantra as well as an invitation for us to reflect on our own experience of struggle, hardship, and challenge. This is precisely the invitation Luis offers us in this excerpt. If we truly are Easter people, as Augustine reminds us, then we know that the Cross, the crosses we bear in our own lives, is (and are) not the end of our stories. Nor is there a life that does not challenge us with a cross, but neither is there a life, rooted in Christ, that does not flower into Resurrection. ✠

Father Kevin DePrinzio, O.S.A., teaches in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at Villanova University and serves on the pre-novitiate formation team at Bellesini Friary.

Our Director of Advancement, Madonna Sutter, does not take lightly the importance of supporting the Augustinians. Her momentum is fueled by their charm and gifts that impact the lives of others. There is not a day that goes by where she and her team are not eloquently shifting the waters to create new viable paths for our Province's mission advancement. Madonna states, "I choose to work with the Augustinians because I want to make a difference. I came to the Province with a strong Augustinian connection through my work and education at Villanova University and as a parishioner of Saint Thomas of Villanova."

Madonna was introduced to the Augustinians at the age of seventeen and was powerfully influenced by their way of life in both her personal, professional and spiritual life. "The goal of our Advancement office is to inform, engage and preserve our relationships with those who have supported us as well as to invite others who may wish to connect with us in our efforts to secure financial support of the Province's mission."

Raise Awareness

BY MADONNA SUTTER

Join the
Movement



Enjoying an Augustinian gathering in New York City are (left to right): Phillip Harvey, Sr., Madonna Sutter, Father Francis J. Horn, O.S.A. and Daniel Larkin

How do the Augustinians support themselves?

The Order of Saint Augustine was established as a Mendicant Order in 13th century and as such the friars were bound by a vow of poverty and dedication to an ascetic way of life. They lived as Christ did, renouncing property and traveling the world to preach. Their survival was dependent on the good will of their listeners. Not much has changed since then. The friars rely on the generosity of their benefactors to support their way of life and ministries. Friars who teach or are assigned to a parish receive a salary or stipend. A portion of their salary/stipend supports their living expenses, but the remainder goes to the Province to

support the care of the elderly and infirm friars in Saint Thomas Monastery, the education and training of future Augustinians as well as to support the friars' ministries that care for the poor and marginalized. The friars who are active in ministry must support those who are unable to minister.

Why was the Augustinian Fund established?

Many years ago, the friars' earned salaries were sufficient to support their way of life and ministries. That is not so much the case today. The Augustinian Fund was established to provide a reliable source of annual revenue to support the

Augustinian way of life and its ministries that serve the poor. As more friars are unable to minister, the Province assumes increased health care costs to care for its elderly and infirm friars. The Augustinian Fund helps to meet these additional expenses.

What are the key priorities of the Fund?

The Augustinian Fund supports two key priorities which sustain the friars' way of life — the care of the elderly and infirm friars living in Saint Thomas Monastery and Augustinian Vocation and Formation programs, which attract men to the Order and provide for their education and training. The Fund also supports the friars' ministries that care for the poor and marginalized through the following programs — Foreign Missions in Peru and Japan, the Augustinian Volunteers and the Province's Justice and Peace Initiatives.

What is the financial relationship between the Augustinians and their sponsored schools and parishes?

The Augustinians are financially independent of their sponsored schools and parishes. In other words, when alumni and parishioners make a charitable donation to their school or parish, 100% of that donation is directed to the school or parish and no portion of that contribution benefits the Augustinians. It's an important distinction that is often misperceived. While the Augustinians enjoy a collaborative and close relationship with their schools and parishes, their finances are distinct and separate.

What is the goal of the Augustinian Fund?

The goal of the Fund is not just measured in dollars, although we seek to raise between \$2M and \$3M dollars each year. More importantly, the Fund seeks to develop lifelong donors and collaborators who contribute annually over many years and who can help to sustain the Augustinian way of life over time. We are grateful for every gift we receive no matter the size. Our goal is to nurture, cultivate and inspire lifelong giving in support of the Augustinian Friars who share a passion for Christ and the Gospel and continue to minister to God's people. ✠



Villanova alumni catch up with Madonna Sutter while enjoying a beautiful reception at the Terrace Club in NYC. Pictured (left to right): Madonna Sutter, Kathryn Collopy, John DiLoreto, Annie Fallon and Tom Plate

Our Advancement Team



*Madonna Sutter
Director of Advancement*

*Julia Phifer
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Connect with Us!
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Save the Date

2018
SAINT AUGUSTINE
MEDAL DINNER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2018

The Augustinian Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova will present its 2018 Saint Augustine Medal to Bishop Louis A. DeSimone, an honor bestowed upon an individual or a couple who exemplify the spirit and teachings of Saint Augustine, a deep commitment to the Order of Saint Augustine and the Augustinian values of Truth, Unity and Charity.

Tickets & Sponsorships Available
AugustinianFund.org/medal-dinner

