

VOLUME IV . ISSUE I

THE AUGUSTINIAN

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LOOKING AHEAD

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark your calendars today for these upcoming special events and celebrations throughout the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova.



Prior Provincial Election

On January 21, 2010, the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova will count the votes for a new Prior Provincial—an election that takes place every four years. For those of you who follow Augustinian Provincial elections, you will note that the election is being held earlier than usual. This is in hopes that the Prior-Provincial-elect will accompany Fr. Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., the current Prior Provincial, to the National American Conference of Augustinian Provincials (NACAP) meeting February 2-4, 2010 in San Diego, CA. Background on this meeting and the issues facing the North American friars is in the story on page 8. The new Provincial must receive an absolute majority of the votes, (at least half plus one), to be elected on the first ballot. If no one receives this absolute majority of votes, there will be a second vote. With four candidates in the running, there is no guarantee that a candidate will be decided on the first ballot and in time for NACAP. Regardless of the election date, the installation of the new Prior Provincial will occur at the Provincial Chapter, June 13-18, 2010, when Fr. Don completes his two-term, eight-year tenure as Provincial.

PRIOR PROVINCIAL CANDIDATES

Fr. Raymond F. Dlugos, O.S.A.
Fr. Joseph Farrell, O.S.A.
Fr. Anthony M. Genovese, O.S.A.
Fr. Joseph S. Mostardi, O.S.A.

Augustinian Preaching Apostolate

There's good reason why Fr. Michael Sullivan, O.S.A., is booked years in advance by parishes across the country to present parish retreats. His dynamic and entertaining retreats touch people's lives by drawing them into closer relationship with one another and with God. In addition to the retreat listed here, view a complete schedule online to see if Fr. Sullivan is coming to a parish near you.

FEBRUARY 7 - FEBRUARY 10, 2010

St. Augustine Church
375 N. Sunset Dr.
Casselberry, FL 32707

PHONE 610-519-3019

WEB www.augustinian.org/preaching.htm

Catholic Social Teaching Conference

Mark your calendar now for this conference focusing on Catholic Social Teaching and Worker Justice. Villanova University and Catholic Scholars for Worker Justice present this scholarly and practical conference on current issues regarding justice in the workplace. Advance registration is required.

MARCH 22-24, 2010

Villanova University
800 E. Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085
PHONE 610-519-5431
WEB www.villanova.edu/mission

Holy Week Retreat

Celebrate the holiest of days with the Augustinian friars at the Living Waters Catholic Reflection Center in beautiful Maggie Valley, NC. Visit for a few days, or the entire week, and enjoy days filled with quiet, prayer and community.

MARCH 28-APRIL 4, 2010

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

Nature Retreat

Sr. Fran Grady, S.C.L., guides this special retreat in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains. Plan now for a unique summer vacation in the mountains with days filled with hiking, walking, prayer and rest.

JUNE 21-27, 2010

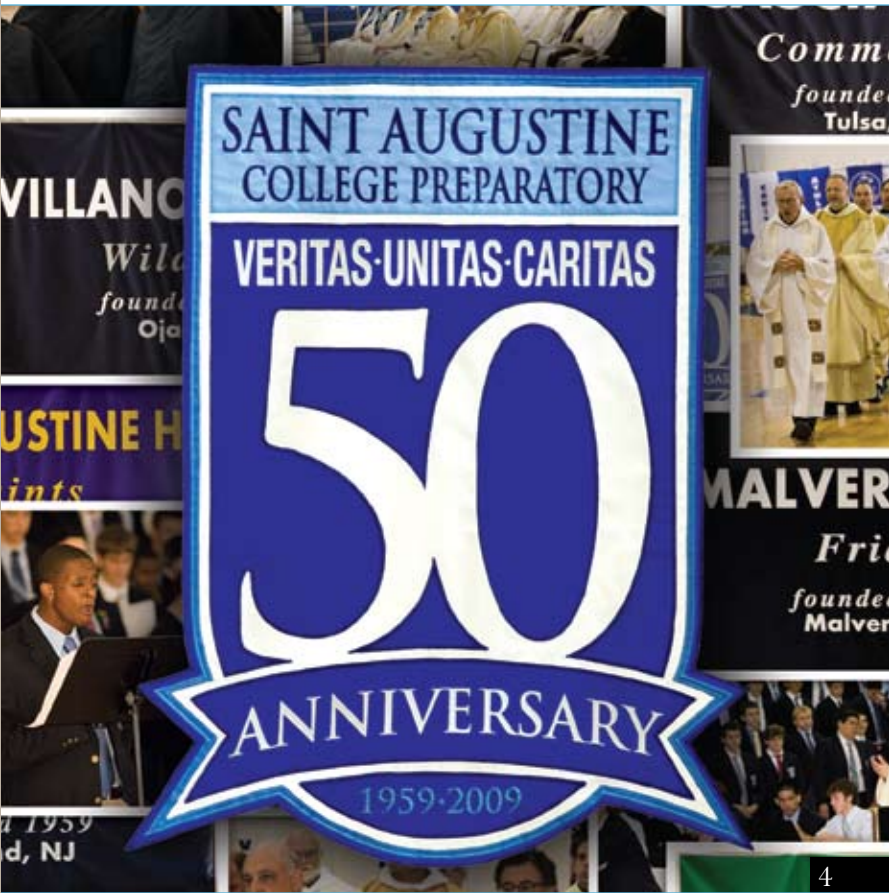
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THE AUGUSTINIAN

A publication for the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova.

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ON THE COVER

Austin Neri, a freshman and lector at Saint Augustine Prep in Richland, NJ, is seen here as he reads the petitions during a liturgy to commemorate the Prep's 50th anniversary, celebrated by Prior General, Robert Prevost, O.S.A.

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Saint Augustine Prep: 50 Years of Educating Christian Gentlemen

Saint Augustine College Preparatory School was founded in 1959, and, since that time over 2100 students have become alumni of this thriving Augustinian school. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Prep, and the school's identity as an Augustinian community searching for truth while serving others remains as strong as its Augustinian roots.

p. 8

Convocation of the Augustinians of North America

In June, over 200 Augustinians from across North America gathered outside of Chicago for a week of fraternity, dialogue, and discernment about the future of the Augustinians. The Convocation was an historic event in the history of the Augustinians in North America, a gathering filled with hope for the future, as friars from North America come together to do God's work.

p. 12

The Augustinians in the Merrimack Valley

The history of the Augustinians in Massachusetts is rich, and Merrimack College stands as a shining example of the Augustinian spirit at work. Though the number of friars serving in the Province declines, the Augustinian identity at Merrimack College continues to strengthen, proving that the legacy of any institution is measured by how well its mission and charism carry on.



LETTER FROM THE PRIOR PROVINCIAL

Dear Friends,

This past summer, over 200 Augustinians from the four North American Provinces gathered together outside Chicago for a weeklong experience of fraternity, prayer and celebration. This first-ever Convocation of the North American Provinces was a profound experience, providing us with the opportunity to reflect not only on our history, but also on our hopes for the future. I left that gathering inspired by the friars who have traveled before us, grateful for the good that my brother Augustinians do today, and hopeful for tomorrow.

You will read about that convocation in these pages, and, as you do I am sure you will begin to recognize the interconnectedness of our shared Augustinian journey. The past may not dictate the future, but it certainly helps to shape and inspire it.

In 1925, the Vice Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel was established in Philadelphia to serve the needs of the Italian immigrant population. Nearly 35 years later, the Vice Province established a seminary in South Jersey to help young men prepare for the priesthood and religious life. The Vice Province no longer exists, but the school certainly does. Today, Saint Augustine College Preparatory School in Richland, NJ, is celebrating its 50th anniversary. We as a Province are immensely proud of this school, and you will learn more about Saint Augustine’s Prep in this issue of *The Augustinian*.

Indeed, the path is never clear, and it is certainly never easy. Earlier this year the Augustinians bid farewell to Monsignor Bonner High School in Drexel Hill, PA. It was a bittersweet occasion, one accompanied by wonderful memories as well as great sadness. Decisions like these are not taken lightly. Rather, they are guided by present day realities. With declining numbers, we are met with an ever-present challenge: How are we, as Augustinians, best able to share our charism with the world while serving the people in it?

We began to tackle that question in June during our convocation, and it is something we will continue to address as a community. In this issue of *The Augustinian*, you will discover just a few of the countless stories of Augustinian charism at work throughout the Province and the world.

Together, with hope for the future and inspired by the past, we will continue to serve God by serving others.

As always, we thank you for your continued prayers and support. It is through you and with you that we are able to continue to do God’s work.

In Augustine,

Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A.

Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A.
PRIOR PROVINCIAL
PROVINCE OF SAINT THOMAS OF VILLANOVA

VOLUME IV . ISSUE I

THE AUGUSTINIAN

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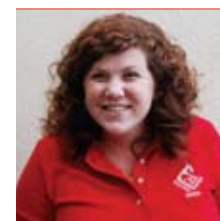


AUGUSTINIAN VOLUNTEERS, 2009-10.

AUGUSTINIAN VOLUNTEERS

LETTERS

San Diego, CA



I see God in so many moments of my day – in all of the joyful, stressful, rewarding, and challenging moments. I see God in my co-workers,

the kids that I’m with, my community members, prayer time, and time that I spend enjoying San Diego.

One of my service sites is at an orphanage in Tijuana. Here I spend my days helping to care for the babies. I give a pre-school class, eat lunch with the kids, help with homework, and then I get to just play with the kids. Sometimes it is a long day and it wears me out, but seeing the love that is there is always worth it. Everyone at the orphanage – from the workers and the women who cook, to the kids – shares the love of a family. What strikes me the most about this love is that it is most precious in the simple moments of everyday tasks: eating lunch, doing projects, reading, etc. It is when I am at the orphanage that I am reminded that God has given us one

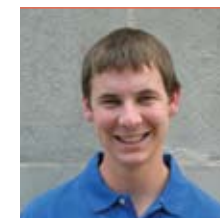
another as a gift – to lean on one another and to bring joy to each other.

One of the most important things I’ve learned this year is that community is one of the biggest parts of the Augustinian spirituality – and I can see why. They show me God simply by loving me.

ANNE MOLLNER

Augustinian Volunteer, San Diego (2009-10)

Peru



Before I came to Peru, I worked in a biology lab, and, to be successful in my experiments in the lab, I had to plan out my days a few days or sometimes

weeks in advance. This meant that every day I went to work I knew exactly what I was going to do that day, and interruptions, which were few, were dealt with after I finished what I had planned. Taking this mentality to Peru meant that I was never being productive, because I measured productivity on how much I completed on my list of things to do. This was tough because the rules I played by were suddenly changed. No longer was a successful day a productive one. Rather, a successful day is being able to catch up with a friend or my host family or being able to help someone who comes into the Health Office.

Adapting to this change was tough, because it goes against everything I know, but was key to learning how to live in Peru. While I don’t think I have

VOLUNTEER LETTERS



mastered this yet, I have come to accept that the only way to be successful is to redefine it – not in the tasks completed, but in how many people and personal interactions I have encountered.

DANIEL IRWIN

Augustinian Volunteer, Peru (2009)



South Africa

Two years ago, during domestic orientation for my year in the Bronx, we did a prayer to the Kanye West

song, “Jesus Walks.” My piece of paper read: “My name is Thandeka and I am from Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa. I am HIV positive and trying to raise four children alone. I am too sick to work and do not have much for food or school fees at St. Leo’s. I am worried what will happen to them when I am gone.”

Two years ago, during that prayer, I did not know that I would actually end up in South Africa. I did not know why I felt called there. Even now, I do not know fully what my purpose was there, how my presence and ministry affected others, and how this experience will affect my future. However, there are certain things that happened and people I encountered and formed relationships with that convinced me I was supposed to be there.

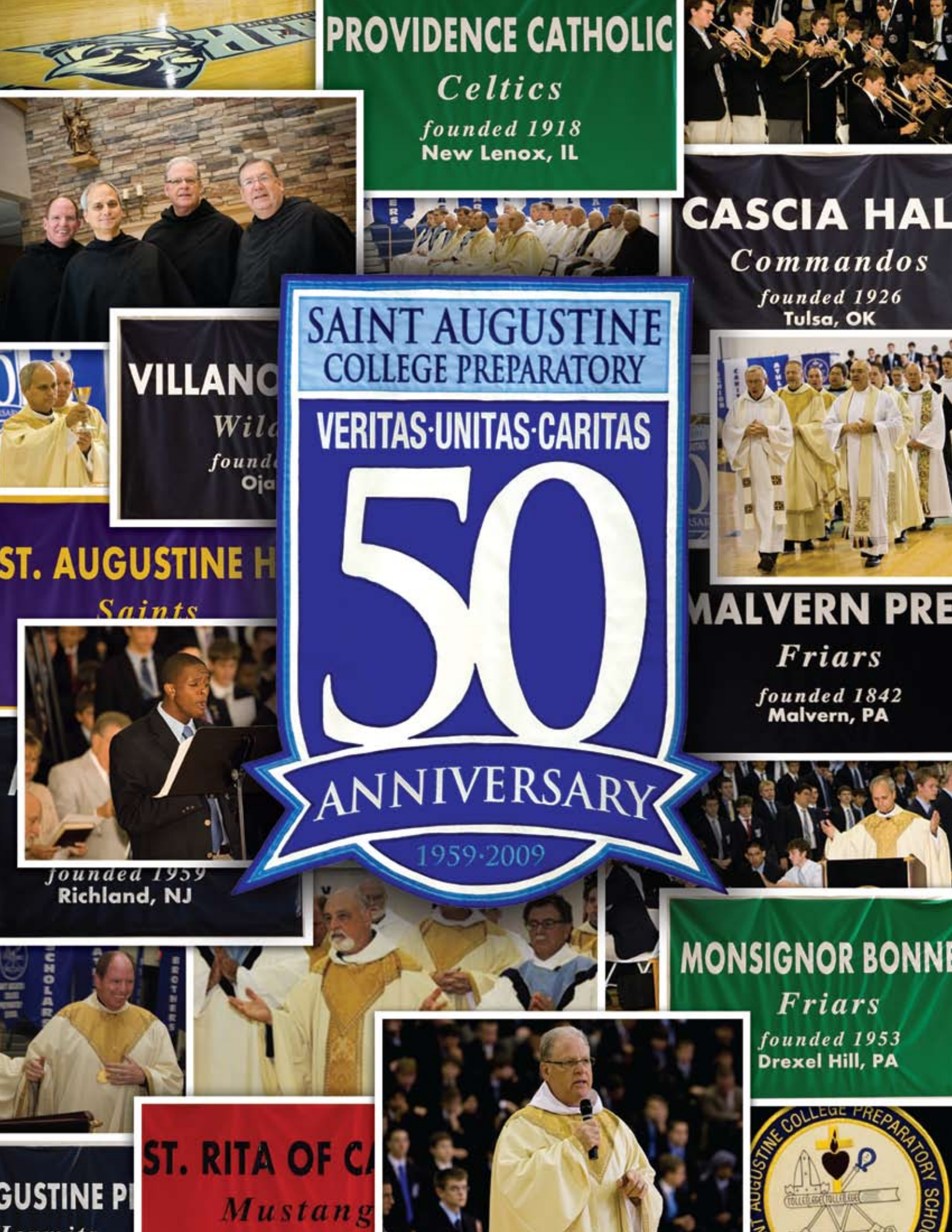
My Zulu name is Thandeka and I lived in Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa. I met many people suffering from HIV/AIDS as well as extreme poverty. Now that I am back, I am worried about what will happen to them in their futures. But I do know one thing: Jesus walks for them, and so do I.

KATIE PORTER

Augustinian Volunteer, South Africa (2009)

ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER REFLECTIONS CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.OSAVOL.ORG

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS! LETTERS TO THE EDITOR MAY BE MAILED TO COMMUNICATIONS@AUGUSTINIAN.ORG, OR WRITE TO: THE AUGUSTINIAN, P.O. BOX 340, VILLANOVA, PA 19085



SAINT AUGUSTINE PREP

50 YEARS OF EDUCATING CHRISTIAN GENTLEMEN

MICHAEL T. DOLAN

“Direct we beseech you, O Lord, all our actions by your holy inspiration, and carry them out by your gracious assistance so that every prayer and good work of ours may always begin from you and by you be happily ended, through Christ our Lord.”

So begins each day at Saint Augustine College Preparatory School in Richland, NJ.

“You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.”

And so ends each day.

It is only fitting that this Augustinian school of 691 students begins and ends its school day with prayer. Indeed, prayer, along with the Augustinian values of truth, unity, and love, play a central role in every aspect of the St. Augustine Prep educational experience – an educational experience that is 50 years strong this year.

In 1959, the Vice Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel founded St. Augustine Prep as a minor seminary to help young men prepare for studies in the priesthood and religious life. Four years later, in 1963, the school’s first graduating class totaled 12 students. Fr. Peter Toscani, O.S.A. (1921-2001), was the headmaster at the time, and was instrumental in the school’s gradual expansion until 1967, when Fr. Stephen LaRosa, O.S.A. (1933-2006), took over the reins as headmaster.

Under Fr. LaRosa’s leadership, the school continued to grow, and, over the

course of the next 30 years, the student population hovered between 150 to 210 students.

In the last ten years, under the leadership of Fr. Paul Galetto, O.S.A., current President of the school, the Prep has gone through two major expansions – the construction of an Arts and Sciences Building in 1998 and the opening of the 95,000 sf. Louis and Josephine Buondonno Forum in 2007. With those expansions has come an increase in enrollment, and today there are 691 students at the Prep.

This year, those 691 students, along with 2100 alumni, are celebrating the 50th anniversary of this Augustinian school. The anniversary holds special significance for Fr. Galetto, who has not only served as president since 1997, but was also a graduate of the Prep in 1974. He first returned to the Prep as a faculty member in 1982, and has spent the better part of the last 27 years ministering at the school.

Though the school has grown much since Fr. Galetto was a student, much remains the same.

“There were only 150 students in the entire school when I was a student,” says Fr. Galetto. “Now, our freshman

class is 192. There is still a small school feel about the place. The sense of brotherhood is as strong as ever. Our educational motto is “The Education of the Christian Gentleman,” an ideal established by John Henry Cardinal Newman. We have re-dedicated ourselves to that goal in this our anniversary year.”

Fr. Galetto is also quick to point out that the core Augustinian values that guide the school remain as strong as ever: “What I liked about the Prep then is what I love about it now. Every student is known by his teachers and coaches. Each student knows everyone in his class or on his team. In short, we are brothers and friends, scholars and athletes. The values of truth, unity and charity are at the heart of what we do here.”

These values can be seen in all aspects of life at the Prep, and is especially notable in how the school weaves community, spirituality, and service into each student’s educational experience.

Fr. Keith Hollis, O.S.A., who began ministering at the Prep this fall as the school’s chaplain, says that the sense of community is tangible: “The strong notion of brotherhood felt on this campus stems from Augustinian thought on community, with a special emphasis on

Augustine’s appreciation of friends.”
To illustrate this point, Fr. Hollis points to a unique event held at the beginning of each school year.

“Each year as the freshmen begin the academic year, they participate in a ‘Brotherhood Ceremony,’ where they promise to look after one another and to build up the character and faith of each student.”

This commitment to one another takes on deeper meaning as the school emphasizes the individual’s role in the worldwide community outside of the Prep. And it takes the form of service.

In their sophomore year, for example, all sophomore students participate in service retreats in Camden, NJ. Throughout the year, groups of students spend several days serving the needs of this struggling community. They visit the elderly, clean the streets, serve meals to the homeless, tutor young children, do construction work and nightly have a presentation about poverty and how they can make a difference.

In their junior year, all students spend a day preparing and serving meals at a soup kitchen in Camden. And in a new Caritas project, seniors will perform 100 hours of service to others.

In addition to these projects, students at the Prep are given the opportunity to participate in what the school calls its “Third Semester.” This unique program provides opportunities for students to join teachers on learning and service oriented trips at the end of the school year. As part of this program, this past spring 25 students from the Prep traveled to the Augustinian missions in Peru, where they lived with the Augustinian community in Lima and served the poor in the region.

This concept of the global community is further illustrated by the student body’s close connection to the Augustinian missions in Peru and South Africa. In the past five years, the school has raised close to \$90,000 for these missions.

The Prep’s strong service program is intrinsically linked to the spiritual and religious aspects of the school. Together, they create a true Augustinian community of brothers centered on God and serving others. In other words, true Christian gentlemen.

One needs look no further than the school’s “Hermit Ambassadors Society” for evidence of this Augustinian mission at work. The Hermit Ambassadors Society is a community service club whose mission is to spread the Augustinian values of



LAST SPRING, 25 PREP STUDENTS JOINED TEACHERS ON A SERVICE-ORIENTED TRIP TO PERU. THE STUDENTS BUILT THREE ROOMS (IN THE HOUSE PICTURED BEHIND THE GROUP) TO HELP WIDOW, SRA. VERONICA CRUZADO AND HER FOUR CHILDREN. FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: JOE RHA, ANDREW MOFFA, SRA. ZOILA LAGOS (IMMACULADA CONCEPCION PARISH COORDINATOR), SRA. VERONICA CRUZADO AND HER FOUR CHILDREN. MIDDLE ROW FROM LEFT: MRS. HELEN SWEENEY (PREP TEACHER), JAMES MACKEY. BACK ROW, FROM LEFT: ELLIOTT COYNE, MIKE CIROCCO, STEVE DAVI MAX LEVINE AND DREW BARKOFF.

unitas, veritas, and caritas by reaching out to others. Hermit Ambassadors’ activities have included collecting and distributing food baskets for needy families at Thanksgiving and Christmas, making sandwiches for a homeless shelter in Atlantic City, and being present to support and comfort Prep families at times of serious illness, death or tragedy.

“There are about 75 members of the Hermit Ambassadors,” explains Fr. Frank Horn, O.S.A., Headmaster of the Prep. “They reach out to the wider community in need as representatives of St. Augustine Prep. The students perform these services without fanfare and do not seek recognition for their good deeds.”

In honor of the Prep’s 50th anniversary, students in the Hermit Ambassadors program made “Brotherhood Blankets” with the school’s 50th anniversary logo, and distributed them this past October to more than two dozen retired friars at Saint Thomas Monastery in Villanova.

The students gave the blankets to the friars in memory of Fr. Stephen LaRosa, O.S.A. (1933-2006), and Br. Frank Cucinotta, O.S.A. (1922-2008), who both spent many years at the Prep.

FR. PAUL GALETTA, O.S.A.,
PRESIDENT AND 1974
GRADUATE OF THE PREP:

“WHAT I LIKED ABOUT THE
PREP THEN IS WHAT I LOVE
ABOUT IT NOW. . . THE
VALUES OF TRUTH, UNITY
AND CHARITY ARE AT THE
HEART OF WHAT WE
DO HERE.”



FRANCIS J. HORN, O.S.A., HEADMASTER; ROBERT F. PREVOST, O.S.A., PRIOR GENERAL; DONALD F. REILLY, O.S.A., PRIOR PROVINCIAL, PROVINCE OF SAINT THOMAS OF VILLANOVA; AND PAUL W. GALETTA, O.S.A., CELEBRATE THE PREP’S 50TH ANNIVERSARY.

It was a powerful experience connecting the past with the present. Noted Fr. Horn: “The students met with the friars and shared their common Augustinian bond of brotherhood.”

Indeed, the Augustinian bond of brotherhood is strong at Saint Augustine Prep, and the school community is celebrating that bond this anniversary year with students, alumni, benefactors, teachers and staff.

The 50th anniversary of the Prep kicked off on October 9th with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Michael DiGregorio, O.S.A., Vicar General of the Augustinian Order.

The Prep also hosted the Augustinian Values Institute in October, when over 100 educators from Augustinian secondary schools in North America, England, Ireland, and Australia gathered to share with one another ways in which they can best infuse their shared Augustinian values into their respective schools. Fr. Robert Prevost, O.S.A., Prior General of the Augustinian Order, presided at a special anniversary Mass for the entire school community during the Augustinian Values Institute, and Fr. Donald Reilly, O.S.A., Prior Provincial

of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova and Chair of the Board of the Prep, also addressed the school community during the gathering.

“Saint Augustine’s does a remarkable job in carrying out the legacy of Augustinian education” says Fr. Reilly. “In this, the school’s 50th anniversary year, we celebrate the past with gratitude and look to the future with hope.”

In 1958, when Br. Frank Cucinotta first discovered the property called Red Oaks Estate which would become St. Augustine College Preparatory School, the Vice Province envisioned a school and seminary that would foster Christian values and educate young men. It’s been 50 years since the Prep opened its doors, and the school has been doing just that ever since.

Today, Fr. Paul Galetto, Fr. Frank Horn, Fr. Ron Hamaday, Fr. Keith Hollis, and Fr. Steve Curry, along with dedicated teachers, administrators, alumni, benefactors, and friends, are steadfast in their commitment to keep that legacy alive as the Prep embarks on its next 50 years. ✚



FR. JOHN E. BRESNAHAN, O.S.A., (WHO TURNS 99 IN JANUARY 2010) ENJOYS HIS “BROTHERHOOD BLANKET,” DELIVERED BY THE HERMIT AMBAS-SADORS TO MORE THAN TWO DOZEN AGED AND INFIRMED FRIARS AT THE MONASTERY.

(PREP COVER AND COLLAGE PHOTOS BY BRYAN SMITH FOR SCIENTIFIC MARKETING SERVICES INC.)



CONVOCATION

of the Augustinians of North America

MICHAEL T. DOLAN

This past summer, the Augustinians of North America came together for a truly historic gathering. For the first time in its history, the Augustinians of North America gathered together as a whole for an Augustinian Convocation. Over 200 friars from the four North American Provinces participated in the Convocation, which was held June 8-12, 2009, in Saint Charles, IL.

The four North American Provinces consist of the Province of Saint Joseph (Canada); the Province of Saint Augustine (West Coast); the Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel (Midwest); and the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova (East Coast). This first-ever Convocation gave friars from all the Provinces the opportunity to experience a week of fraternity, prayer, and celebration. Just as important, the gathering gave friars the opportunity to discuss their shared identity as Augustinians and their hopes for the future.

The history of the Augustinians in North America is full of stories of friars and Provinces working together to best carry out the Augustinian mission of service to God and to others. In 1952, friars from the Midwest and East Coast Provinces traveled to Nagasaki and founded the Augustinian mission in Japan. In 1963, the Midwest Province took responsibility for the Diocese of Chulucanas in Peru, and, through

the collaboration of the Midwest and Villanova Provinces, that mission has grown throughout the decades.

In recent years, as the number of friars in North America has declined, such inter-Province collaboration has increased. Several years ago, for example, an Augustinian Values Institute was established so that friars, teachers and administrators from the various Provinces' secondary schools could gather to share ideas on how to best carry out Augustinian values in a secondary educational apostolate. Likewise, in 2007, the North American Provinces collaborated to establish a new North American Theologate in Chicago to prepare young men from all the Provinces for religious life. Inter-province collaboration can also be seen in the Hispanic, parochial, and vocation ministries of the Province.

Much of this collaboration is spearheaded by the North American Conference of Augustinian Provincials

(NACAP), and it was their belief that a Convocation for all the Provinces was necessary to bring the friars together for fraternity and fraternal dialogue about the future.

Fr. Bob Prevost, O.S.A., Prior General for the Order of Saint Augustine, spoke to the friars at the Convocation about the significance of the gathering, noting that inter-Province collaboration throughout the world is helping to strengthen and grow the Augustinian mission.

Today there are less than 350 friars in North America, but through collaboration they are determined to carry the Augustinians into a hopeful future. What the future holds is unknown, but the Convocation helped to formally begin conversations regarding what the future may look like.

Provincial Chapters for the Midwest, Canada, and East Coast Provinces will be held in June of 2010, and the West Coast will hold its next Provincial Chapter in 2011. As friars throughout the

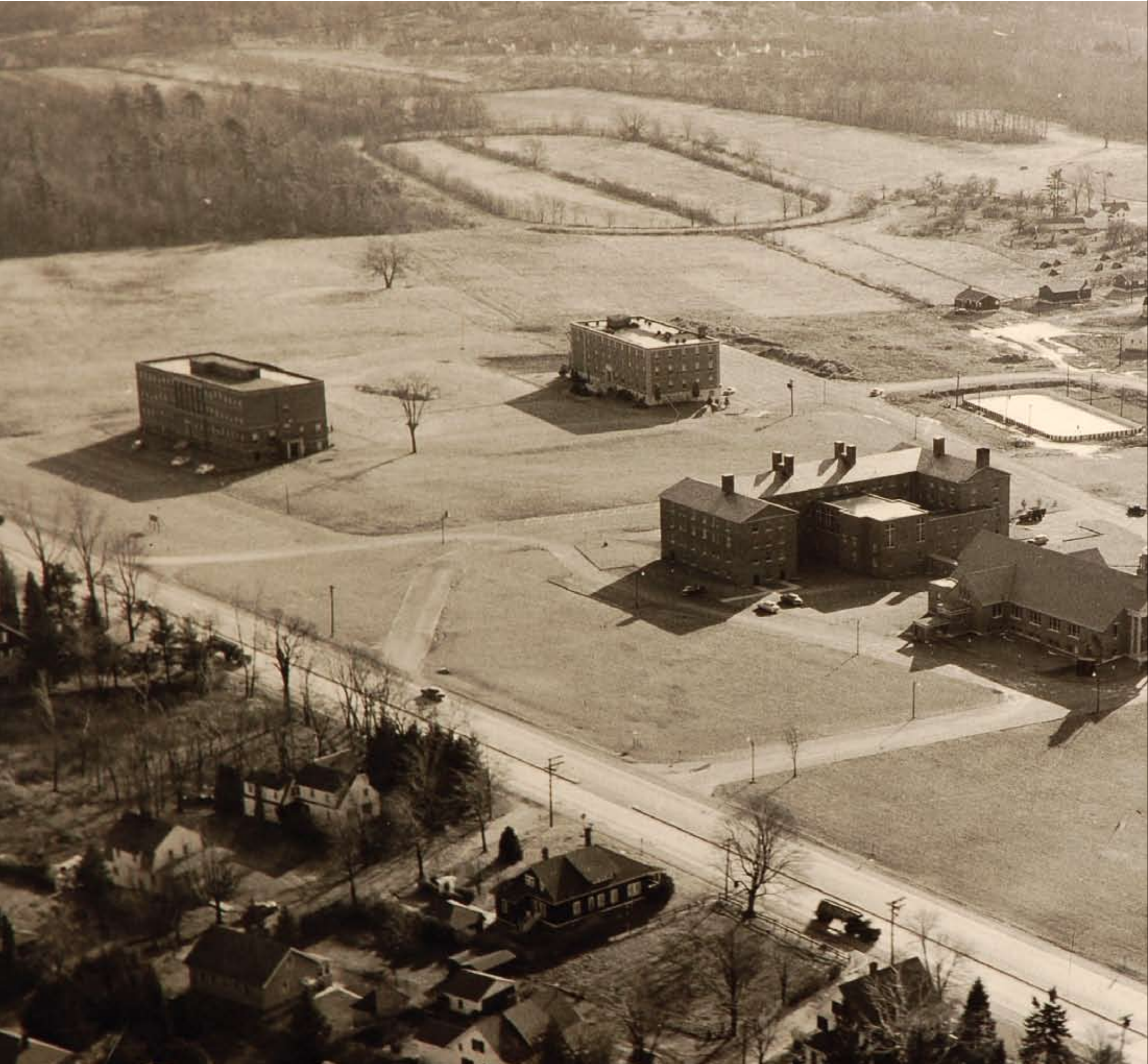
North American Provinces plan for these chapters, they will discuss the proposals, ideas, and priorities that were raised at the Convocation, so that together, the North American Provinces can move forward with hope as a unified and strengthened Augustinian community. ✚



A GLIMPSE

When the new Villanova Law School was dedicated on October 5, 2009, a stunning work of art by Fr. Richard G. Cannuli, O.S.A. brought old-world stained glass to a state-of-the-art setting. The window, "Our Lady of Guadalupe," stands 8 feet in diameter, and is erected to form the back wall of "Our Lady, Mirror of Justice" Chapel. The Madonna greets visitors as they approach, and provides a meditative image and powerful presence for those who have entered.





THE AUGUSTINIANS IN THE MERRIMACK VALLEY: A SPOTLIGHT ON MERRIMACK COLLEGE

MICHAEL T. DOLAN

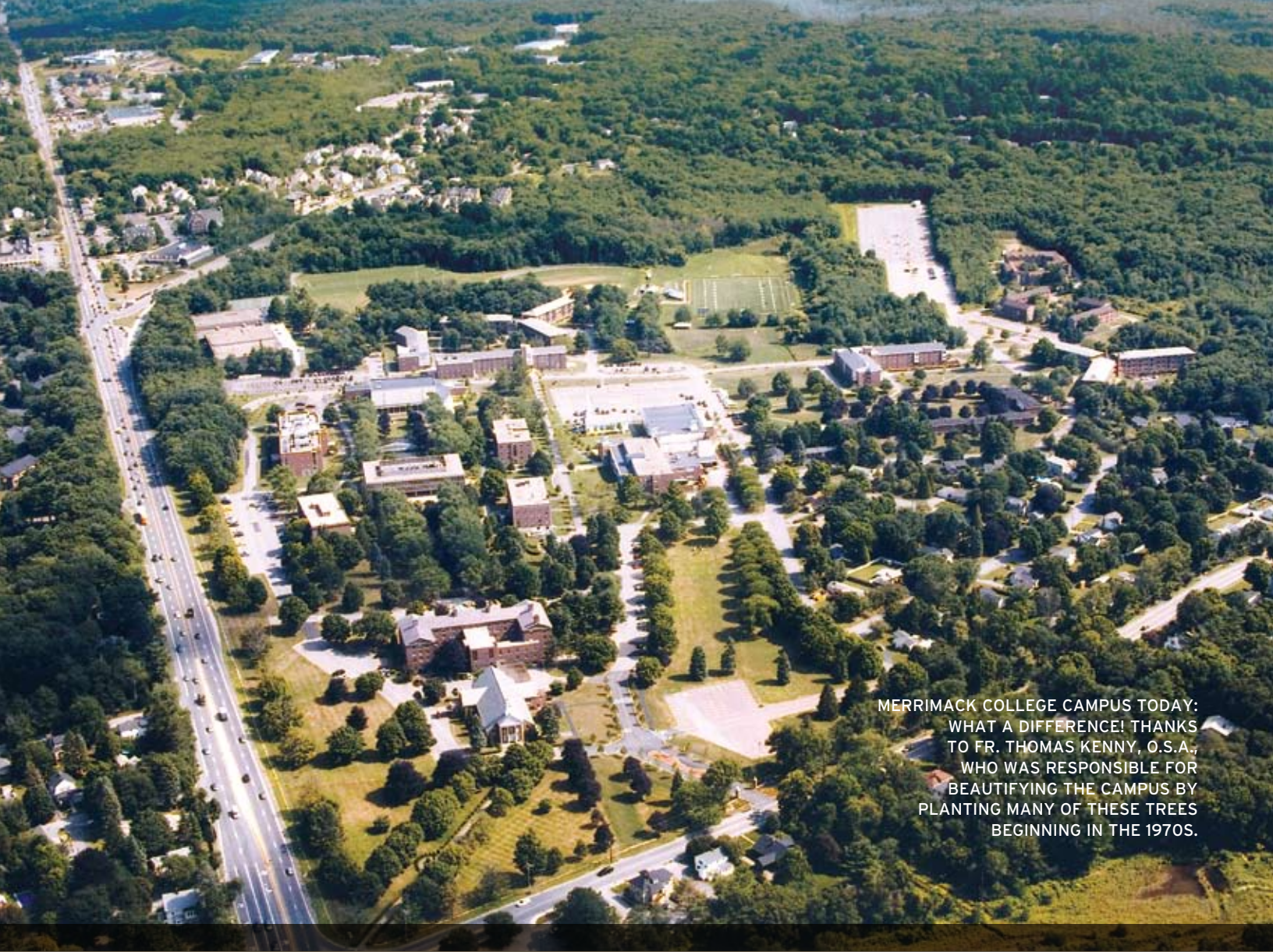
In 1947, Fr. Vincent McQuade, O.S.A., and Fr. John V. Casey, O.S.A., found themselves standing on rural land some 25 miles north of Boston. Standing on what was known as Wilson’s Corner, they looked out over land that had once been the Richardson Farm.

The story goes that Fr. McQuade asked: “Father Casey, what do you see?”

“I see a big field,” replied Father Casey.

“No, John,” Fr. McQuade replied. “I see a college.”

A few months later, in June 1947, the Augustinians purchased that former farmland. It would become home to Merrimack College.



MERRIMACK COLLEGE CAMPUS TODAY:
WHAT A DIFFERENCE! THANKS
TO FR. THOMAS KENNY, O.S.A.,
WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR
BEAUTIFYING THE CAMPUS BY
PLANTING MANY OF THESE TREES
BEGINNING IN THE 1970S.

AUGUSTINIANS IN THE MERRIMACK VALLEY: A TIMELINE

1849



First Mass is said at Saint Mary Church in Lawrence.

1852



St. Augustine Church in Andover is built.

1854



New Immaculate Conception Church is built in Lawrence.

1878

St. Augustine Church in Lawrence is built.

1897

St. Monica Church in Methuen is built.

1898



Shrine of Our Mother of Good Counsel is built next to St. Mary Church in Lawrence.

1904



Holy Rosary Church in Lawrence is founded.

1947



Merrimack College is founded in North Andover.

2000

St. Augustine in Lawrence and St. Theresa in Methuen are merged to create Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish.

2008

Augustinians return care of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Methuen to the Archdiocese.

1846

Wooden church is built for Immaculate Conception Parish in Lawrence.

1871

New St. Mary Church in Lawrence is dedicated.

1880

St. Mary's opens a new school in Lawrence.

1902

St. Rita School for boys opens in Lawrence.

1961

Austin Preparatory School in Reading is founded. Augustinians staff the school until 1992.

1999

Augustinians return care of Holy Rosary Parish in Lawrence to the Archdiocese after 95 years of service.

2001

Augustinian Volunteers site is established in Lawrence.

The Augustinians founded Merrimack College at the invitation of Richard Cushing, the Archbishop of Boston, to help respond to the needs of local G.I.'s returning home from World War II. Fr. McQuade, O.S.A., a native of nearby Lawrence, MA, became the school's founding president.

Merrimack College has grown significantly in the past half-century, and today it counts nearly 22,000 students as alumni of the school.

The legacy of all the Augustinians who have served at Merrimack College can be seen throughout the school, and the friars who currently minister there continue that strong tradition of infusing the school with a uniquely Augustinian spirit.

Nowhere is that mission more apparent than in the work and ministry of Fr. James Wenzel, O.S.A., himself a graduate of Merrimack College's class of 1952. Fr. Wenzel heads up the Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy at Merrimack, and has made it his mission to bring Saint Augustine and Augustinian spirituality to the Merrimack community.

Not only does the Center for Augustinian Study sponsor lectures, symposiums, retreats and seminars on Augustinian themes, but it also promotes research on Saint Augustine across academic disciplines and with an ecumenical approach.

One of the programs started by Fr. Wenzel and the Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy that has a tremendous impact on the Merrimack community is its Pellegrinaggio in Italia. Each spring, a group of students, faculty members, staff and administrators travel to Italy for a week-long tour of sites important in the life of Saint Augustine and the history of the Augustinians. Infused with Augustinian spirituality, history, and service, this pilgrimage helps those participating on it to fully understand the Augustinian roots of Merrimack College. The 10th Pellegrinaggio in Italia was held in 2009, and, with each group that participates, the Augustinian makeup of Merrimack strengthens.

Another friar who has dedicated much of his life to Merrimack College is Fr. Kevin Dwyer, O.S.A. Since 1963, Fr. Dwyer has served as a professor in the Department of Religious and Theological Studies. Fr. Dwyer was a student at Merrimack before joining the Augustinians after his freshman year, and was honored with an honorary degree at Merrimack's 2007 graduation ceremony.

Fr. Wenzel and Fr. Dwyer are also joined by Fr. Bill Waters, O.S.A., and Fr. Ray Dlugos, O.S.A., in serving the Merrimack community. Fr. Enright, who taught at Merrimack from 1984 to 1992, recently returned to campus and joins Fr.



FR. JIM WENZEL, O.S.A. AND JUNIOR, KATHLEEN GREGOIRE ON THE MERRIMACK CAMPUS.

Dwyer as a professor in the Department of Religious and Theological Studies. Fr. Waters serves in Campus Ministry at Merrimack, and Fr. Dlugos serves as the school's Vice President of Mission and Ministry.

Together these friars are working to carry on the Augustinian legacy at Merrimack College. ✚



THE AUGUSTINIAN FAMILY: A SERIES OF CONVERSATIONS BY NATALIE AGRAZ

TOM CAFFREY

Tom grew up in Tower Hill, in Lawrence, MA where both his family and the Augustinians have been since 1850. Tom is the nephew of the late Fr. Henry A. Caffrey, O.S.A., who was the Master of Novices for 25 years. Tom’s education and formation have been rooted in the Augustinian way of life. He studied at Merrimack College, North Andover, MA and Villanova Law School. In the past 44 years he has contributed time, talent, and treasure, and has shown great dedication collaborating in the work of the friars.

NA: Tom, you have a long history with the Augustinians. When did that relationship first begin?

TC: My family has lived in the same section of Lawrence, MA called Tower Hill since the 1850’s and so have the Augustinians. So I had an Augustinian context in my family for more than 150 years. In my own case, I became conscious of the Augustinians in two ways; first I was in an Augustinian Parish and Augustinian schools and secondly, my uncle, Fr. Henry Caffrey, was an Augustinian. Uncle Henry was the Master of Novices in New Hamburg, NY, for 25 years. He was the greatest Augustinian influence in my life and that of my family. I know many Augustinians and I rarely meet an Augustinian who hasn’t been taught by my uncle.

NA: What was special about your Uncle Henry?

TC: He was not the most likely person to become an Augustinian. In high school he was the valedictorian of his class, captain of the football team, editor of the newspaper. He was an extraordinarily bright and able person and a good athlete. After he graduated, he went to work in the wool mill here, which just about everybody did. After four years there he decided to enter the seminary at Villanova, then to Rome.

NA: You’re very committed to community; you serve on Boards and Foundations. You give a lot to your community. What does being part of a community mean to you? Where does that generosity of spirit come from?

TC: It comes from lots of places. First in grammar school where I was taught from the first grade, “Why did God make me?” “To know, love and serve Him in this world and to be with Him in the next.” I believed in that and took it to heart. The Sisters and the Augustinians helped me to know and therefore love God through Jesus Christ. The next step was to serve; it was just part of the plan. When I finished law school and came back to Lawrence, there were so many opportunities to serve, and I kind of had a plan to serve those who had been good to me. And those who couldn’t be good to me. I started with my city; I served in schools and my parish council, then on school boards. I helped the Sisters rebuild a high school. Then I found ways to help at Merrimack and Villanova’s Law School. Anyone who was good to me deserved a little giving back. It’s a lot more fun to serve and give than it is to do other things.

Companion *n.* [kuhm – pan –yuhn] a person who frequently accompanies another, a person who assists or travels with another.

NA: When you were at Merrimack there were a lot of friars teaching there. What made the Augustinian education there special as opposed to say U Mass?

TC: I had the example of my uncle first who could have done so many other things but gave his life to teaching. I saw other Augustinians giving their entire lives to educating us and counseling us. They were a presence, they were always there as you traveled along this journey we’re all on. I saw a lot of Augustinians; I was a sacristan in the monastery. They were companions on the journey. I was impressed daily by each one of them. They said Mass everyday and went off to do their duties. They had a sense of serving, a sense of educating, and a sense of camaraderie among themselves that I admired.

NA: One in particular?

TC: Fr. Gildea, I remember serving Mass with him. He was a brilliant man, and the Dean of Studies. I had him for French. Fr. Gildea was as humble as they come. When I would serve Mass for him he would become intensely emotional at the consecration of the Mass. It had a great impact on him; he fully believed what he taught. That really impressed me. My Uncle gave his whole life to service and someone like Fr. Gildea took the consecration so seriously, I thought, who needs other proofs?

NA: What does Augustinian Spirituality mean to you or to people in general these days?

TC: It’s difficult to pin down, kind of intangible. I would characterize it as spiritual companionship. As I’ve lived my life, I’ve had Augustinians with me at every step along the way. They’ve witnessed my marriage, the marriages of my four children, baptisms, schooling and the funerals of my parents and my brother. They’ve been there; they’re companions on the journey. They give spiritual support through tough times, especially Fr. Wenzel and Fr. Waters. I hate to think what it would be like to go through all the events of our lives without any spiritual support. I can’t imagine trudging along without that silent companion.

NA: Anything else you’d like to share?

TC: I’ve had such an enriched life because of the Augustinians. It isn’t easy to express that gratitude. I’m just grateful that they’ve been there. I hope that as their numbers diminish, they find ways to transfer that companionship to lay people to carry it on. Every year, Fr Wenzel takes Merrimack faculty, staff and alumni on a Pelligrinagio to Italy to places where Augustine had an important presence. It’s a helpful way to transfer the message to the lay community. It has a lasting impression. You don’t come back the same person as when you left.

NA: You were affiliated to the order in 2006, what did that mean to you?

TC: I was very surprised, very impressed by the process. It was very humbling and important. It meant a lot to me. I’ve always had this great affection for the Augustinians and to my surprise they were watching and wanted me to be a part of them.

NA: Do you think your Uncle’s smiling?

TC: I hope so. I think he would have been thrilled if I had decided to follow him and be an Augustinian priest. It just wasn’t for me. There’s a formal way to do that and the less formal way to do that. Both paths have the same goals. ✚

ANNIVERSARIES 2009

ANNIVERSARY OF RELIGIOUS PROFESSION

80 YEARS

John E. Bresnahan, O.S.A.

65 YEARS

Harry A. Cassel, O.S.A.
Russell J. DeSimone, O.S.A.
John M. Driscoll, O.S.A.
James L. Galligan, O.S.A.
Joseph J. Getz, O.S.A.
Robert E. Steinman, O.S.A.

60 YEARS

John J. Byrnes, O.S.A.
Eugene A. DelConte, O.S.A.
Charles P. Laferty, O.S.A.

55 YEARS

John P. Betoni, O.S.A.
William M. Cleary, O.S.A.
Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A.
William T. Garland, O.S.A.
W. Howard McGraw, O.S.A.

50 YEARS

Ralph J. Monteiro, O.S.A.
T. Shawn Tracy, O.S.A.

25 YEARS

Patrick B. McStravog, O.S.A.
John F. Payne, O.S.A.

ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

60 YEARS

Edward V. Griffin, O.S.A.

55 YEARS

John F. Lipp, O.S.A.

50 YEARS

John J. Farrell, O.S.A.
Roger M. Hanouille, O.S.A.
James L. MacDougall, O.S.A.

25 YEARS

James R. Keating, O.S.A.
John J. Lydon, O.S.A.
James D. McBurney, O.S.A.

NEWS AND NOTES

FROM THE PROVINCE OF SAINT THOMAS OF VILLANOVA AND THE AUGUSTINIAN ORDER



Augustinian Ordained to the Priesthood

On October 24, 2009, Michael R. Scuderi, O.S.A., was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Louis DeSimone, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Philadelphia and Affiliate of the Order of Saint Augustine. Father Scuderi celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving the following day at SS. Simon and Jude Church in West Chester, PA. Father Scuderi, 43, is a native of Upper Darby, PA, and a graduate of Villanova University (1989). He entered the Augustinian Order in 2000, made his first profession of vows in 2002, and completed his M.Div. degree at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, IL, in 2008. Fr. Scuderi is now ministering at Saint Rita of Cascia Church in Philadelphia.



THE MOMENT OF ORDINATION.
(PHOTOS COURTESY OF PATRICK SCHUMACHER)



PERUVIAN VILLAGERS GATHER TO GREET THE AUGUSTINIAN CONTINGENCY ARRIVING TO MARK AND CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THEIR TOWNS.

Mission in Pacaipampa, Peru Celebrates 25 Years

In 1984, after a two-day trek up washed-out mountain roads, Fr. Arthur Purcaro, O.S.A., Fr. Richard Mullen, O.S.A., and three Sisters of Mercy, arrived in the remote Peruvian town of Pacaipampa to form the first parish staff there. Today, there are close to 100 small towns in the parish limits, and

people from all these towns gathered in Pacaipampa in September for a three-day celebration marking the 25th anniversary of the Augustinians' arrival there.

Fr. Purcaro, O.S.A., was on hand for the celebrations, as were Fr. John Lydon, O.S.A., Vicar of Peru; Bishop Dan Turley, O.S.A., Bishop of Chulucanas;

Fr. Bill Lego, O.S.A., Prior Provincial of the Midwest Province; and Brian Strassburger, Assistant Director of the Augustinian Mission Office for the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova.



New Website for Augustinian Vocations

The Augustinian Vocation Offices for the North American Provinces have launched a joint website to promote Augustinian vocations – www.augustinianvocations.org. The new website provides visitors with an engaging look at the Augustinians, their way of life, and Augustinian spirituality. Visitors will also find detailed information on the Augustinian formation program, news and event information, and a vocations blog.

7th Augustinian Values Institute Held

The latest Augustinian Values Institute was held at Saint Augustine College Preparatory School in Richland, NJ, in October. The gathering gave friars, teachers, and administrators from Augustinian secondary schools the opportunity to share their Augustinian identity and discuss ways to best apply those shared Augustinian values in their schools. Over 90 participants from Augustinian schools in four countries – seven in the U.S., one in Canada, two in

Ireland, and two in Australia – took part in this fall’s gathering. Each Augustinian Values Institute is based on the core Augustinian values of truth, unity, and love, and this occasion marked the 7th such gathering.



Augustinians Bid Farewell to Monsignor Bonner

The Augustinians paid a bittersweet farewell to Monsignor Bonner High School in Drexel Hill, PA, this past spring with a farewell Mass for the Augustinians and a celebration following with friars, staff, alumni, and friends. The Augustinians ministered at Monsignor Bonner since its founding in 1953, counting many of its own as alumni. In 2006, the Archdiocese of

Philadelphia restructured Monsignor Bonner High School and its sister school, Archbishop Prendergast, and created one administration for both schools. After much discernment about the Province’s ability to most effectively carry out its Augustinian charism with a declining number of friars, the Augustinians made the difficult, but necessary decision, to withdraw from staffing Monsignor Bonner High School at the close of the 2008-09 school year.



New Director of Augustinian Friends

The Augustinian Friends and the entire Augustinian community lost a beloved friar when Fr. Mark Garrett, O.S.A., died on April 23, 2009. Fr. Mark most recently ministered as the coordinator of the Augustinian Friends. Fr. Gary N. McCloskey, O.S.A., has been named as the Augustinian Friends’ new director. As director, Fr. McCloskey will work with Augustinian Seculars, Augustinian Friends, and all lay people interested in deepening their understanding of Augustinian spirituality. Fr. McCloskey, a prominent scholar on Saint Augustine and education, most recently served as Professor of Augustinian Pedagogy at Merrimack College. For more information on the Augustinian Friends, visit www.augustinianfriends.org.

Street Renamed for Augustinian Academy

A little bit of Augustinian history has made its way to the streets of Staten Island, NY. Thanks to the work of the Augustinian Academy Alumni Association, the corner of Campus Road and Howard Avenue has been renamed “Augustinian Academy Way.” The Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova founded Augustinian Academy as a high school for both lay students as well as for young men preparing for the Augustinian way of life. Augustinian Academy, which closed in 1969, was also the first Catholic high school on Staten Island. Fr. John Ferrence, O.S.A., who served at Augustinian Academy for many years, was on hand for the street renaming ceremony, which was held on October 3, 2009.



FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: JOHN FRANZREB II, REP. MICHAEL MCMAHON, COUNCILMAN KEN MITCHELL, JOSEPH FERRERI, FR. JOHN J. FERRENCE, O.S.A. AND TOM CONWAY. BACK ROW, FROM LEFT: CHARLES ORLANDO, WILLIAM FRANZREB AND JOHN KARNATSKI. PHOTO COURTESY OF KJ HUNT.

The Labyrinth at Merrimack College

Visitors to Merrimack College will now find a unique addition to the campus – a Labyrinth. Merrimack College’s labyrinth is a copy of the 13th century labyrinth laid in stone on the floor of the nave of Chartres Cathedral in France. Labyrinths were common in Europe in the Middle Ages, and walking them was part of popular and religious culture; people who could not make a pilgrimage to Rome or to Jerusalem used labyrinths in churches to substitute for the religious practice of walking or making a pilgrimage to sacred shrines. Merrimack College’s Labyrinth provides students, staff, and visitors with the opportunity for personal meditation. It sits as an invitation to engage, as St. Augustine did, in one of life’s greatest challenges: to make a journey within to one’s heart, believing and trusting that you can experience God’s abiding presence there. Known as interiority, this is a hallmark of Augustinian spirituality. The Labyrinth was dedicated on October 17 to the memory of William Lawrence Wenzel, Sr., and Gertrude Francis McFadden, parents of Fr. James Wenzel, O.S.A. Fr. Wenzel is a Merrimack alumnus (’52), and currently serves as the Director of Augustinian Study and Legacy at Merrimack.



FR. JAMES WENZEL, O.S.A., STANDS AT THE CENTER OF THE LABYRINTH DEDICATED TO MEMORY OF HIS PARENTS.

Stay on top of news and events from the Augustinian world – sign up for Augustinian eNews at www.augustinian.org.

KEEPING TRACK

Following the vow of obedience, friars find themselves called to where they are needed. Each issue of The Augustinian hopes to connect you with some familiar faces as we provide brief updates on friars serving throughout the Province. Watch here to track down that old classmate, pastor, chemistry teacher, chaplain, philosophy professor, co-worker or friend.

John F. McAtee, O.S.A.



Augustinians are called to serve the needs of the Church, and no truer example of that can be found than in the person of Fr. Jack McAtee, O.S.A.

After his ordination in 1966, Fr. McAtee traveled to the Augustinian missions in Japan, where he would serve for the next 25 years. From 1993 to 2008, Fr. McAtee served as associate director of Campus Ministry at Villanova University. In 2008, Fr. McAtee celebrated the 50th anniversary of his profession as an Augustinian, and just about the time most people would be settling down, Fr. McAtee volunteered for his latest assignment. In January of 2009, at the age of 68, Fr. McAtee joined the Augustinian mission in South Africa. Fr. McAtee is quickly learning the Zulu language and is ministering at Our Lady of Mercy Parish outside of Durban and at the parish's outstation churches. He ministers alongside Fr. Frank Doyle, O.S.A. and the Cebu Province's Fr. Benjie Gamos, O.S.A.

Denis G. Wilde, O.S.A.



An accomplished pianist, Fr. Denis Wilde, O.S.A., served as associate professor of music at Villanova University from 1977 to 1998. In

1998, he joined the pro-life advocacy group Priests for Life, and he has been ministering full-time on behalf of the unborn ever since. As Associate Director of Priests for Life, Fr. Wilde travels the country preaching the Gospel of Life and supporting the local pro-life efforts of clergy and laity. Lending his musical talents to his ministry, Fr. Wilde also routinely presents piano recitals across the country for pro-life events. During the past ten years, Fr. Wilde has traveled to over 600 venues in 46 states on behalf of Priests for Life. To see Fr. Wilde's schedule of upcoming speaking engagements or to download audio from past lectures and concerts, visit www.priestsforlife.org.

Dennis J. Harten, O.S.A.



Fr. Dennis Harten, O.S.A., was born and raised in the Bronx, NY, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1975. Since that time, Fr. Harten has

served in many parishes throughout the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova, including Our Mother of Good Counsel in Bryn Mawr, PA; Saint Nicholas of Tolentine in the Bronx; Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Lawrence, MA; Saint Thomas of Villanova Church in Rosemont-Villanova, PA; and Saint Augustine in Casselberry, FL. Currently, Fr. Harten serves as pastor of Saint Elizabeth Seton Church in Naples, FL. The Augustinians have served at Saint Elizabeth Seton Church since 1981, and today, Fr. Harten serves the parish community alongside Fr. Russell Ortega, O.S.A., assistant pastor at Saint Elizabeth.

Allan D. Fitzgerald, O.S.A.



Fr. Allan Fitzgerald, O.S.A., has spent his entire Augustinian ministry in higher education, serving at Villanova University, Catholic

University, and the Augustinian Patristic Institute in Rome. Fr. Fitzgerald is a leading scholar of Augustinian and Patristic studies, and has served as editor of the journal Augustinian Studies. He also served as editor of Augustine Through the Ages, a comprehensive encyclopedia on Augustine that was published in 1997. Since 1997, Fr. Fitzgerald has served in Rome as a faculty member at the Augustinian Patristic Institute. He recently returned to Villanova University as professor of Theology and was also recently named the new director of the Augustinian Institute, assuming the role left vacant after the passing of Fr. Thomas Martin, O.S.A.

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TO CONTACT FR. FITZGERALD:
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Villanova University
Villanova, PA 19085



IN PARADISUM

The following friars were recently called home to God. You can read full biographies of these Augustinians, and post your own reflections or favorite memory, online at www.augustinian.org



MARK A. GARRETT, O.S.A.

BORN: 3/13/1945
FIRST PROFESSION: 9/10/1963
ORDAINED: 8/29/1970
DIED: 4/23/2009

Fr. Mark served in parishes and schools throughout the Province, including Biscayne College in Miami, FL; Merrimack College in North Andover, MA; St. Augustine Church in Andover, MA; and St. Augustine Church in Lawrence, MA. Most recently he served as the coordinator and spiritual director for the Augustinian Friends, where he shared his deep love and knowledge of Saint Augustine and Augustinian spirituality with the Augustinian Friends community.



ANTHONY J. TOMASULO, O.S.A.

BORN: 5/5/1934
FIRST PROFESSION: 9/10/1956
ORDAINED: 6/3/1961
DIED: 6/11/2009

After ordination, Fr. Tomasulo taught at Monsignor Bonner High School in Drexel Hill, PA, and then began a lifetime of parochial ministry. He served at Saint Rita's in Philadelphia; Immaculate Conception in Hoosick Falls, NY; Assumption/St. Paul in Mechanicville, NY; St. John the Baptist in Schaghticoke, NY; Our Mother of Consolation in Chestnut Hill, PA; Resurrection of Our Lord in Dania Beach, FL; and St. John Neumann in Charlotte, NC.



CYRIL J. SMITH, O.S.A.

BORN: 2/9/1929
FIRST PROFESSION: 9/10/1947
ORDAINED: 2/5/1956
DIED: 7/23/2009

Fr. Smith spent all of his years of priestly ministry in education, serving at Archbishop Carroll High School in Washington, DC; Biscayne College in Miami, FL; Bishop John Neumann High School in Golden Gate, FL; and Msgr. Edward Pace High School in Miami, FL.



THOMAS J. MAHONY, O.S.A.

BORN: 8/22/1928
FIRST PROFESSION: 9/10/1947
ORDAINED: 9/12/1954
DIED: 9/1/2009

Fr. Mahony spent his entire priestly ministry in the educational apostolate of the Province. He was known for his dedication to the schools and the students he served, including: Archbishop Carroll High School, Washington, DC; Malvern Prep, Malvern, PA; Biscayne College, Miami, FL; St. John Neumann High School in Golden Gate, FL; and Villanova University.

DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The Province’s Development Council works tirelessly to advise and assist the Augustinians in raising awareness and funds to support the many good works of the friars. The Province is indebted to all who serve on the Development Council:

- Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., *Prior Provincial*
Charles P. Connolly, Jr., *Chairman*
Natalie Agraz, *Director of Development*
Margaret S. Boova
Thomas Buckley
James Delaney
Anthony Dellomo
Basil DiSipio
Peter Federico
Anthony Genovese, O.S.A.
Brad MacDonald
Anthony Madrigale
Claudia Piccirilli
Mary Ellen Maggitti
William Mahoney
James J. McCartney, O.S.A.
William “Tip” O’Neill, Jr.
James O’Connor
Michael Picotte
Robert Saldutti
John Smock

HONORARY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

- William Hallissey
Gary Holloway

The Augustinian Fund

On October 13, 2009, the Augustinians launched their fourth annual kickoff for the Augustinian Fund. It was held at the historic Montrose Mansion in Radnor, PA. Fr. Edmund Dobbin, O.S.A. and Harry Paretta, head coach of Villanova University’s Women’s basketball team, co-hosted the event.

With the confidence you have given us, we have set our goal for this year at \$1,000,000.00. Chairing this year’s effort are Robert Saldutti of Cherry Hill, NJ and Claudia Piccirilli of Newtown Square, PA, both leaders on the Augustinian Development Council. The Province is grateful to all its donors and supporters for their generosity and friendship.



Fr. Fritz Cerullo with Augustinian Volunteer, Agustin Abdallah, who served in Bellesini Academy in Lawrence, MA.



Fr. Mickey Genovese, O.S.A., Mary Murphy and Bradley MacDonald enjoy a moment at the Kickoff of the Augustinian Fund.



Coach Harry Paretta looks for the winning bid at the auction at the kickoff.



Visit AugustinianFund.org

- Check out our alternative gift cards and jewelry from our African mission. **CLICK ON: ENTER STORE**
- Watch the new Augustinian Volunteer Videos. **CLICK ON: VIDEO**
- Read about the ministries your donations support. **CLICK ON: THE FUND**
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