

VOLUME XII . ISSUE III

# THE AUGUSTINIAN

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# Shortcut Quicktips for www.augustinian.org

Use **Featured Quicklinks** on our homepage to get to our most popular pages

Click on the **Facebook** link at the bottom of our homepage for quick access to our latest news

The screenshot shows the website's homepage with a 'Featured Quicklinks' section containing 12 links:

- Meet Our Provincial
- Vocations
- The Augustinian Magazine
- About the Augustinians
- The Province
- Support Our Mission
- About Saint Augustine
- Augustinian Volunteers
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- Homilies
- Foreign Missions
- Parishes and Schools
- Justice and Peace Ministries
- Our Photo Galleries
- Our Videos

At the bottom, there is a search bar, a 'PRAESIDIUM ACCREDITED' logo, an 'E-NEWS SIGN-UP' button, and a navigation bar with links: HOME, PROTECTION OF YOUTH, FRIAR LOGIN, DONATE NOW. The footer includes: Copyright 2015 Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova | Site by RGBPIXEL and a Facebook icon with a mouse cursor.



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In June 2017, the Federation of Augustinians of North America (FANA), comprised of the Provinces in North America and representatives of the Vicariate in Peru, convened at Villanova University. Each provincial gave a review of his individual provinces and the challenges each face. Friars reviewed the progress of the Federation to date and discussed opportunities where the provinces can collaborate in the future. Simultaneously, the Vicariate of Japan held a convocation of its members to likewise look to the future and determine how they can best approach the challenges faced by their community.

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#### ON THE COVER:

Friars young and old from all four provinces are engaged and uplifted by their week of shared prayer and conversation about the future. Photo by Bryan Smith

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Thanks to Father Alejandro Moral Antón, O.S.A., Father Frank Doyle, O.S.A., Father Thomas Masaki Imada, O.S.A., Father Rob Hagan, O.S.A., Father Joseph Farrell, O.S.A.; Photographers Father Dan McLaughlin, O.S.A., and Brother Dominic Smith, O.S.A.; Villanova University and its interlibrary loan staff member Jesse Slavin; the University of Toronto Robarts Library for loan of the book *Homes and Haunts of Luther*, by John Stoughton, D.D. Also, for formation from *The Augustinians from the Protestant Reformation to the Peace of Westphalia, 1518-1648*, by David Gutierrez, O.S.A.

#### THE AUGUSTINIAN

A publication of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova.

#### p. 8 Luther & the Reformation: Saint Augustine and the Augustinian Order

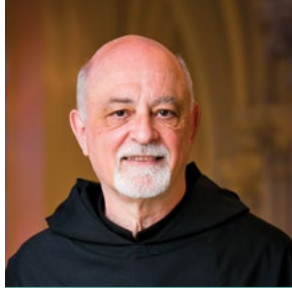
The Augustinians will hold an international congress in Rome commemorating the Reformation and the roles of Augustinian Friar Martin Luther, Saint Augustine and the Augustinian Order. In an interview, Prior General of the Augustinians, Alejandro Moral Antón, O.S.A., discusses why the congress is significant and what he hopes it may accomplish and bring to the work of ecumenism. A review of the life of Martin Luther as an Augustinian and his role in the Reformation follows.

#### p. 12 The Inaugural Saint Augustine Medal Dinner

On the evening of April 27, 2017, at a dinner in N.Y.C., the Inaugural Saint Augustine Medal was presented to Patty and Jay Wright by Michael Di Gregorio, O.S.A., on behalf of the Province's Friars, recognizing the Wrights for the way in which they have consistently promoted the Augustinians and Augustinian values of truth, unity and love. Father Rob Hagan, O.S.A., reflects on the special evening and the honored recipients of the Medal and pictures recall the evening and the event.

#### p. 16 The Diocesan Cause for Father Bill Atkinson, O.S.A., Is Opened

Very appropriately, on the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Augustine, Archbishop Charles Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., presided at a liturgy, which preceded an historic ceremony, during which the Cause for Father Bill Atkinson, O.S.A., was opened and those charged with the task of investigating the life of Father Bill took their oaths.



LETTER FROM THE

PRIOR PROVINCIAL

Dear Friends,

The photo you see on the cover of this issue of *The Augustinian* conveys well, I believe, a characteristic of our religious community's identity, history and spirit: **we are people on the move.**

At our founding many centuries ago, we Augustinians were caught up into a dynamic, new initiative in the Church, known as the Mendicant Movement. One feature of the communities that comprised this movement was that they were marked by itinerancy. Their members were to be free of the stability that was proper to a monastic way of life, in order to be available to pick up and go where they were most needed. This characteristic is clearly evident today in the movement of individual friars from one community to another, which often occurs in our Province during the summer months. It is also noticeable in the Province's freedom to withdraw from certain ministries or specific locations due to changing needs, and move into other ones elsewhere.

This year, in a special way, many friars from across North America exercised a bit of *temporary Mendicant Itinerancy* as they traveled to Villanova for the celebration of a convocation of the four North American Provinces. The movement, however, was not one made on foot alone. There was movement also, of hearts and minds, as you will see in the feature article of this magazine. The profession of vows of six friars, the ordination of three, the gathering of student friars and formators were occasions that also kept a number of us on the road.

A major step forward, too, was made this past Spring with the opening of the Diocesan Process in the Cause of our late Province member, Father Bill Atkinson. This event marked a significant advancement in our efforts to make Father Bill and his message more widely known, as the first official act of the Cause was celebrated.

In a related matter, you will read on the following page notice of the transition of someone whose service to the Province is well known to you, particularly through the pages of this magazine. Teddie Gallagher, editor of *The Augustinian*, and Director of Communications for the Province, will be leaving the Province staff to pursue new interests. I express the gratitude of the Province membership, as well as my personal appreciation and best wishes, for all that Teddie has done over these past eight years to enhance the profile of the Province in such an elegant and accomplished way!

Our hope always, of course, is that as we move about, whether physically, or in terms of objectives and course of action, we are advancing, making progress. That after all, is Saint Augustine's counsel to us, "Keep on walking, moving forward, trying for the goal. Don't try to stop on the way, or to go back, or to deviate from it."

May all of us strive always to live by this piece of advice, and journey as pilgrims with a sure destination, forward and upward, assisted by God's grace.

God's blessings,

Michael F. Di Gregorio, O.S.A.  
PRIOR PROVINCIAL  
PROVINCE OF SAINT THOMAS OF VILLANOVA

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RED-PINK CHAIRS WITH "MY EASTER FLOWERS"



"MY LOFT STUDIO"



MY VILLANOVA CHURCH "THE SINGER'S VIEW"



LETTER FROM THE

EDITOR

Sitting in my office at the Provincial headquarters I can't help but think how much I will miss the red-pink chairs and the many giant trees outside my windows. So many times I have looked out to the beauty of the Friary grounds and the seasons for inspiration as I write and edit *The Augustinian*.

*The Augustinian* Magazine you have before you is my 22nd issue. Yes, I have decided to leave my position as Communications Director and Editor of *The Augustinian* Magazine to pursue "My New Life Plan"... i.e., to work on a variety of professional and personal creative projects, writing, painting in my loft studio (which I've neglected since taking this job in 2009) and adding to the 24,677 photos I have in the cloud.

What will never leave me is my work on this magazine, the people I have met along the way, and getting to know the Augustinians and Saint Augustine in a way that I never would have imagined.

My first experience with the Augustinians was at Saint Denis Parish, Havertown, Pa., founded and staffed by Augustinians beginning in July, 1825. I am the 5th generation of Gallaghers from Ardmore, Pennsylvania, to belong to Saint Denis Parish and the first to attend Saint Denis Grade School. Although I remember many of the pastors and priests, I can't say I knew much about the Augustinians.

My path to really know the Augustinians began with Father Shawn Tracy, O.S.A., (1940-2014), who in 1976 asked me, along with four other singers from the 6 P.M., Sunday night student Mass at the Villanova Church, to record with him and his Bronx group in New York City. The group named *He Shall Be Peace* and later, *Sanctuary*, was founded by Shawn and ultimately directed by Dan Mason, an Augustinian Affiliate. Both Shawn and Dan have changed my life. From 1976 on, we recorded eight albums and met wonderful Augustinians and friends at live events. I met even more Augustinians and parishioners when I volunteered as a singer/cantor at Saint Denis and Saint Thomas of Villanova Parishes for 20+ years.

In August 2009, following many years at TV Guide Magazine, I was fortunate to be hired as the Communications Director and Editor of *The Augustinian*. What a privilege it has been to serve the Augustinians in this role.

I leave with so many people to thank: the three priors provincial whom I served, Father Donald Reilly, O.S.A., Father Mickey Genovese, O.S.A., and our current Prior Provincial, Father Michael Di Gregorio, O.S.A.; all of the Friars, especially those who proofed, wrote reflections or articles for the magazine and contributed artwork and photography; Associate Communications Director, Kitty Sheridan; my colleagues here at the Provincial Office, at the Monastery/Augustinian Archives, at Villanova University and the design team at 20nine. I also thank the Catholic Press Association for their recognition with 18 CPA awards. I am grateful to our readers—Augustinians and others—who encouraged me with their kind comments.

Signing off from Villanova, Pennsylvania, I ask you to keep me in your prayers as I begin "My New Life Plan."

Gratefully,  
Teddie Gallagher



## FEDERATION OF AUGUSTINIANS OF NORTH AMERICA

CONVOCATION 2017

# Discerning the Future: Rooted, Restless, Renewing

BY FATHER FRANK DOYLE, O.S.A.

**June 12-16, 2017, was an important and significant week in the history of the Order of Saint Augustine in North America. That week found approximately 180 Augustinian Friars from coast to coast gathering at Villanova University to engage in fraternal and prayerful conversation.**

Reflecting upon our presence to one another in brotherhood and the call of God to ministry in the Church today, representatives of the Provinces of California, Canada, Chicago, Villanova, and the mission region of Peru met to reflect upon the theme of this encounter: "Discerning the Future: Rooted, Restless, Renewing." As members of the *Federation of Augustinians of North America (FANA)*, friars invoked the memory of those friars who have gone before us since the inception of our presence in the United States in 1796, the restless spirit of our Holy Father Saint Augustine, and the contemporary Spirit of renewal in the Church under the leadership of Pope Francis and the Prior General of the Order, Father Alejandro Moral Antón, O.S.A. Members of the Villanova Province in the region of Japan, though not able to be with us in person, were in solidarity with us as they met at the very same time seeking to reflect upon the challenges of common life and ministry in Japan.

The opening Mass of the Holy Spirit was celebrated by the Prior General, who later shared with us in the initial conference the movement of God's Spirit in other provinces and circumscriptions of the Order worldwide as, similarly, they strive to engage in conversations that foster greater collaboration among provinces. There followed a brief summary of the history and accomplishments of FANA since its inception in 2009 which was given by the Executive Director of the Federation, Father Gary McCloskey, O.S.A. His presentation gave the friars a springboard to launch the next stage of growth for the Federation and a reflection upon the challenges that face our common life and ministry.



PRIOR GENERAL FATHER ALEJANDRO MORAL, O.S.A., PRESIDES AT THE OPENING MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



"FOR A JOY SHARED BY MANY INCREASES THE HAPPINESS OF EACH ONE." – SAINT AUGUSTINE

Subsequently, the three provincials, Father Michael Di Gregorio (Villanova), Father Bernard Scianna (Chicago, Canada, Peru), and Father Kevin Mullins (California), who together compose the FANA council, updated the membership of each province's current challenges, sharing their perspectives concerning the on-going collaboration among provinces since the last convocation.

Guidance each day was given by Dr. Michael Bland, a clinical psychologist, who is familiar with the Augustinian way of life and the contemporary experiences of religious life in North America today. He spoke to the friars about the emotional stress and strain associated with change, loss, diminishment, and occasionally, the anxiety that can surface with an unknown future. *Like so many aspects of contemporary life today, religious life is in a state of transformation, transition, growth, and movement wherein we prayerfully engage with the guidance of God's Spirit.*

Our convocation gathered together men "young in initial formation" as well as men "young in heart in stages of their own on-going formation" from the ages of 23 to 87.

Men who had not seen one another for many years rejoiced with the opportunity to share old stories and remembrances of life together. They delighted hearing, "You haven't changed a bit!" only to have it said much more loudly: "I SAID, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT!"

When asked to reflect upon this experience various friars commented, such as: "I found this gathering to be filled with hope" and "It was challenging and at the same time comforting just to know that we are on our way together." Others commented that the sessions were energizing, insightful, thoughtful, and fulfilling. Many shared that our Morning and Evening prayers brought us to a moment of meditative reflection in which God's presence seemed almost tangible within this gathering. We celebrated with the renewed remembrance of the courage of our founding friars who began this American endeavor, facing tremendous odds as they sought to minister to the early immigrant population while dealing with the anti-Catholic violence of the 19th century. Bus tours were provided for those friars who wanted to remember these early stages of Augustinian life in the

Philadelphia area with visits to Olde Saint Augustine's Church, our first foundation in the United States, the historic buildings of colonial Philadelphia, and the National Shrine of Saint Rita of Cascia. Tours were also provided for the campus of Villanova University, where many of the friars received their early religious formation and education. This was a particularly significant year to view the campus as our esteemed University, founded by the Augustinians in 1842, is celebrating its 175th anniversary.

Accepting the reality and challenges of life in a world today that is so divided, we can face the challenges of tomorrow with a unique sense of the importance of our communal life and ministry as we strive to live in harmony with one mind and heart on our way to God. We know that it is only the grace of God that has brought us thus far and which empowers us for the future. Some friars even went so far as to say that they had never felt a deeper sense of belonging to our fraternity and a special cohesiveness of purpose among us.

As I reflect further on the experience of the week, I am reminded of a quote from Saint Augustine's Confessions. In Book 8, Saint Augustine says, *"For a joy shared by many increases the happiness felt by each one when people celebrate together. Each one is fuel to another's flame."* Yes, a flame was rekindled during our convocation experience, the joy of our vowed life together brought happiness. We indeed celebrated together, and each of us contributed to one another's "fire" with the love of God in our hearts and the joys and challenges of our common life.



FATHER GARY N. MCCLOSKEY, O.S.A., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FANA, ADDRESSES THE FRIARS



FRIARS GATHER IN SMALL GROUPS TO DISCUSS THEIR FUTURE



(L-R) FRONT ROW: MICHAEL HILDEN, O.S.A.; HIROYUKI SHIBATA, O.S.A.; REGIONAL SUPERIOR OF JAPAN, MASAMI YAMAGUCHI, O.S.A.; BACK ROW: MASAYA IDE, O.S.A.; MITARU TOYAMA, O.S.A.; KIYOTSUGU YAMANO, O.S.A.; TETSUYA HIRANO, O.S.A.; JESÚS MERNILO DAÑO (CEBU); ATSUSHI KUWAHARA, O.S.A.; FUTOSHI MATSUO, O.S.A.; MASAKI IMADA, O.S.A.

## CONVOCATION 2017 JAPANESE STYLE

CONVOCATION CANDLES WERE BLESSED BY JOSEPH L. FARRELL, O.S.A., ON THE LAST DAY OF THE CONVOCATION

Several years ago, at the opening Mass of the General Chapter of the Order, celebrated in the Basilica of St. Augustine in Rome, Pope Francis in his homily urged all the friars to reflect upon the word “*restless*,” which, as we know, is forever associated with the restlessness of Augustine’s own heart and his search for Truth, Unity, and Love. Our convocation indeed touched that restless spirit in each of us as we embrace the challenges before us. Saint Augustine cautions in his Sermon 169 that if we become satisfied with our progress in the spiritual life and wish to become what we are not yet, there is a danger that we may become so pleased with ourselves that that is where we will remain. He encourages us to grow and go beyond where we are at present. He tells us to keep walking, keep moving forward and making progress. Within this fraternal convocation, we acknowledged that we desire to grow more in unity of mind and heart as brothers on our way to God and, together in union with all our brothers and sisters who serve with us, to be in touch with the restlessness of God who desires more of us in furthering the Kingdom. Among the many fruits of this convocation was the decision to continue the conversation at the next convocation of FANA which will be celebrated in San Diego, California, in 2021, the 225th anniversary of the arrival in the U.S. of Father Matthew Carr, O.S.A. Wouldn’t our brother Matthew be pleased?

### BY THOMAS MASAKI IMADA, O.S.A., VICARIATE SECRETARY

The Friars of the Vicariate of Japan gathered for their own Convocation at a Passionist retreat house in Fukuoka from June 12th through June 15th with an overnight stay at a hotel with an onsen, or hot spring, in Dazaifu, Fukuoka, at the very end, to add to the Japanese taste of the gathering. Our meeting was made possible thanks to the approval by Father Michael Di Gregorio, our Provincial, of a petition from the Vicariate membership to hold a separate convocation to discuss and plan for its own future.

A strong sense of community and camaraderie prevailed throughout the gathering and there was a spontaneity and openness in the way our conversation unfolded. The discussion and sharing proper started by Father Hiroyuki, our Vicar, calling us to reflect once again on the letter from the Prior General, Father Alejandro Moral Antón, O.S.A., which he had sent following his visitation in January; in particular on what he perceived as challenges facing the Vicariate, especially, the need to take “ownership of what will be by our younger friars.”

In order to respond to this specific challenge, we drew on the experience of the Planning Process that we had undertaken prior to the 2002 Provincial Chapter for a 30 months’ duration, particularly focusing on the mission statement and a list of chosen/prioritized ministries, two of the fruits of the said process, on all of which we reflected anew and then shared our comments and observations. In the end our conversations led to the decision to implement two initiatives: the formation of a team to promote vocations and the production of a DVD through which to appeal to different congregations of Augustinian Sisters in the Philippines in the hope that one or another congregation may be encouraged to collaborate with us by sending its Sisters to establish a community in Japan.

That being said, perhaps what was more important is the broad consensus which has emerged among us that we could still make a difference by continuing to serve at our four parishes, while we remain open to new possibilities, which we owe to our younger members and to those who will be interested to join us. The gathering ended with a positive note that we will bring our ‘dreams’ with us when we meet again in the fall. Yes, small though we are, we, the Vicariate of Japan, are a resilient community which keeps on dreaming dreams, young and old.



THE PROVINCIALS WITH THE VICAR GENERAL: (L-R) FATHER KEVIN MULLINS, O.S.A. (CAL); FATHER MICHAEL DI GREGORIO, O.S.A. (VIL); FATHER JOSEPH FARRELL, O.S.A. (ROME) AND FATHER BERNIE SCIANNA, O.S.A. (CHI)



FATHERS JOSEPH RYAN, O.S.A., AND ROBERT GUESSETTO, O.S.A., AT THE DAILY MASS IN THE VILLANOVA CHURCH



FATHER THOMAS MURNANE, O.S.A., AND FATHER BILL WATERS, O.S.A., ENJOYING THE BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS OF VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY



MEN IN FORMATION ATTEND THE CONVOCATION



FRIARS ATTEND MORNING PRAYER



CONVOCATION CANDLES ARE GIVEN TO THE FOUR NORTH AMERICAN PROVINCES TO SYMBOLIZE THE JOURNEY FORWARD



# LUTHER *and* THE REFORMATION: SAINT AUGUSTINE *and* THE AUGUSTINIAN ORDER

AN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS:

November 9, 2017 – November 11, 2017  
at The Patristic Institute, Rome

FATHER MARTIN LUTHER, O.S.A., POSTS HIS 95 THESES

## AN INTERVIEW *with* THE PRIOR GENERAL *of* THE AUGUSTINIAN ORDER, FATHER ALEJANDRO MORAL ANTÓN, O.S.A.

BY TEDDIE GALLAGHER

2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, the start of which is traced to Martin Luther, who was an Augustinian Friar in Germany. Before the religious differences in Europe took hold, the Augustinians had many houses in Germany and the Low Countries (modern Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands). The effects of the Reformation on the Roman Catholic Church were to be felt by the Order of Saint Augustine, not just in Martin Luther's Germany, but throughout Europe.



POPE FRANCIS AND FATHER MORAL ANTON, O.S.A., AT THE VATICAN

**TC:** Why are you gathering Augustinians, Lutherans and lay Catholics on the occasion of this V Centenary of Luther posting his 95 Theses?

What do you see Augustinians offering during the Congress that will be of significant value to understanding the Protestant Reformation and the figure of Luther?

**AMA:** We recall this V Centenary of the Reformation because Luther was an Augustinian and when we study Luther, we are also studying the Augustinian way of life that he lived, the monasteries in which he lived and also other Augustinians, like Saint Thomas of Villanova, who were living at the exact same time. We recall an historic part of our own Augustinian existence, our history, to let the world know who the Augustinians are, what our Augustinian family is about.

One needs to understand that Luther is being formed in the Augustinian way, so his thoughts are coming from Saint Augustine and Saint Augustine was getting his thoughts from the letters of Saint Paul. Two important themes that Luther tapped into were grace and communion, which are very Augustinian themes. Luther was freer in his interpretation of grace and communion, in line with Saint Augustine, more than, for example, Saint Thomas Aquinas, who took a more literal interpretation of God's actions in our life through reason. Augustine is about the grace of God, the freedom we

have to live as children of God, and Luther tapped into that to form his own theology. As Augustinians we are tapping in, not just to the thoughts of Martin Luther, but also to the thoughts of Saint Augustine.

**Do you think of Martin Luther as your Augustinian brother?**

I recognize Luther as my brother because he is a son of God, a child of God. In regards to an Augustinian Brother, one of the important things to remember is, as Augustinians, we were founded by the Church. The Holy Father called the Augustinians in the 13th century to join together to become the Order of Saint Augustine with a particular affiliation to the Holy Father, to the Church. It is what distinguishes us as Augustinians.

Martin's choice was to separate himself from the Holy Father and from us as a brother. As a child of God, he is my brother in Christ...but not in Augustine. We continually value our affiliation with the Holy Father, with the Church as part of who we are as Augustinians. Many people nowadays are seeking reforms within the Church. Martin Luther was not able to do that. He sought reform outside of the Church.

**What do you see as the influence of the thoughts of Saint Augustine on ecumenism today?**

The work that we do as Augustinians through ecumenism comes from the three characteristic values of Augustine... Truth, Unity, Love... *Veritas, Unitas, Caritas*. For Augustine, seeking the truth and the common search for truth was so important. Many times Augustine had to battle with religious sects to defend the truth of one's understanding of God. Also, unity was very important for Augustine and as Augustinians, we base our common life on unity. The third value is *caritas*, love. Above all things put on love. It's love that will guide us together. The Church can learn from Saint Augustine that ecumenism is the spirit of being one body of Christ.

**Do you think this V Centenary opens possibilities that our churches will find new insights that will connect us even further?**

Yes, I hope change can happen this year as we take the opportunity to reflect on what has taken place in the past. I also hope that the V Centenary offers opportunities to encounter one another, to meet with each other, to reflect, to discuss as brothers and sisters, as Lutherans, as Catholics.

**What do you hope people will take away from the congress?**

The way that we think about Lutheranism and ecumenism now is very different than it was even fifty years ago. So, we bring to this congress an updated understanding of what ecumenism is when we look at Luther and his search for God. I had a conversation with the Holy Father about this Congress and he is very happy we are having it. The Holy Father said it is important for all of us to come to an understanding that Luther was a man in search of God...and to have an understanding of what that meant for Luther in his time period, that he was searching, just like all of us are in our own times.



MARTIN LUTHER APPEARS BEFORE THE DIET OF WORMS, WHERE THE HOLY ROMAN EMPEROR CHARLES V DECLARES LUTHER A PUBLIC OUTLAW

## THE LIFE *of* MARTIN LUTHER 1483 – 1546

BY KITTY SHERIDAN

Martin Luther was born on November 10, 1483, to Hans and Margarete Luder (later Luther) in Eisleben, Saxony (Southeast Germany). Martin, one of seven children, had a strict Christian upbringing and was afforded a good education. His father, Hans, had aspirations for Martin to become a lawyer. Martin enrolled in the University of Erfurt in 1501, began his studies and earned a Master of Arts degree in Philosophy in 1505. Soon after he began studies in jurisprudence.

In July 1505, following a visit to his parents, Martin was caught in a serious thunderstorm. Frightened for his life, he uttered a prayer and a vow, that if delivered safely through the storm, he would become a religious. To the dismay of his father, he abruptly quit his studies for the law. Faithful to the vow he made, he entered the Augustinian Monastery at Erfurt, Germany, later in July 1505. Thus, began the life of Martin Luther as an Augustinian Friar.

While completing his studies, Luther taught at the University of Erfurt, which was a member of the observantine congregation. The 'observant' congregations were so called as they followed a stricter regime than other houses, practicing a rule of asceticism, i.e., a regime that may have included self-denial, self-mortification, and abstinence. On April 3, 1507, Luther was ordained in Erfurt Cathedral and he said his first Mass in May 1507. In 1508, he was assigned to teach at the University of Wittenberg. An Augustinian house at Wittenberg had been founded mainly as a house for professors teaching there and also for students sent there to study from other houses in Germany. In 1509, he earned a Bachelor of Theology degree, and returned to Erfurt, where he was assigned as a teacher for candidates at the friary.



EISLEBEN, BIRTHPLACE OF MARTIN LUTHER



APRIL 3, 1507, LUTHER IS ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD AT ERFURT CATHEDRAL



LUTHER WAS A GOOD TEACHER AND STUDENT OF SCRIPTURE

## LUTHER, HIS “95 THESES” and ITS AFTERMATH



CATHEDRAL AT WORMS, WHERE LUTHER WAS PROCLAIMED AN OUTLAW



FREDERICK THE WISE ARRANGED FOR LUTHER TO BE TAKEN TO WARTBURG CASTLE.



WARTBURG CASTLE

At the time, there was a movement for reform among the Augustinians. In 1507, there was a decree from the Pope to unite all houses in northern Germany under the observantine congregation, but when Augustinian monasteries in the region were asked to unite, eight refused, among them, the monastery at Erfurt, whose members wanted to retain their independence from the other monasteries and also feared a laxness might be introduced at Erfurt if they unified. In 1510, Luther was selected as a delegate to go to Rome to present the view of the friars in opposition to this proposal to the Pope. While in Rome, Luther was disillusioned by the behavior he saw among clerics: a corruption in morals and an affection towards luxuries. Despite his months in Rome, upon returning to Germany Martin proved to be sincere in his duties as a religious, a good teacher and student of scripture. In 1511, he returned to Wittenberg to teach and succeeded Johann von Staupitz as the chair of the bible. In October 1512, he was awarded a Doctor of Theology degree. Luther was a popular lecturer on scriptures, and many Augustinian Friars were students of Luther.

As a young religious, it was evident that Luther’s scruples plagued him, causing him great anxiety and fear for his salvation. He was ever aware of his failings, and wondered how the forgiveness of God was a certainty given his failings. Luther’s superior of the monastery at Erfurt, Johann von Staupitz, was a pious friar and a talented administrator. He was also Luther’s mentor and saw the torment that afflicted Luther and advised him to unite himself with the wounds of Christ, in order to try to divert his concentration of his own

failings and his fear of God’s judgement of him. However, despite this advice, Luther was known to spend hours confessing what he saw as his failings and inability to be pleasing to God, gaining God’s forgiveness.



THE AUGUSTINIAN MONASTERY, WITTENBERG

Luther was delving more and more into his studies of scripture while teaching at the University. Over the next several years (1513-1518) he held lectures on the Psalms, the Pauline Epistles, Romans, Galatians and Hebrews. He eventually came to believe that scripture alone (*sola scriptura*), and proclaiming one’s faith in Christ was what was necessary for salvation and this belief gave him hope and quelled the anxiety and fear of damnation.

Luther remained faithful to his religious duties as a friar and at a Chapter in 1515, he was appointed vicar of two districts, Meissen and Thuringia. While he was teaching at Wittenberg, there was in Germany in 1516, a Dominican Friar, Johann Tetzel, selling “indulgences,” in order to raise funds for the building of Saint Peter’s Basilica. Luther was incited by the commercial approach allegedly taken by Tetzel “As soon as a coin in the coffer rings, the soul from purgatory springs” and he wrote to the Bishop of Mainz and the Bishop of Madgeburg, decrying the

practice approved by Pope Leo X, and he enclosed his “95 Theses.” When he heard no response, he published his “95 Theses” for academic discussion. When he posted his “95 Theses” to the castle church door in Wittenberg, was Luther’s intention to cause a break from Rome? Likely not. Such an action was not unknown, as it was a method of posting topics to be debated. However, the “95 Theses” spread quickly, in part due its printing. After posting his “95 Theses” in October 1517, Luther continued to teach at the University of Wittenberg.

In February 1518, the Vicar of the Augustinians, Gabriele della Volta, ordered von Staupitz to reprimand Luther. He also ordered Luther to attend the Chapter of the Observantine Congregation at Heidelberg in March 1518. Many of the friars attending became backers of Luther. In the fall 1518, the Church ordered Luther to Rome but relented, as Luther refused to leave Germany and proceedings against him were held at Augsburg.



LUTHER REFUSED TO GO TO ROME, SO PROCEEDINGS AGAINST HIM WERE HELD IN AUGSBURG.

Luther appeared before Cardinal Cajetan in October 1518. Cajetan had been told to have Luther recant his errors or be arrested and brought to Rome. Luther however, refused to recant and with the aid of his supporters, he escaped back to Wittenberg. In June 1520, the Papal Bull, *Exsurge Domini*, declared 40 of Luther’s theses heretical and in December 1520, Luther publicly burned a copy of the Bull.

In 1521, he was excommunicated. In April of that year, Luther appeared before the Diet of Worms and again refused to recant. In May, the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V, declared Luther a public outlaw. In danger of arrest, Frederick the Wise staged a capture and for eleven months hid Luther at Wartburg castle. During this time, he began a translation of the New Testament into German, which was published the next year. Even von Staupitz realized that Luther’s attacks were not only against abuses in the Church, but against the Church itself, and he expressly condemned Luther’s teachings.



LUTHER’S REMAINS REST IN THE CASTLE CHURCH AT WITTENBERG, WHERE HE POSTED HIS 95 THESES.

In 1522, the ban on Luther was lifted and he returned to Wittenberg, where he continued to live in the Augustinian house and in 1524, he returned to teach at the University of Wittenberg. Although Luther had been excommunicated in 1521, it wasn’t until October of 1524 that he finally discarded his Augustinian habit. In April 1525, he married Katharina von Bora, a former nun, with whom he had six children. In the Diet of Speyer in 1526, German princes were given the right to establish religion in their territories. Martin Luther died at the age of 62, on February 18, 1546, in Eisleben, his hometown.

The effects of the theology developed and promoted by Luther on the Augustinian houses in Germany was devastating, as it was in other European provinces as the Protestant Reformation spread. At the Augustinian house at Wittenberg there was dissent and in 1521, thirteen friars left and the remaining friars were in fear of the populace outside the monastery. In 1522, the Erfurt monastery lost 15 friars who had embraced the teachings of Luther, among them the prior of the community. That same year, the Herzberg monastery saw all the religious there defecting. Luther had been appointed vicar to two districts in the 1515 Chapter and his supporters were in authority in those houses. In a Chapter held in 1522 at Wittenberg, opposition to Luther was weak, as houses had separated themselves from the observantine congregation, in large part with the help of the civil governing princes.



HOUSE WHERE LUTHER DIED, EISLEBEN

The interference of local authorities in Germany continued to have an impact as houses were usurped by princes in the regions or the civil authorities confiscated the monasteries. As many of the Augustinians in the region had been students of his at one time, Luther’s influence was widespread in the regions near to Wittenberg. By the mid-16th century, of the 24 houses in the Province of Thuringia, over which Luther had been vicar, and Saxony, the

Augustinians retained only three. Religious houses in general suffered. In the region of Bavaria, five religious houses were lost.

In less than two decades, the Protestant Reformation had swept through Europe. The Augustinian Order lost members as well as many properties during the Reformation, but did survive due to conscientious superiors who laid the framework for a solid foundation for the restoration of the Order.

Since Vatican II, which opened dialogue with Protestant denominations, encouraging ecumenism, the Catholic-Lutheran dialogue has produced two documents, outlining beliefs that are held in common: *The Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification* and *Declaration on the Way: Church Ministry and Eucharist*.



## The Inaugural Saint Augustine Medal Dinner

Celebrating the Wrights and the Augustinians!



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, FATHER MICHAEL DI GREGORIO, O.S.A.; FATHER PETER DONOHUE, O.S.A.; FATHER ROB HAGAN, O.S.A., AND JAY WRIGHT

### A Reflection on the Inaugural Presentation of the Saint Augustine Medal

BY FATHER ROB HAGAN, O.S.A.

**ON APRIL 27, 2017,** the Augustinians of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova honored Patty and Jay Wright with the Inaugural Saint Augustine Medal in New York City. The Medal was instituted to recognize an individual or individuals who have promoted Augustinian values, served our community and been living examples of *veritas, unitas and caritas*. Both Patty and Jay have humbly and effectively done so in most extraordinary ways. The Augustinian community has always been grateful for the work that Patty and Jay have done to promote our mission, but this was an opportunity to say a big “thank you” for the impact they have had on so many others. Together they have served as ambassadors of the Augustinian charism and spirit to the world.

The night itself was filled with joy and laughter. Father Michael Di Gregorio, O.S.A., Madonna Sutter, the Medal Dinner Committee, the Advancement staff and volunteers did an outstanding job organizing the event and making sure that



FATHER MICHAEL DI GREGORIO, O.S.A., PRESENTS THE SAINT AUGUSTINE MEDAL TO PATTY AND JAY WRIGHT AS FATHER ROB HAGAN, O.S.A., LOOKS ON

a good time was had by all. The tone for the evening was set with a beautiful Mass in Saint Vincent Ferrer Church, followed by a fun-filled reception and dinner at 583 PARK AVENUE, a landmark building on Park Avenue at 63rd in New York City. It was a great opportunity to connect and reconnect with friends who had come from so many of our Augustinian ministries, parishes and institutions. Bill Raftery served as emcee, and his personal friendship with Patty and Jay was most apparent. It was fun listening to the testimonials from people like Ed Pinckney, Randy Foye, Mike Nardi, and Neil Augustine, who spoke about the impact the Wrights have had on friends, family, teammates, students, coaches and countless others. It was abundantly clear how the larger community has been inspired by their commitment to service, to a tireless work ethic, and commitment to family values.

Patty and Jay were most gracious in accepting the Saint Augustine Medal and Jay, in his acceptance speech, was quick to highlight the many friendships and moments he and Patty have shared with the Augustinians. By allowing us to honor them in such a public way, they also enabled us to retell a very compelling story of a handful of Augustinian Friars venturing to the states from Ireland with a faith, hope and vision, which is the same spirit that we Augustinian Friars share today! Jay made a point in his acceptance speech to highlight the work being done by the Augustinian Order and the need for people to stay involved. The Augustinians are all extremely grateful for the awareness of our mission and outreach to God’s people that Patty and Jay have accomplished through this special night and their continued work on behalf of all of God’s people.





SAINT AUGUSTINE MEDAL DINNER COMMITTEE, AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS AND FORMER VILLANOVA AND UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER MEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYERS CELEBRATE WITH INAUGURAL RECIPIENTS PATTY AND JAY WRIGHT

## Saint Augustine Medal Dinner APRIL 27, 2017



BILL RAFTERY, REKNOWN BASKETBALL ANALYST, SERVED AS THE MASTER OF CEREMONIES FOR THE EVENT



TOP: RANDY FOYE, FORMER VILLANOVA'S MEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYER AND NBA PLAYER, SHARES THE IMPACT THAT THE WRIGHTS HAD ON HIS LIFE; BOTTOM: JAY WRIGHT EXPRESSES HIS EMOTION AS HIS FORMER PLAYERS PROVIDE TESTAMONIALS



(L-R) BOB DECONCINI, MEDAL DINNER CO-CHAIR, TAKES A MOMENT TO CATCH UP WITH FORMER VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY HEAD FOOTBALL COACH, ANDY TALLEY, AND HIS WIFE ARLENE



PAUL TRAMONTANO, MEDAL DINNER CO-CHAIR, CONGRATULATES THE WRIGHTS AND PROVIDES A FEW WORDS OF APPRECIATION



ED PINCKNEY, A MEMBER OF THE VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY 1985 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM, OFFERS HIS BEST WISHES TO THE WRIGHTS



JAY WRIGHT HIGHLIGHTS HIS AUGUSTINIAN CONNECTIONS AND THANKS EVERYONE FOR THEIR KIND SUPPORT OF THE AUGUSTINIANS



FORMER UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER (WHERE JAY WAS A YOUNG ASSISTANT COACH) BASKETBALL PLAYER NEIL AUGUSTINE SHARED A STORY OF JAY WRIGHT'S EARLY COACHING DAYS AS FORMER ROCHESTER PLAYERS AND MANAGER CAME BACK TO CELEBRATE WITH PATTY AND JAY WRIGHT



(L-R) JOHN MULLEN, FRANCIS J. HORN, O.S.A., JOAN MULLEN AND ROBERT P. HAGAN, O.S.A.



MICHAEL P. SULLIVAN, O.S.A., AUGUSTINIAN ADVANCEMENT COUNCIL, JANINE ZOZAYA, MEGAN KANE AND JOSEPH S. MOSTARDI, O.S.A., ENJOY THE MEDAL DINNER FESTIVITIES



JAY WRIGHT SHARES A MOMENT WITH FORMER VILLANOVA PLAYERS RANDY FOYE AND CURRENT VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY TRUSTEE KERRY KITTLES



THE SOLEMN OPENING OF THE DIOCESAN CAUSE FOR THE BEATIFICATION  
AND CANONIZATION OF AUGUSTINIAN SERVANT OF GOD,  
*Father Bill Atkinson, O.S.A.*



The Cause Solemnly Begun  
and Steadily Underway

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

Perhaps not a single person among the hundreds who filled Saint Thomas of Villanova Church on Monday evening, April 24, 2017, had ever witnessed a ceremony similar to the one that signaled the formal initiation of the Cause of Beatification and Canonization of Father

William Atkinson, O.S.A. The unusual, fascinating, and historic rite, which was presided over by Charles Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., Archbishop of Philadelphia, followed the celebration of the Eucharist at which the Archbishop was also principal celebrant and homilist.

The setting was the same church in which Father Atkinson had been ordained to the diaconate in 1973, and where his funeral took place thirty-three years later in 2006. The occasion was the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Augustine, which provided an appropriate Augustinian context for the gathering, celebrating the decisive step that set Augustine on the very same course of holiness that Father Bill Atkinson would follow.

In his homily at the Eucharist Archbishop Chaput spoke of saints as people willing to present themselves to the world as disciples of Jesus, openly and publicly, as Father Bill did, and he prayed the Lord to bring to conclusion the process which we were formally beginning on that day, taking all of us

along also in the direction of that same holiness. Concelebrating together with the Archbishop were the Vicar General of the Order and the Prior Provincial, together with a number of priests of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. A significant number of friars of the Province were likewise in attendance, as were many members of Father Bill's family, friends, former students and caregivers.

Immediately following Mass, the sanctuary was prepared for the official ceremony. A long table was placed in front of the altar, and upon it was placed a large bible for the oaths that were to be taken by the various officials charged with this phase of the Process. Msgr. Daniel Sullivan, Archdiocesan Vicar for Clergy, announced Archbishop Chaput's appointments to the Tribunal, whose task it is to investigate the life of Father Atkinson. They are: Father Gregory Finn, O.S.J., episcopal delegate; Msgr. Gerard Mesure, promoter of justice; Father Sean Bransfield, notary, and Father James Oliver, substitute notary. Each of these



*"In the name of our Lord I, Charles Joseph Chaput, Capuchin, Archbishop of Philadelphia swear to fulfill faithfully and diligently the charge given to me in the process concerning the life and virtues especially, not only of miracles in general, of the Servant of God William Atkinson, professed priest of the Order of Saint Augustine...So help me God."*

individuals then swore to uphold the justice and secrecy of the Process. Following the oaths, the Historical Commission was appointed, charged with gathering materials and documents pertaining to the Servant of God's life and heroic virtue. The members of the commission are Father Joseph Ryan, O.S.A., assistant professor of history at Villanova, president; Dr. Patrick Hayes, archivist for the Baltimore Province of Redemptorists, and Dr. Nicholas Rademacher, associate professor of religious studies at Cabrini University. They, too, swore an oath. Finally, the Order's Postulator for the Cause, Father Joseph Sciberras, O.S.A., took an oath as well.

Important to note is the fact that with this ceremony, there has now begun the diocesan phase of the process, the first of several phases along the path to beatification and canonization. Thus, it is not the Augustinian Order which is charged with carrying the process along, but the Archdiocese of Philadelphia which, through Archbishop Chaput, accepted the Cause.



THE SOLEMN OPENING OF THE CAUSE CALLED FOR A LARGE PORTRAIT OF FATHER BILL TO BE ON DISPLAY.

As the Tribunal and the Historical Commission carry out their duties over the next months, the Province continues its efforts to bring awareness of the Cause and of the life and message of Father Bill wherever and however it can. The Father

Atkinson Guild was established with the specific purpose of promoting the Cause and does so through speaking engagements to church groups, interviews with the press and radio, and through the distribution of biographical and devotional material.



FATHER JOSEPH SCIBERRAS, O.S.A., THE ORDER'S POSTULATOR FOR THE AUGUSTINIAN CAUSES, PRONOUNCES HIS OATH, ALONG WITH THE ARCHBISHOP, THE TRIBUNAL AND THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION.



ONCE SWORN, THE WRITTEN OATH IS SIGNED AND OFFICIALLY NOTARIZED.

To view videos of the Mass and Solemn Opening of the Diocesan Cause go to:  
[www.augustinian.org/news/2017/4/25/diocesan-cause-for-father-bill-atkinson-osa-servant-of-god-opened-at-saint-thomas-of-villanova](http://www.augustinian.org/news/2017/4/25/diocesan-cause-for-father-bill-atkinson-osa-servant-of-god-opened-at-saint-thomas-of-villanova)



## NEWS AND NOTES

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



TWO MEN PROFESS SOLEMN VOWS BEFORE THE VICAR GENERAL OF THE ORDER, FATHER JOSEPH FARRELL, O.S.A., AS THE THREE PROVINCIALS LOOK ON.

### FANA Formation Gathering in San Diego, California

For the third consecutive year, all of the Augustinian students in initial formation from the four North American Provinces, gathered together with their formation directors, vocation directors, and respective priors provincial, for several days of prayer, conversation and relaxation. This year's gathering was held in the California Province, on the campus of the University of San Diego, and concluded with the

simple profession of vows of four novices, the solemn profession of two friars and the declaration of intention of a priest who is discerning his commitment to the Augustinian way of life. Two of the novices who professed simple vows for one year are Jeremy Hiers, O.S.A., and William Gabriel, O.S.A. The Prior Provincial of the Villanova Province, Father Michael Di Gregorio, O.S.A., received the vows of these two brothers and affiliated them formally as members of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova. This annual

gathering was conceived as an opportunity to bring together student friars, pre-novices, and novices, who live throughout the year in three different communities and three different states, in order to become better acquainted and to share experiences. The first such gathering was held at Villanova during the Year of Consecrated Life. The second was held in Chicago, thus alternating the host province and offering friars from different areas of the country the opportunity to participate in the ceremony of religious profession.



TWO NOVICES FROM THE VILLANOVA PROVINCE, WILLIAM GABRIEL AND JEREMY HIERS, PROFESS SIMPLE VOWS BEFORE FATHER MICHAEL DI GREGORIO, O.S.A. TWO OTHER BROTHERS, ARTURO RENTERIA AND MAURICIO MORALES PROFESS VOWS BEFORE FATHER KEVIN MULLINS, O.S.A.



FATHER JOHN ARULTHAS INDICATES HIS INTENTION TO CONTINUE DISCERNMENT WITH THE AUGUSTINIANS TO PRIOR PROVINCIAL BERNIE SCIANNA, O.S.A.

PHILIP YANG, O.S.A., AND NICHOLAS PORTER, O.S.A., PROFESS SOLEMN VOWS.



(L-R) 1ST ROW: BROTHER PHILIP YANG, O.S.A., FATHER JOHN ARULTHAS, O.S.A., AND BROTHERS ARTURO RENTERIA, O.S.A., MAURICIO MORALES, O.S.A., WILLIAM GABRIEL, O.S.A., JEREMY HIERS, O.S.A., AND NICHOLAS PORTER, O.S.A. BACK ROW: FATHERS KEVIN MULLINS, O.S.A., JOSEPH L. FARRELL, O.S.A., MICHAEL DI GREGORIO, O.S.A., AND BERNIE SCIANNA, O.S.A.



FATHER JOSEPH L. FARRELL, O.S.A., VICAR GENERAL, BISHOP ROBERT F. PREVOST, O.S.A., FATHER ALDO POTENCIO, O.S.A., FATHER ROMEO POTENCIO, O.A.R. AND FATHER MICHAEL DI GREGORIO, O.S.A., PRIOR PROVINCIAL

## Aldo Potencio, O.S.A., Ordained to the Priesthood

On August 19, 2017, at Our Mother of Good Counsel Church in Bryn Mawr, Pa., Aldo Potencio, O.S.A., was ordained to the priesthood by Robert F. Prevost, O.S.A., Bishop of Chiclayo, Peru.

Aldo completed his studies last May at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, earning an MA in Theology. Aldo has been stationed at Saint Nicholas of Tolentine in the Bronx, N.Y., since finishing his studies. Joining him at the celebration of his ordination was his brother, Romeo Ben Potencio, O.A.R., a member of the Order of Augustinian Recollects, as well as relatives from Canada, the Philippines and the United States. A group of parishioners from the Bronx came by bus to the event, too. Father Aldo celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving at Our Mother of Good Counsel Church the following morning. He also celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving at Saint Nicholas of Tolentine in the Bronx on Sunday, August 27, 2017. *Congratulations Father Aldo!*

Stay on top of news and events from the Augustinian world— sign up for Augustinian E-News at [WWW.AUGUSTINIAN.ORG/ENEWS-SIGNUP](http://WWW.AUGUSTINIAN.ORG/ENEWS-SIGNUP)

## Pope Francis Appoints Augustinian Bishop to the Pontifical Academy for Life



Alberto Germán Bochaty Chaneton, O.S.A., Titular Bishop of Mons in Mauretania, Auxiliary Bishop of La Plata, Professor of Bioethics and Vice Chancellor

of the Universidad Católica de La Plata (Argentina) was appointed by Pope Francis as an Ordinary Member of the Pontifical Academy for Life. Bishop Bochaty did studies in the past as a guest of our Province and two years ago led the Province retreat.



(L-R) KNEELING: RUSS SUMMERTON, BILL O'CONNOR; FRONT ROW: DUTCH & GERRY WERNERT, RICH & BEA GOSIK, TERI IDLER, BARBARA MONARCHIO, ANNE MCMASTER, SISTER JANA AKAN, FRANK CURCIO; ROW 2: BROTHER TOM TAYLOR, O.S.A., LEW DANCE, GERRI SUMMERTON, JIM MONARCHIO, ANNNEMARIE RELSTAB, JIM MCMASTER; BACK ROW: FATHER GARY MCCLOSKEY, O.S.A., JIM FOODY, DENNIS DELIKAT, FATHER JIM MOTT, O.S.A., MARYANN GORMLEY-O'CONNOR

## Augustinian Laity Retreat in Venice, Florida

A North American Augustinian Laity Committee hosted a retreat for 25 people from July 21-23, 2017 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center in Venice, Florida, under the leadership of Father Gary McCloskey, O.S.A., the Executive Director of FANA. The homily Father Gary delivered at the closing Eucharist, which was on the occasion of his 40th anniversary of ordination to priesthood, was "Living the Eucharist as Augustinian Laity/ Missioning." Congratulations to all who helped to organize the weekend and to all who attended. To opt-in and receive future communications about the North American Lay Augustinians, please write to the Committee through Bill O'Connor at: [OSA3.NAALC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:OSA3.NAALC@GMAIL.COM)



## Commissioning Mass for 2017-2018 Augustinian Volunteers

At a 5:00 PM Mass on Sunday August 27, 2017, the Augustinian Volunteers celebrated their Commissioning Mass for the Volunteers of the 2017-2018 Volunteer year at Saint Augustine Church in Philadelphia. Prior Provincial Michael Di Gregorio, O.S.A., celebrated the liturgy, which was followed by a meal for Volunteers staff, friars, family and friends of the Volunteer class in Carr Hall, the parish hall. From August 21 to 29, the Volunteers had an Orientation, led by Director Joanna Bowen and her staff members Hannah Kunberger and Taylor Gostomski, that took place at Saint Augustine's, where the Volunteer class became acquainted with each other prior to heading out to their volunteer sites. This year there are 17 volunteers, 3 of them destined for the international site in Peru. Domestic sites include Lawrence, Mass.; Philadelphia, Pa.; and San Diego and Ventura, Calif.

## Augustinian Named a Bishop in Venezuela



On July 29, 2017 Pope Francis named Father Helizandro Terán Bermúdez, O.S.A., of the Vicariate of Venezuela, Province of the Philippines (Spain), the Bishop of the diocese of Ciudad Guayana, Venezuela. He is currently the rector of *Colegio San Agustín* in Caricua, Venezuela, a position he has held since 2006. Since 2010, he has served as the Major Superior of the Vicariate of Venezuela. *Congratulations Bishop-Elect Terán Bermúdez!*



## Candidates to Bellesini

(L-R) CANDIDATE ENRIQUE VASQUEZ, FATHER KEVIN M. DEPRINZIO, O.S.A., FATHER JOSEPH L. NAROG, O.S.A., DIRECTOR OF VOCATIONS, FATHER FRANCIS J. DOYLE, O.S.A., PRIOR, BLESSED STEPHEN BELLESINI FRIARY, AND CANDIDATE MICHAEL RIGGS



## Men to Novitiate

(L-R) FRONT ROW: DAVID TAN (PROVINCE OF ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND), SPENCER THOMAS (MIDWEST PROVINCE), AND TOM ABBOTT (MIDWEST PROVINCE); BACK ROW: RAY FLORES (MIDWEST PROVINCE), STEPHEN SHIELDS (PROVINCE OF IRELAND) AND EMMANUEL "MANNY" ISAAC (CALIFORNIA PROVINCE)



## Father Futoshi Matsuo, O.S.A., of Japan Offers Mass of Thanksgiving at the Monastery Chapel

On the afternoon of August 9, 2017, Father Futoshi Matsuo, O.S.A., of the Vicariate in Japan, offered a Mass of Thanksgiving at the Chapel at Saint Thomas of Villanova Monastery, on the campus of Villanova University. Father Futoshi was ordained in April 2017 in Japan by Joseph Mitsuaki Takami, Archbishop of Nagasaki. The ordination took place at the Church of Our Lady of Consolation in Nagasaki, Japan.



## Friars to Theologate

(L-R) FRONT ROW: SAMUEL JOUTRAS, O.S.A., BRYAN KERNS, O.S.A., JEFFREY RATHS, O.S.A., JEREMY HIERS, O.S.A., ADNAN GHANI, O.S.A.; MIDDLE ROW: ELIZANDRO CONTRERAS, O.S.A., ROBERT CARROLL, O.S.A., WILLIAM GABRIEL, O.S.A., ATSUSHI KUWAHARA, O.S.A.; BACK ROW: MAXIME VILLENEUVE, O.S.A., DANIEL MADDEN, O.S.A., JOSEPH ROCCASALVA, O.S.A.



FATHER GEORGE F. RILEY, O.S.A.



JOSEPH DONAHUE\* AND RITA ANZOLIN DONAHUE

## Father George F. Riley, O.S.A., Honored with Generous Gift to the Augustinians from Longtime Friends

A gift of stock valued over \$500,000 was made to the Augustinians by Rita Anzolin Donahue and Joseph Donahue† in appreciation of a valued friendship they shared with Father George Riley, O.S.A., who met the Donahues through mutual friends in the 1970s. When Father Riley was appointed as Vice President of Development for Villanova in 1972, he asked Mr. Donahue, a 1935 Villanova graduate and President and CEO of Connelly Containers, to serve on the Development Council. Aside from their work together on the Development Council, Father Riley's friendship with the Donahues developed and they would meet socially about once a month. Joseph Donahue, who passed away in 1996, was a man whose life was characterized by generosity, a generosity that Father Riley remembered at Mr. Donahue's funeral by recalling the phrase, "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." Mr. Donahue was honored for his support of Villanova University with a dining hall named in his honor in 1985. Joseph Donahue is remembered as a man with humor, humility and a deep faith. In making this gift to the Augustinians, Mrs. Donahue said, "I was blessed with a husband who had a generous spirit of giving to others and recognizing the good in others. Both I and my husband were fortunate to know Father George Riley. This gift is given in both our names in appreciation of the 50-plus years of friendship we shared with Father Riley and in recognition of the Augustinian Friars of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova, who founded Villanova University and whose good works continue to enrich our community."



## International Augustinian Education Congress Held at Villanova University in July 2017

The International Augustinian Education Congress took place at Villanova University from July 24-28, 2017. More than 150 participants from over 50 Augustinian Centers of Education attended the congress with representation from 25 different countries. The theme of the Congress was *Augustinian Pedagogy\**: *A Passion for Education*.

Most of the congress was hosted on the campus of Villanova University, Villanova, Pa., and there were also visits to Malvern Preparatory School, Malvern, Pa., and Saint Augustine Parish in Philadelphia, Pa., on Wednesday morning and afternoon. The morning presentations on Tuesday-Thursday focused on Augustinian Spirituality: the Love of Knowledge and the Search for Truth; Augustinian Passion for Teaching and Learning: Compelled to Teach; and Augustinian Passion for Justice and Peace: Love for Others.

Aside from the morning presentations, the congress included networking opportunities, liturgical celebrations, delicious meals, and creative workshops. Each of the workshops provided opportunities for interaction between the presenters and participants and participating centers of education were able to share information about their Augustinian school with other participants. At the conclusion of the congress, many of the participants commented on the valuable opportunity the congress provided to meet so many colleagues in education and to learn from each other how we teach and learn in our Augustinian schools.

Congratulations and thank you to all who participated and to all who serve in the ministry of Augustinian Education.

\*PEDAGOGY: THE STUDY OF THE METHODS AND ACTIVITIES OF TEACHING.



## IN PARADISUM

*The following friars were 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](http://www.augustinian.org)*

sailed on September 6, 1958. He served in parishes in Nagasaki and Fukuoka and was novice master for Brother Joseph Akakura, the first native vocation from the mission. While in Japan, he served as a judge in the beatification process of Father Maximilian Kolbe, a martyr of charity who was executed in a concentration camp during World War II. In 1974, Father Joe returned to the United States and served in the following parishes: Saint Mary Parish, Lawrence and Saint Augustine Parish, Andover, both in Mass.; Resurrection of Our Lord Parish, Dania, Fla; Immaculate Conception Parish, Hoosick Falls, N.Y.; Saint Nicholas of Tolentine Parish, Atlantic City, N.J., the last Augustinian pastor there. In 2007, he went to Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Staten Island, N.Y., and served there until 2010, when he was assigned to Saint Thomas of Villanova Monastery, Villanova, Pa. Father Joe O'Connor died on Monday morning, June 19, 2017, at Bryn Mawr Hospital.

He graduated from Marist College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., (1956). From 1951 to 1953 he was a novice at the Marist Novitiate, Tyngsboro, Mass., where he entered the Marist Brothers. He taught at Mount Saint Michael Academy, New York, N.Y., and then left the Marists, desiring to become a priest in a religious community. He taught at Saint Nicholas of Tolentine High School in the Bronx the following year. Francis entered our Order on September 9, 1959, at Good Counsel Novitiate in N.Y., professing first vows on September 10, 1960. He completed philosophical studies at Villanova (1961) and studied at Augustinian College, Washington, D.C., (1961-1965) and obtained an MA in religious education. He received an MA in English Literature from Villanova University (1965). He was ordained at Saint Nicholas of Tolentine Church, the Bronx, on January 30, 1965. Father Frank's teaching assignments included Austin Preparatory School, Reading, Mass., (1965) and Malvern Preparatory, Malvern, Pa., (1966-1974). He also served in administration at Biscayne College, Miami, Florida (1984-1988). He served at Province parishes in New York, Massachusetts and Florida. He also served Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Manhattan. He was then assigned to Saint Augustine Friary, Villanova, Pa., and while residing there he was chaplain at Villa Saint Joseph in Flourtown. For health reasons, he was then assigned to Saint Thomas Monastery. In the last years of his life, Father Gallogly was a resident of Arden Courts, King of Prussia, Pa., where he died in the early morning of July 7, 2017.

## 2017 CATHOLIC PRESS AWARDS

### GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

2012 2013 2014 2015 2016

### Catholic Press Association of the U.S. and Canada Honors *The Augustinian Magazine*

(In 2017 only two issues were produced, and three are needed to be eligible for the General Excellence Award.)



### FATHER BILL ATKINSON, O.S.A., SERVANT OF GOD

**BEST LAYOUT OF ARTICLE OR COLUMN**  
RELIGIOUS ORDER MAGAZINE, FIRST PLACE

**BEST SPECIAL ISSUE, SECTION, OR SUPPLEMENT**  
SPECIAL SECTION, THIRD PLACE

*Teddie Gallagher, Kitty Sheridan, Jessica Eversmeyer, 20Nine*



### THE BLESSINGS OF A NEW PRIEST

**BEST FEATURE ARTICLE**  
RELIGIOUS ORDER MAGAZINE, THIRD PLACE

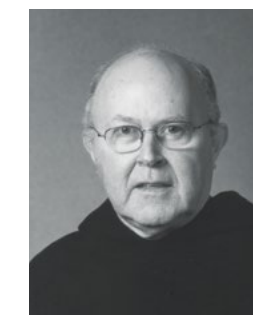
*Teddie Gallagher, Kitty Sheridan, Father James Paradis, O.S.A., Father Robert Guessetto, O.S.A.*



### Joseph Xavier O'Connor

BORN: 5/26/1928  
FIRST PROFESSION:  
9/10/1947  
ORDAINED:  
12/21/1953  
DIED: 6/19/2017

Joseph Xavier O'Connor was born on May 26, 1928, in Lawrence, Massachusetts, the son of John E. and Elizabeth O'Connor. Baptized on June 4, 1928, at Saint Mary's Church there, he attended Saint Laurence O'Toole Parish School and Central Catholic High School, Lawrence. He entered the Order on September 9, 1946 and did his novitiate year at Good Counsel in N.Y., and professed first vows on September 10, 1947. He graduated from Villanova College (1950), did theological studies at Augustinian College in Washington, D.C., and earned an MA in Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America. He was ordained on December 21, 1953. Father Joe was assigned in 1954 to Archbishop Carroll High School, Washington, D.C. He then volunteered for the mission in Japan, and



### Francis Xavier Gallogly

BORN: 2/19/1935  
FIRST PROFESSION:  
9/10/1960  
ORDAINED:  
1/30/1965  
DIED: 7/7/2017

Francis Xavier Gallogly was born on February 19, 1935, in New York, N.Y., to Patrick Gallogly and Mary Charles. Baptized March 17, 1935, in Saint Pius Church, Bronx, N.Y., he attended Saint Nicholas of Tolentine Parish School and Saint Ann's Academy, Manhattan.

OUR PROVINCE CALENDAR

Save the date!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017

Profile in Augustinian Leadership

Overbrook Golf Club, Villanova, PA  
6:00 – 8:30 PM

Speaker: John J. Brennan,  
Chairman Emeritus & Senior Advisor  
The Vanguard Group, Inc.

For details and to register visit:  
[www.augustinianfund.org/overbrook](http://www.augustinianfund.org/overbrook)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2017

#Giving Tuesday

For more information visit:  
[www.augustinian.org/givingtuesday](http://www.augustinian.org/givingtuesday)

JANUARY 2017

Infiniti Coaches' Charity Challenge: Voting Begins

For details visit:  
[www.augustinian.org/infiniti-coaches-challenge](http://www.augustinian.org/infiniti-coaches-challenge)

APRIL 2018

Cocktail Reception: Celebrating the Augustinians in the Merrimack Valley

For details and to register visit  
(after January 1, 2018):  
[www.augustinianfund.org/merrimack-valley](http://www.augustinianfund.org/merrimack-valley)



BY MADONNA SUTTER  
DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT

Dear Friends of the Augustinians,

I hope you enjoy the Saint Augustine Medal Dinner photos in this issue of *The Augustinian*. The Medal Dinner was enormously successful and raised over \$600,000 earmarked for Augustinian Vocation and Formation programs. I'd like to once again thank Patty and Jay Wright, inaugural recipients, co-chairs Bob DeConcini, Paul Tramontano and Father Rob Hagan, O.S.A., the dinner committee and all who participated in this grand initiative. I am also grateful to Villanova University, especially Father Peter Donohue, O.S.A., President, and Mark Jackson, Athletic Director, for their collaboration. If you'd like to view the Medal Dinner video, program book and other photos, please visit: [www.augustinianfund.org/medal-dinner](http://www.augustinianfund.org/medal-dinner).

It is our desire to nurture our relationships with those who have supported our Augustinian mission and invite others who may wish to connect with us in regions where we serve or have served in the past. We will host a gathering in the Merrimack Valley in Massachusetts in April 2018. The Augustinian presence in the Merrimack Valley dates back to 1818 and remains strong in our two Augustinian-sponsored parishes, Saint Augustine in Andover and Saint Mary of the Assumption in Lawrence and in our educational ministry at Merrimack College. After January 2018, visit [www.augustinianfund.org/merrimack-valley](http://www.augustinianfund.org/merrimack-valley) for details and to register.

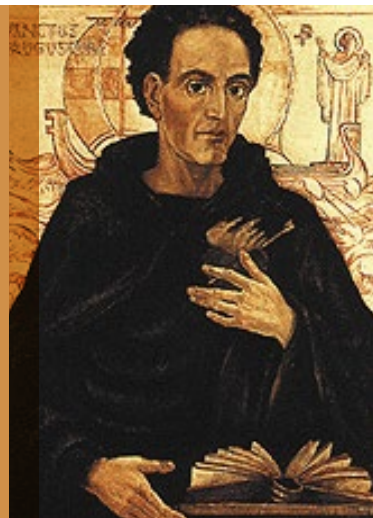
In this issue, you will also read about the lifelong friendship between Rita and Joe Donahue and Father George F. Riley, O.S.A. Mrs. Donahue has made a generous gift to the Province in honor of the 50-plus-year friendship they've shared with Father George. This gift will help to support Father George and other friars who live in Saint Thomas Monastery.

I am pleased to announce the launch of the Province's *Grateful Hearts* monthly giving program. Why not consider joining *Grateful Hearts* for a simple way to make an impact on a monthly basis either through direct debit or credit card? It's quite easy and you don't have to think twice about your donation because it's automatic! Visit [www.augustinianfund.org/grateful-hearts](http://www.augustinianfund.org/grateful-hearts) to join. Won't you please consider an offering to the Fund in recognition of an Augustinian who has touched your life?

Let your abundance...  
supply their need.

THANK YOU  
FOR PROVIDING FAITH  
AND HOPE THAT WILL  
LIGHT A PATH FOR  
GENERATIONS TO COME.

Contact Madonna Sutter,  
[madonna.sutter@augustinian.org](mailto:madonna.sutter@augustinian.org)  
or call (610) 527-3330, ext. 265.



THE Augustinian Fund 

Let your abundance, supply their need.

The Augustinian Fund strengthens the mission of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova. Generous benefactors sustain the Augustinian way of life through support for the care of elderly and infirm friars and the education and training of future Augustinians. The Fund also provides support for Augustinian ministries that serve the poor and marginalized in foreign missions in Japan and Peru, the Augustinian Volunteer program and the Province's Justice and Peace Initiatives.

Announcing  
THE PROVINCE OF  
SAINT THOMAS  
OF VILLANOVA'S  
MONTHLY GIVING  
PROGRAM

Grateful Hearts



A simple way to support the Augustinians  
and make an impact on a monthly basis.



To join and learn more about the Province's  
*Grateful Hearts* program visit:  
[www.augustinianfund.org/grateful-hearts](http://www.augustinianfund.org/grateful-hearts)

SUSTAINS THE AUGUSTINIAN WAY OF LIFE...



OUR VOCATION AND  
FORMATION PROGRAMS  
enable us to invite, educate and  
provide for candidates to our  
way of life



THE CARE OF INFIRM  
AND ELDERLY FRIARS  
helps us to provide health  
care and support to infirm  
and retired friars within our  
Augustinian communities

SUPPORTS THE POOR AND MARGINALIZED...



THE AUGUSTINIAN  
VOLUNTEERS  
provide community life  
experiences and service  
opportunities to college  
graduates and help to the poor



THE FOREIGN MISSIONS  
make possible our support of  
friars and the people they serve  
in Province mission areas in  
Japan and Peru



THE OFFICE OF  
JUSTICE AND PEACE  
offering services to the poor,  
to immigrants, and the  
marginalized in need

Saint Augustine Legacy Society  
YOU'RE INVITED

If you have made a gift in your will or trust, or have named the Augustinians the beneficiary of a retirement plan, insurance policy or other asset, you're invited to become a member of the **Saint Augustine Legacy Society**—a group of special donors who have shared their intentions for a future gift. While the details of your gift are a private matter, sharing your commitment enables us to thank you and prepare for the Augustinians' future.

[www.augustinianfund.org/donate](http://www.augustinianfund.org/donate)

For more information, please contact Madonna Sutter, Director of Advancement,  
610-5273330, ext 265 or [madonna.sutter@augustinian.org](mailto:madonna.sutter@augustinian.org)



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## *Celebrate a Profile in Augustinian Leadership!*

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED  
to join the Augustinian Friars for a cocktail  
reception. Event proceeds will support  
the Augustinian Formation Program.

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### **John J. Brennan**

Chairman Emeritus and Senior Advisor  
The Vanguard Group, Inc.

Wednesday, November 8, 2017  
6:00 – 8:30 PM  
Overbrook Golf Club

Registration deadline is October 25th  
For details and to register visit:  
[www.augustinianfund.org/overbrook](http://www.augustinianfund.org/overbrook)

Questions, contact Madonna Sutter, Director  
of Advancement at (610) 527-3330, ext. 265  
or [madonna.sutter@augustinian.org](mailto:madonna.sutter@augustinian.org)