
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.



Augustinians on *The Visionaries* TV Series

Beginning July 18th, the PBS network will offer their affiliate stations a TV series called *The Visionaries*, which will include a half-hour documentary on the work of the Augustinians. The program will be available for airing on PBS stations for the next two years. Check www.augustinian.org for airtimes in your area. Special viewings are being planned for next fall. Contact communications@augustinian.org to get Province News about these events and more. See page 22 for more information.

Augustinian Preaching Apostolate

Michael P. Sullivan, O.S.A., brings his popular parish retreat to the New Jersey shore this summer. His dynamic and entertaining retreats touch people's lives. In addition to the retreats listed here, view a complete schedule online to see if Fr. Sullivan is coming to a parish near you.

AUGUST 7-AUGUST 11, 2010

Maris Stella Parish
5012 Dune Drive
Avalon, NJ 08202
PHONE 609-967-3746
WEB www.augustinian.org/preaching.htm

AUGUST 14-AUGUST 18, 2010

St. Francis Cabrini
114 Atlantic Avenue
Ocean City, NJ 08226
PHONE 609-399-4776
WEB www.augustinian.org/preaching.htm

Six Days of Creation Workshop

Ksenia Pokrovsky provides training in icon painting that is immediate and practical. Students receive intensive instruction in the language of iconography from the perspective of the iconographic canon.

AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 4, 2010

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

Italian Festival at St. Nicholas of Tolentine, South Philadelphia

This rain-or-shine Italian Festival has grown over the years to attract 8,000 people. The event begins at 12:00 Noon with a procession to honor three Italian Saints—St. Nicholas of Tolentine, St. Gianna Berretta Molla and St. Padre Pio. The best of Italian foods and pastries are available. Festivities are livened by The City Rhythm Orchestra, Jerry Blavat, Billy Ruth (Frank Sinatra), the Vivaci Italian Dancers, the Verdi Band, Frank Tenaglia (Operatic Tenor), Nick Desidario (Italian Favorites) and others. The day concludes with fireworks at 9:00 P.M.

OCTOBER 3, 2010

Saint Nicholas of Tolentine
910 Watkins Street
Philadelphia, PA 19148-1695
WEB www.stnickspbila.com

St. Augustine Lecture

Professor Paula Fredriksen, Boston University

The St. Augustine Lecture is presented annually at Villanova University by the Institute for the Study of Augustine and Augustinian Traditions.

NOVEMBER 10, 2010

7:00 PM
Driscoll Auditorium
Villanova University
800 E. Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085
PHONE 610-519-5431
WEB <http://www.villanova.edu/artsci/augustinianinstitute>

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Every four years, Augustinian friars elect a Prior Provincial to serve as their leader for the next four years. The maximum term is eight years, and that's how long Fr. Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A. has served as Provincial. At the end of a Provincial's term, he returns to the ranks. The legacy of each Provincial is shaped by his decisions, his team of Counselors and the issues of his time.

P. 10 Anthony M. Genovese, O.S.A., "Fr. Mickey" Elected as Prior Provincial

The Augustinian friars have elected Fr. Genovese with a resounding margin of support. At 63, Fr. Mickey has stepped up to take over the management of the Province with exuberance and passion for the friars he will serve. His love for God, his love for his fraternity and his priestly drive to let us all know that God loves us, is his life.

P. 14 Holy Daring: Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish Marks 125 Years

On July 26, 1885, Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish celebrated its first Mass in an Episcopal Sunday Schoolhouse, used through the auspices of the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr, PA. The history of this Augustinian parish was the focus of OMGC's 1985 Centennial year, when the parish produced a detailed book about their history. Their 125th Anniversary has produced a very different outcome: a process to find common ground among their parishioners, to find out how they want to be now, ten years from now, and 125 years from now.

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ON THE COVER

Fr. Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., current Prior Provincial of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova, stands by Fr. Anthony "Mickey" Genovese, O.S.A., Prior Provincial-elect as he gets a feel for the desk he will soon occupy and the corporate seal he will be soon be authorized to use.

Cover and principal photography by Bryan Smith for Scientific Marketing Services Inc.

THE AUGUSTINIAN

A publication for the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova.



LETTER FROM THE
PRIOR PROVINCIAL

Dear Friends,

This will be my final letter to you as Prior Provincial of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova. This bittersweet reality enables me to share a couple of departing thoughts. During the past eight years I have had the privilege of a relationship with you that has made me more of what it means to be an Augustinian. Saint Augustine said: "Our attitude toward others should be such that the possibility of taking them into our friendship remains open." *The Augustinian* magazine has been our family album, our record of reunions, and the bond of our friendship, keeping each other informed as to what is happening in the Province here and abroad.

In this edition you will be introduced to Fr. Anthony M. Genovese, better known as Fr. Mickey, the newly elected Prior Provincial. Fr. Mickey's current ministry as Prior of the Monastery on Villanova's campus has endeared him to the friars because of his compassion and commitment to the welfare of those under his care. I had the advantage of his wisdom at our monthly Provincial Council meetings. His candor and humor brought perspective to a wide variety of issues he and his fellow Provincial Counselors and I addressed over these past eight years. I know you join me in welcoming him to his new role in the Province as well as his new relationship with you.

It is awkward for a friar to speak of a personal legacy since all that we do in ministry is on behalf of the Augustinian Order. What you will read in the following pages is a legacy of challenges met through a collaborative effort of many men and women on the Provincial Staff. The Provincial Council, whose picture appears on these pages, played an important role in leadership in the Province these past eight years and to them, I owe a great deal of gratitude. Their advice and support were generously given, without which, our shared responsibilities would not have been met.

You will also read an article about Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish in Bryn Mawr, PA which celebrates its one hundred twenty-fifth anniversary this year. The picture of our Mother of Good Counsel holding the parish church is a splendid depiction of the trust and confidence the parish community has in the future. I congratulate the parish on this wonderful occasion.

Be assured of my grateful prayers for you and for your families as I take leave of my current ministry in the Province. I have an opportunity for sabbatical time, after which, I expect to be fully engaged in my next assignment. These past eight years have been a wonderful journey, giving me opportunities to be with you and our friars in Peru, Japan, South Africa and here in the United States. Our commitment to the Church, the People of God, is strong. Your loving support of our life ministries is cherished. Let us keep Fr. Mickey and one another in our prayers.

In Augustine,

Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A.

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

THE AUGUSTINIAN

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LAYOUT AND DESIGN

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AUGUSTINIAN VOLUNTEERS, 2009-10.

AUGUSTINIAN
VOLUNTEERS

LETTERS

South Africa



Break at St. Leo's Primary School in Durban, South Africa comes early—at ten o'clock in the morning. On this day, I'm not hungry and not ready to interrupt the day just yet. The four

English classes I teach that follow break are even more of a struggle than the two I had this morning. We attempt to review some lessons from the previous weeks, but the learners are lethargic and I'm losing my patience. And then, just when I'm about to resort to reading them a story instead, the bells from the church next door ring to signal midday, and the sixteen Grade 5 students in front of me stand up, fold their hands, close their eyes, and bow their heads. They begin to pray.

Yethi Maria, ogewele igrasiya, iNkosi inawe, ubusisiwe wena esifazaneni, ibusisiwe nenzalo yesisu sakho uJesu. Maria ocwebileyo, Nina kaNkulunkulu, mavusikhulekele thina zoni, manje nasesikhathini sokufa kewthu. Amen.

As the words rise to Mary who hears and understands, whether in English or in Zulu, I close my eyes and lean against the bookshelf near my desk, reflecting on the day so far and silently asking God to help me through the rest. I open my eyes again and look around the room, at the boys and girls in front of me, praying fervently in the midst of the school day. My heart is filled with so much love.

Though I'm the teacher, I've learned from these students; learned that prayer has to be an integral part of every day, even if it is just a few Hail Marys quickly spoken during a vocabulary review, or hymns sung during assembly as the sun rises over the valley. The Zulus' prayer life is one without expectations or judgment, where I can participate in a Zulu teachers' prayer meeting in English and no one minds. The devotion to everyday spirituality that I've witnessed here in South Africa is inspiring, especially when the living conditions of some should adversely affect their wellbeing. But it is these simple daily encounters with a very present God that give South Africans the hope they need to push onward. This entire year is my classroom, and the people with whom I spend my days are my teachers, gently guiding me towards the presence of God.

SINÉAD CLOUGHLEY

Augustinian Volunteer, South Africa (2010)

Bronx, NY



About a month ago, our church, St. Nicholas of Tolentine, was set on fire. Thankfully, nobody was hurt; yet, the same could not be said for church itself,

whose vestibule's ceiling was destroyed, doors burned, and wiring affected. Both parishioners and pastor of "The Cathedral of the Bronx" were left disheartened, though not for long. That same day, a group of parishioners vowed to hold an outside "Stations of the Cross" that had been planned for that evening.

Newsflash to the culprit of the fire: it is going to take more than a few flames to shake the faith of this community. You may have damaged the physical church, but the most important part—the people—are still around and planning to attend Mass in St. Nick's Elementary School's gym until the church building is restored. Faith really does play a vital role here in the Bronx. Poor residents are faced with daily hardships and anxieties; yet, at the end of the day, they still trust in their God—a God who offers them comfort and the opportunity for them to grow closer to Him during difficult times.

The faith and resilience of the Bronx people has inspired me to further strengthen my relationship with God and those around me, and has reminded me to see life's challenges as gifts to grow in Christ. As those from the Bronx know, even in the darkest darkness of winter, there will always remain hope for spring.

NATALIE JONES

Augustinian Volunteer, Bronx, NY (2009-2010)

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

LOOKING BACK:

Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., Ends 8-Year Term as Prior Provincial

BY TEDDIE GALLAGHER



On Sunday, June 13, 2010, Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., Prior Provincial since June, 2002, will hand the Seal of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova back to Robert F. Prevost, O.S.A., Prior General of the worldwide order of Augustinians. For three days, the friars of the Province will hold their Chapter without a Prior Provincial in place.

On Wednesday night, June 16th, Anthony M. Genovese, O.S.A., (better known as Fr. Mickey Genovese) the newly elected Prior Provincial, will be installed and receive the Seal of the Province from the Prior General. With the seal in hand, Fr. Mickey will become the 25th friar to serve as the Prior Provincial of the Province. One Provincial's history ends and a new Provincial's history begins.

For Fr. Reilly, his two-term, eight-year legacy as Provincial is over. He, the Secretary of the Province, and his six Counselors, (pictured above) who have been with him for eight years, will disband. The team has a rich history of accomplishments to celebrate as it turns over the reins to Fr. Mickey Genovese and his yet-to-be-named team.

To hear Fr. Don describe his first six months as Provincial, one quickly understands that his agenda was not his own. Instead, it was shaped by a series of perfect storms that were pressing, serious and vital to the future of the church, its parishioners and the fraternity of friars.

The first critical issue hit within days after Fr. Don's installation as Provincial, leaving Fr. Don to guide the Province through the heightening sexual abuse crisis; to push through a controversial

plan to remodel the Monastery and its Health Center; and to educate its institutions and supporters that the Province could no longer play a role of financial benefactor—and, indeed, would need financial support to continue its mission as a Province.

For starters, in June of 2002, the same month that Fr. Don and his team began their first term, the United States Conference of Bishops (USCCB) commissioned the John Jay College of Criminal Justice to survey every diocese and religious organization in the United

PICTURED ABOVE: THE PROVINCIAL LEADERSHIP TEAM, FROM LEFT: JORGE A. REYES, O.S.A.; JAMES D. PARADIS, O.S.A.; WILLIAM J. DONNELLY, O.S.A.; WILLIAM T. GARLAND, O.S.A.; JOHN R. FLYNN, O.S.A. (SECRETARY); DONALD F. REILLY, O.S.A.; ANTHONY M. GENOVESE, O.S.A.; JOSEPH A. GENITO, O.S.A.

States to measure the nature and scope of sexual abuse of minors by priests and deacons between the years of 1950-2002.

For the new Provincial and his team, the survey required immediate and detailed attention. Fr. Don turned to Dr. Bob Thornton, O.S.A., a clinical psychologist, whose practice over the years included work with abused victims, and Jim Paradis, O.S.A., Personnel Director and Counselor for the Province. Together, they completed the survey, presented it to the friars, and went on to create a full-time position at the Provincial offices for Abuse Prevention. The position, filled by Bob Thornton for the past seven years, has been instrumental in helping victims and proactively working to put a zero-tolerance policy in place for clergy and non-clergy personnel actively working with minors. This process also includes accreditation by Praesidium, an organization that specializes in protecting minors from abuse through a rigorous and lengthy certification and training program.

According to Fr. Marty Smith, O.S.A., curator of the Augustinian Heritage Room and a gifted historian of the Order, "In 1987, while Personnel Director, Donald [Reilly] put the first personnel policy in place about sexual abuse, outlining the course of action the Province would take if someone was accused and the accusation was credible. Many religious orders copied that policy from us. I don't want to say it was innovative, but it was ahead of its time. Now, Donald has taken us a step

"For those of us who have known the Augustinian Friars over the years, it will not surprise us that the use of the word 'Prior' in the context of the Augustinian community means first among equals."

further and has gotten us into Praesidium. Donald and the Council have been on the leading cusp for abuse prevention."

One of the hot-button items for the friars during the 2001 Provincial election discussions was the renovation of the Saint Thomas Monastery, on the campus of Villanova University. The friar community at the Monastery was open to renovations, but their idea was to upgrade the air conditioning and plumbing. When Fr. Don was asked about his opinion of the renovations while a candidate for the position of Prior Provincial, he said he didn't know what he would do. And he didn't.

There were several factors that drove Fr. Don and the Council to make the decision to fully renovate the Monastery. Fr. Marty describes it like this:

"Fr. Reilly comes in, and you have to

make a move to the future now. We were top heavy with friars over 50, we had very elderly friars. Our first stab at health care was in 1970. Many of our men died in nursing homes and we weren't happy with that. We wanted them to be in community. So we took the first floor of the Monastery and made that the Health Care Center. It was like that from 1970 until 1992. And then in 1992, Fr. John Hagen did some fundraising and got donations and we took over the top two floors of the wing over the dining room, which were, up until that point, leased out to Villanova University. We created the Health Center on the two floors. And it was like that until 2002. It was inadequate; it wasn't enough space in terms of rooms, it was not accessible, and it was not ideal being on two floors."

LOOKING BACK: Augustinians in Colonial America



Fr. Mathew Carr, O.S.A., was the first Augustinian to come to America. He travelled from Ireland to Philadelphia in 1796, when Philadelphia was the Capitol of the United States and George Washington was the President. It would take seventy-eight years, until 1874, for the Augustinians in America to grow in number sufficient enough to be considered a Province, with an elected Prior Provincial.

IN THIS PICTURE: FR. CARR SHAKES THE HAND OF GEORGE WASHINGTON, WHO STANDS WITH COMMODORE JOHN BARRY, STEPHEN GIRARD AND THOMAS FITZSIMONS. GEORGE WASHINGTON DONATED \$50 TO THE FUND TO BUILD SAINT AUGUSTINE CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA, PA— THE FIRST AUGUSTINIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA.

And so, the candidate, who may have been elected because he didn't know enough about the problem to make a decision, now knew what needed to be done. Shortly after Don took office, he announced that the Monastery would not only be remodeled, but everyone would have to move out for two years.

"Donald felt that, as our men aged and our resources dwindled with them, we would not be able to do this in the future. It was either do something or be stuck with the facilities we had. Even today we couldn't do what we did in 2002. That whole thing started under Don and it was controversial."

Other decisions about the renovations were controversial as well. Fr. Don wanted to have a new chapel that would look out to the campus, instead of the small interior chapel that had been used by the friars. He wanted the dining room, a true center of friar community life, also opened up, so you could look out to the sunlit atrium and the chapel.

The shift of light and openness would result in an unanticipated culture change for the friars, a culture that welcomed the community to prayer each day at the 11 A.M. Mass and frequently opened up the dining room to guests of the friars, particularly at lunch.

Even before Fr. Don knew he would renovate the monastery, he knew he needed to change the perception of the Province as a wealthy foundation. He needed alumni of institutions and supporters of the Augustinians to understand that the Province and its friars were separate from their institutions (which had long been incorporated), and its parishes (which raised funds for the diocese and diocesan priests). Fr. Don



FR. MARTY SMITH, O.S.A., CURATOR OF THE AUGUSTINIAN HERITAGE ROOM, AND CHARLES BABCOCK, CHAIRMAN OF THE HERITAGE ROOM COMMITTEE, POSED FOR THIS PICTURE BACK IN 2006. THE SPACE FOR THE HERITAGE ROOM WAS DESIGNATED DURING THE REMODELING OF THE MONASTERY AT THE REQUEST OF FR. DON REILLY.

needed donors to know that a donation to an Augustinian institution or parish was not a donation to the Augustinians.

Despite the fact that the Province had no serious fund-raising experience and no current day development tools, Fr. Don set out to raise 25 million dollars to fund the Monastery; the Missions in Africa, Peru and Japan; the Augustinian Volunteers; and Peace and Justice Initiatives.

According to Fr. Marty, "When Donald started Development here in his Provincialate, it was the first time we did any major fundraising since the 1960s, when we built St. Mary's Hall, over 40 years ago. Up until Donald took over, we were the contributors to our institutions. For example, for Biscayne College, when we opened it in 1961, until the early 1970s, the Provincials underwrote the debt and supported the Monastery. The Augustinians took no salaries. They contributed their services, so money was sent down for the men to live."

To address the situation, Fr. Don hired Natalie Agraz, as Development Director and began a Capital Campaign

with Honorary Co-Chairs Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Clay III, and Michael P. Sullivan, O.S.A.; and Honorary Spokesperson Mr. Howie Long. In 2006 Fr. Don called Charles P. Connolly, Jr., with whom he had worked on the Board of Malvern Prep. He asked Charley to become the Chairman of a Development Council to oversee the Augustinian Fund and steer a yearly fundraising effort. Charley and the members of the Development Council have shown extraordinary skill in fundraising and have given of themselves with passion and generosity.

The combination of support and involvement from the leadership teams and major donors, combined with those who lovingly continue to do what they can to give a few dollars, has changed the lives of so many: fruit and a daily meal for children in Africa; a new church for the Zulu community; a legacy of care and service in Peru; a health clinic for the poor in Philadelphia; a post-college program for Augustinian Volunteers to work in Augustinian missions here and abroad. For the Augustinians themselves, the continued support of the elderly friars has meant so much, to allow these dedicated men to live in community, with liturgy and prayer at its core.

The miracle of love continues to happen around the ideals brought to us all by Saint Augustine. This miracle is evident in the fact that Fr. Don has just announced that the Capital Campaign will exceed the 25 million dollar goal Fr. Don set out to raise in 2002. What seemed so unrealistic then, so impossible, stands today as a tribute to the Augustinians who go out to serve God's people and the people who support them on their journey.

For those of us who have known the Augustinian Friars over the years, it will not surprise us that the use of the word "Prior" in the context of the Augustinian community means first among equals. And so, with a legacy that includes so much more than has been stated here, Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., will return to the ranks, just as all Prior Provincials have done before him.

When asked where he sees himself in the future, Fr. Don answers, "I see myself sitting with Mickey talking about my next ministry." ☩



THE MONASTERY CHAPEL, ADDED AS PART OF THE 2002 MONASTERY RENOVATION, LOOKS OUT ON THE CAMPUS OF VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY.



FR. DONALD REILLY IN THE MONASTERY CHAPEL.

The Meaning of a Chapter

By John E. Rotelle, O.S.A. (1939-2002), written in anticipation of the 2002 Chapter. Sadly, Fr. John was too ill to attend the Chapter and passed over to the Lord in September, 2002.

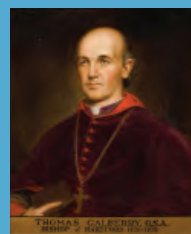
A Chapter is a gathering of the brothers who live the common life in a particular place or places. It is a time of greeting one another in joy and love, of praying together, of sharing the work of one another, of looking at the past, evaluating the present, and moving forward to the future. It was so important to our ancestors that in larger houses there was a particular room set aside for these meetings to show their importance, like a room set aside for prayer. It is, above all, a time of grace, for we discover that the Spirit is with us and that we accomplish much because of the Spirit.

In light of our heritage, when we come together we look at ourselves and our way of life. We also look at the Church of which we are servants in a variety of ways. And, most importantly, we look to our work because the Church and the world speak to us in the here and now with a prophetic spirit of challenge, looking for our response.

At a Chapter there will be a variety of opinions, solutions, and the like, because each of us is different, and each of us has our own way of observing reality. Thus, through dialogue, discussion, and prayer there is a need for the group to come together, to reach a consensus. Such does not signify that each will agree with the solution, but when the Chapter has taken a direction or adopted a program by some agreed-upon method for reaching a conclusion, for example, a vote, then the matter no longer rests with individuals and how they think about it. It becomes owned by all. All members assume ownership of the decisions legislated.

What we say to one another, what we share with one another, has no bounds or boundaries other than charity. We can and should speak about anything. However, what we deliver to the Church and to the world we serve must always be tempered by our prophetic witness as a fraternity, brothers with one mind and one heart on the way together to God.

LOOKING BACK: Who Was the First Prior Provincial?



In 1874 Thomas Galberry, O.S.A. (1833-1878), was elected to serve as the first Prior Provincial of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova. Born in County Kildare, Ireland, he entered the novitiate at Villanova, PA, and was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Neumann in 1856. The newly ordained Father Galberry first served on the missions at Saint Denis' in Ardmore, PA (now Havertown, PA) and at Lansingburg (Troy), NY. He later became President of Villanova College. During this time, the west wing of Alumni Hall was added to the original building. In 1876, he was consecrated the fourth Bishop of Hartford. Bishop Galberry was on his way to visit Villanova when he died on October 10, 1878 in New York City at the age of 45. He is buried in the Cathedral in Hartford, CT.

A GLIMPSE

LOOKING BACK

The original seal of the Order of Saint Augustine is richly depicted in stained glass from Our Mother of Consolation Parish, in Chestnut Hill, PA.

On the banner, the words Tolle Lege (Take and Read) are the words that Augustine heard when, as a young man struggling to decide whether to be baptized or not, he was prompted by God to pick up, open the scriptures and read the words from Paul's letter to the Romans (13: 13-14), telling him to put on the Lord, Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh.



Today, this graphic (left) is commonly used as the seal of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova. Its simplified design uses only the book, the heart, the flame and the cross.



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TOP ROW FROM LEFT: ANGELA ESGRO, ANTHONY "MICKEY" GENOVESE, O.S.A., ANDREW HOOD, JAMES L. NOLAN, O.S.A. FLOOR FROM LEFT: KRITHIKA SURAPANENI, MADELINE GLEESON, HAILEY BODNER, ATHENA WANG.

Augustinian Friars Elect

ANTHONY M. GENOVESE, O.S.A.

— to succeed —

DONALD F. REILLY, O.S.A.

*as Prior Provincial of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova,
beginning June 16, 2010.*

BY TEDDIE GALLAGHER

Fr. Anthony Genovese, commonly known as Fr. Mickey, was in his 37th year as an Augustinian priest when he stepped up as a candidate for Prior Provincial for the first time. The 63-year old Genovese ran with a group of three other friars, all younger than he. As is the custom, the candidates travelled around the Province prior to the election, answering tough questions from friars. The rule: one man, one vote, where a simple majority is needed to become the Prior Provincial. When the voting was over, Fr. Mickey had an overwhelming majority, a resounding mandate from the friars to take over the leadership of the Province. So why did the friars give Fr. Mickey the job? And, why now?

Some might assess that Fr. Mickey was the logical candidate because, as one of six Provincial Counselors to Fr. Don for the past eight years, Fr. Mickey understands the current issues, the tough decisions that need to be made to resolve problems and the intricate details of what a Prior Provincial and his Counselors need to address.

This wealth of experience as a counselor, coupled with his work as a Pastor of Parish Apostolates and Preacher for the Augustinian Preaching Apostolate would likely be enough to put him over the top when the voting started. But so many Augustinians understand the workings of the Province, are religious scholars and pastoral leaders, that one could make a case for a draw in the vote.

So what led the friars to elect Mickey Genovese? To find the likely answer you need to visit the St. Thomas of Villanova Monastery, where Fr. Mickey has been assigned as Prior for the past four years. The Monastery currently houses 57 friars, with 15 of them residing on the second floor in the 24-hour Health Care Center. The Monastery is a small city, immaculately kept, with computers, networks, a 12-member healthcare team, a chapel that has Morning and Evening Prayers, and a Daily Mass. It also has a kitchen staff that cooks meals for friars in residence and friars from the campus of Villanova University.

It's rare to enter the building without seeing Fr. Mickey somewhere, putting a battery in a remote control for an elderly friar, joyously attending concerts by students from Malvern Prep and Notre Dame or his beloved children from the St. Thomas of Villanova pre-school program, or meeting with Alenka Hocevar, the Director of Nursing at the Health Care Center.

Perhaps the true answer to "why now?" can be found in what Alenka says when asked about Fr. Mickey. "He really truly has been so devoted to this place, devoted in so many ways. He loves these men, he honestly lives for them, I mean 24/7. He is so responsible and so in love with this place. With his commitment and



FIRST ROW FROM LEFT: JOHN R. HAVENER, O.S.A., JOHN M. DRISCOLL, O.S.A., HARRY A. CASSEL, O.S.A., JOSEPH A. DUFFEY, O.S.A., RAYMOND E. GEISSER, O.S.A. (DECEASED), ROGER M. HANOUILLE, O.S.A., CHERUBIN F. KERR, O.S.A., JOHN E. BRESNAHAN, O.S.A., JAMES L. NOLAN, O.S.A. SECOND ROW FROM LEFT: JOSEPH C. SCHNAUBELT, O.S.A., ANGUS N. CARNEY, O.S.A., JOSEPH A. SPINELLI, O.S.A. THIRD ROW FROM LEFT-THE STAFF: PAMELA FINNERTY, ANGELINE GAGLIOTI, BEHIND HER MICHAEL GROGAN, JENNIFER HACKETT, ANTHONY "MICKEY" GENOVESE, O.S.A., ALENKA HOCEVAR, (DIRECTOR OF NURSING), MARIA PIRATO, JOAN SANCHEZ, JOANIE GAILEY

his devotion he has been a tremendous help to me because he is so loyal and he stands next to me as a leader. He wants the Health Care Center to be in a top-of-the-line category as a Care Center, and it is. As a leader, he comes in and he does his job. He tells them all [the infirm friars] over and over again, that he loves them and he means it."

"He sees every man individually, he hits their problems individually, he solves their problems individually and he gives them time, and the men love that. He takes care of every angle of their life. He would sit here all night if he has to with the men when they are dying. He will come in during the night and sit down with them, pray with them and just sit there silently and be present to them. That just shows you his commitment to them. Sometimes I ask if he ever sleeps, because he's here at 2 or 3 A.M. Nothing else matters when it comes to the men."

"And he is big on the St. Thomas pre-school kids. He truly loves those kids. Kids bring a lot of love to the other men too and the events with kids have the largest attendance."

The first thing Fr. Mickey did after the election was to write to the friars, expressing 6 key issues for his administration, all geared to share

the message of God's love: Vocation/Formation; Augustinian Spirituality; Education; Stewardship; Protection of Children and Wellness; and Communication.

The second thing Fr. Mickey did was to travel around the province as Prior Provincial-elect to personally speak with as many friars as possible. He was the first Provincial-elect to travel to meet with friars prior to his installation. Now every friar is

one of his "guys" and it is clear that his dedication, loyalty and love will put the friars and his staff front and center, while expecting the best of them.

I think it is safe to say that the last line in Fr. Mickey's first letter to the friars is something he would ask of us all: "Please keep me in your prayers that my service to you will help you to continue to know that God loves you."

Amen, Fr. Mickey, Amen. ✚

LOOKING FORWARD:
Who is the new Provincial Leadership Team?

Going into the Provincial Chapter, the only known and confirmed member of the next administration is the Prior Provincial-elect. During the Provincial Chapter, the Provincial-elect nominates candidates for the Treasurer, the Secretary and the six Provincial Counselors he wants on his team. These nominees need to be voted upon by the friars, and, only then, will the selections be confirmed.



THE AUGUSTINIAN FAMILY: A SERIES OF CONVERSATIONS BY NATALIE AGRAZ

ANTHONY M. GENOVESE, O.S.A., "FR. MICKEY"

Fr. Anthony M. Genovese, O.S.A., better known as "Fr. Mickey," is now the Prior Provincial-elect. Fr. Mickey most recently served as the Prior of St. Thomas Monastery on the campus of Villanova University where he was placed in charge of the health care of the elder and infirm friars of the Province. He brings to this new call-to-service much life experience, a strong faith, a dedication to the Augustinian way of life, and a passionate commitment to service and priestly ministry.

- NA:** You were a member of the Provincial Council for the past eight years. In your mind, what would you identify as the greatest achievement of that period?
- MG:** The biggest achievements in the past eight years were the renovation of the Villanova Monastery and the establishment of the development office, both with the view that we were to take care of our elderly and infirm friars in the community setting that they have known all of their lives. When we started, the Monastery had not undergone a major renovation in over 70 years. The building was unsafe and didn't meet current building codes. It had to be done but moving our largest and most senior community, who had been living there for years, was difficult. As we age, change becomes more difficult and there was some resistance to that. Now that it's all over, the friars are grateful that it happened. The whole tenor of the Monastery has changed, the whole culture has changed. The care received by friars is superior; the staffing of the Monastery is geared to the care for the infirm and elderly. Also the friars are definitely aware now that, as a community, we are no longer financially independent. We are now keenly aware that we have to depend on others for support.
- NA:** Some of the goals of the renovation were to make the building more open and more visible to the outside world. How has that worked out?
- MG:** The architecture works. The former Monastery used to be a mystery; nobody on the outside knew what was going on there. Now the space is more open and people can see friars at prayer all hours of the day. People come in and make visits to the Blessed Sacrament, people come in and visit the friars, and they celebrate the Eucharist with us. It's a more welcoming space. None of this happened before. And the friars who live in the residential care center are not alone, someone's always there, people feel more comfortable coming in just to visit.
- NA:** You will soon take on the mantle of responsibility for the Province as its new Provincial. What experiences in your background do you think will help you on this new path?
- MG:** In a word, it's relationship. When we were visiting all the communities before the Provincial election, we were asked what we had to offer the Province in terms of ideas and programs. I told them I had no programs to offer, but I can offer each friar in the Province a relationship. Being in relationship with each other is very Augustinian. Augustine learned about God by being in relationship with others. And once he discovered that, he was never alone, Augustine was always with others.

Relationship *n.* a connection, association or involvement, an emotional or other connection between people.

Relationship, with all its brokenness, all its pains, all its joys; we call it community life and I hope to move community life from the head to the heart. My experience in the Monastery has taught me that in the end all we have is each other. I learned these lessons first from my parents, then as a young priest in Marriage Encounter. The church taught me, couples taught me that you make a decision to love no matter what. That's relationship. And it's a journey, not a quick trip; forgiveness is key, hospitality, presence, taking responsibility, love and heart. That's what I bring.

- NA:** The Augustinians will continue to face many of the same challenges other Orders face, declining numbers and increasing retirements. What are your thoughts on how to best keep the spirit and ministries of the Province not only surviving but thriving?
- MG:** Augustinian spirituality will be a theme of my Provincial administration. Fr. Reilly started it, and we need a Provincial who can continue to move Augustinian spirituality out into the light and invite people to join in the work of the Augustinians in this spirit. And people shouldn't have to come to Villanova for it. I would like to get our friars, who are good teachers, to go out to different regions of the Province and share Augustinian spirituality with those in ministry, bring it back into the forefront, so they can share it with those to whom they minister. Augustine has what our hearts yearn for; what he searched for in his modern world. His search is our search. In his world he had money, position in life, relationships that weren't growing, and nothing satisfied. The spirit was calling him and until he answered the call there was no peace. It's this spirit I hope to build on. I really want to build on what Fr. Don did. I'll bring my own style to it, but we will continue to move it forward. It will be a continuation. It's a conversion of the heart.
- NA:** We currently have seven men in formation for the priesthood. How will their experience of priestly ministry compare with how you and your peers approached ministry?
- MG:** When I was a young priest, you did your house job, went to class and then prayer and that was the way it was for a long, long time. Now in the formation houses that I visit there is more of an emphasis on community. It's community life and you're called to be in relationship with one another.
- NA:** Back in the day I've heard that you weren't given much of a choice in terms of ministry. You had to do what you were told, be it get a doctorate, or do parish work, you responded to what was needed. Has that changed?
- MG:** I want the friars to do what they want to do, they serve best that way. But with those in formation as well as the friars, I'm looking for their hearts, not their time, not their ability to produce income, I want their hearts. They bring their very life to the community and I want them to be involved, be productive, but to do it with heart. I'm choosing to visit most friars before my installation. I won't get to Peru, South Africa or Japan before that but I will visit most of those here and that's never been done before. I really want to tell my brothers that I care about them, and that I want their hearts. People are always talking about numbers; it's about the heart. And again it's about relationships and the numbers will follow.
- NA:** Anything else you would like to share with us?
- MG:** I would just like to thank everyone for their generosity, thank them for taking care of my brothers. The monastery community is keenly aware that we could not survive without them. And I would also like to thank everyone for all the kindness they've shown to us, for opening their hearts to us. It's very cherished. ✚

CURRICULUM VITAE

REV. ANTHONY M. GENOVESE, O.S.A.

- 1946:** Anthony Michael Genovese, O.S.A., was born on October 27, 1946, on Staten Island, NY, the son of Anthony and Margaret (McCloskey) Genovese. He was baptized on November 10, 1946, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, Staten Island, NY.
- 1950-1954:** Academy of Saint Dorothy, Staten Island, NY.
- 1954-1959:** Saint Anne Parish School, Staten Island, NY.
- 1959-1960:** spent a year in the hospital because of back injuries.
- 1961-1965:** attended Augustinian Academy, Staten Island, NY.
- 1965:** received into the Order of Saint Augustine as a novice on September 9, 1965 at Good Counsel Novitiate, New Hamburg, NY.
- 1966:** professed first vows on September 10, 1966.
- 1966-1970:** attended Villanova University, Villanova, PA, receiving his BA in Philosophy.
- 1970-1973:** Augustinian College, Washington, DC; pursued his theological studies at the Washington Theological Union.
- 1970:** professed solemn vows on October 12, 1970.
- 1973:** ordained to the priesthood on June 16, 1973 at Our Mother of Consolation Catholic Church, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, PA, by Bishop Walter Sullivan, Bishop of Richmond, VA.
- 1973-1977:** assigned to Saint Nicholas of Tolentine Parish, Bronx, NY, as a parochial assistant.
- 1977-1983:** assigned to Assumption/Saint Paul Parish, Mechanicville, NY, as pastor.
- 1983-1986:** returned to Saint Nicholas of Tolentine Parish, Bronx, NY, as pastor.
- 1986-1994:** appointed pastor of Saint Thomas of Villanova Parish, Villanova, PA.
- 1994-2006:** as a member of the Augustinian Preaching Apostolate, Fr. Genovese preached at parish renewals and workshops around the U.S.
- 2006-PRESENT:** appointed the Prior of Saint Thomas of Villanova Monastery on the campus of Villanova University, placed in charge of the health care of the elder and infirm friars.



holy daring

dare to dream dare to explore dare to become

BY TEDDIE GALLAGHER

When Alex Wolfington met Lois Carita in the parking lot after Mass in October of 2008, she invited him to a planning meeting for the 125th anniversary of Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish. Alex thought he was being invited to a party. Instead, Alex and Lois would spearhead a serious process, worthy of a Fortune 500 company, to find common ground among their parishioners, to envision the future of their parish, to dare to dream, dare to explore, dare to become. Holy Daring.

The lofty goals of the members of Our Mother of Good Counsel Church, an Augustinian Parish in Bryn Mawr, PA, are this: they want to celebrate their 125th anniversary with year-long events, but, more importantly, they want to set a path to ensure that the parish community is vibrant now, 10 years from now—and 125 years from now.

To do this, Alex Wolfington suggested they hire InSyte Partners, a strategy and leadership consulting firm owned by St. Thomas of Villanova parishioner Marie McCormick, MBA, Ph.D., and Liz Alperin Solms, MPA. With the blessings of their pastor, Fr. Jim Martinez, O.S.A., and the backing of the Parish Council, led by Lois Carita, the “Strategic Visioning Leadership Team” began working with Marie and Liz to envision the future of Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish and express that vision as part of the 125th Anniversary celebration and beyond.

The first step entailed preparing the 12-member Strategic Visionary Leadership Team for their role as leaders in the process, to articulate the future that “wants to happen.”

Marie and Liz used a technique called a Mind Map, to chart feelings, points-of-views, interests and concerns of the group, that starts as a large piece of paper tacked to a wall. Thoughts and feelings are written on the map in spokes radiating from the center. When all thoughts are on the map, members vote on what they see as important by applying colored dots to the map.

The next steps for the leadership team were a series of learning journeys, targeted field trips to uncover what other organizations are doing, to learn from them.

All in all, the group experienced two dozen journeys. “We learned something terrific from each one,” says Alex, “We’re learning-journey junkies.” The group went to Mass at other Catholic parishes. They visited a Presbyterian church, a Synagogue, a Public High School, Upper Darby Summer Stage, The Attic Youth Center, and Youth Build Philadelphia Charter School, to name a few.

The Visionary team talked about relationships and how best to handle discussion from a broad range of people on topics that might have a broad range of views. They sought advice from Dr. Stephen Treat, Director and CEO for the Council for Relationships. Dr. Treat suggested the team think about Programmatic Thinking, where there is no correct or incorrect thinking, where beliefs are differentiated, but where each view is respected. And that’s what they did.

The next step in the process: widen the circle.

To widen the circle, a three-day Visioning Conference was planned for October 15-17, 2009, with the hope of getting 80 parishioners/stakeholders to give voice to their thoughts, to create a Mind Map, and to find common ground for action.

OPPOSITE: DETAIL FROM A STAINED-GLASS WINDOW IN OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL CHURCH.



FIFTEEN STAINED-GLASS WINDOWS IN OMGC CHURCH COST \$3,630.17, AND WERE MADE IN INNSBRUCK, AUSTRIA BY TIROLESE ART GLASS COMPANY OR TGA. FOUNDED IN 1861, BY 1884, TGA HAD DEVELOPED A SPECIAL "AMERICAN" STYLE TO MEET AMERICAN CHURCH DEMANDS. TGA HAD OFFICES IN INNSBRUCK AND VIENNA. THERE WERE ALSO AFFILIATED SHOPS IN NEW YORK AND CHICAGO. TGA WAS THE GREAT COMPETITION FOR TIFFANY.



THE ORIGINAL WOODEN CHAPEL SERVED AS THE CHURCH UNTIL 1887.



OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL CHURCH TODAY.



DEANNA KING ATTENDED THE 3-DAY CONFERENCE. "I'M REALLY GLAD THAT I WENT."

According to Lois Carita, "When we invited people to the conference of 80 people, we wanted to make sure we represented all areas of the parish—the youth, the adults, the seniors—different points of view, and that was very evident at the conference."

Alex continued the thought, "And a big focus on youth. We wanted as much youth input as possible and we wanted them to own whatever the outcomes were." Lois added, "Absolutely, they were very active in the dialogue, very inspiring to the rest of us."

Deanna King, a senior at Lower Merion High School and co-chair of the OMGC Youth Group, concurs: "The adults who were at the conference were very appreciative that we were there and glad that we were able to voice our opinions. They were listening to us, and it was good to see that they know we are the future."

And so it was, that over 80 parishioners attended the visioning conference. Marie and Liz from InSyte Partners led the sessions, created another Mind Map, explained that the participants were there to propose action and stay open to hearing all voices.

The small group discussions led to big ideas. The first outcome from the discussion—the Mind Map—was the common ground. The second was to produce and craft bold vision statements. Here are those statements:

OVERALL VISION: HOLY DARING

Celebrating Our Past, Embracing Our Future: Dare to Dream, Dare to Explore, Dare to Become Common Ground.

I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! Luke 12:49

We want to be a community of the "holy daring" that dares to be Jesus' voice and hands. We strive to reach out for, welcome and care for one another: those who are in need, those who are on the margins, those with whom we are not comfortable, those that the world rejects. We are a community that dares to say what we and the world don't want to hear.

"Credo in unum Deum..." God is at our center. We are deeply devoted to the practice of our faith, and express that devotion in many ways, individually and communally. We yearn to know God better, to be able to see God in all things. We want to be a welcoming inclusive community that supports the growth of each of our members in their relationship with God.

We want to "become what we receive." Our community strives for excellence in the celebration of the Eucharist, which is the font and summit of our life. This is what teaches, challenges and strengthens us so we may do everything else.

Our young people are our future, and we want them to become who they should be as people of God. They deserve to be taught well the foundations of our faith, to learn how they might grow closer to God, to be enabled to grow in responsibility for their parish community and the world beyond.

Their span extends to all the earth, their words to the utmost bounds of the world. [Ps 19:5] We strive to communicate clearly and transparently to ourselves and the wider community. We reach out in ministry through our commitment to social justice, to the environment, to care for the aging, the young, all those in need.

Super omnia caritas. Above all, love.

The next outcome for the 80-member team was to envision how they would like the Church to be ten years from now and set up areas of action to meet that vision.

Here are the visions for continued action:

COMMUNICATIONS: OMGC uses all forms of communication.

SPIRITUALITY: In the year 2020 the parishioners of OMGC continue to explore our spirituality at a deeper level, with God as our center.

LITURGY: We acknowledge our celebration of the Eucharist as the source and summit of our faith. We are called to become what we receive at the table of the Lord.

MINISTRIES: We live the Gospel through enhancing and expanding our ministries to all of God's creation—to our parish, our local and global communities, and to the earth.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS: We are a lively energized community where youth and young adults are an integral part of the parish.

OMGC WELCOME CENTER: is a state of the art facility where all are welcome.

LAY ADMINISTRATION: We encourage the pastor to take advantage of the talents of the laity in the administration of the Parish.



MEMBERS OF THE VISIONING PLANNING TEAM AND VISIONING IMPLEMENTATION TEAM: FRONT ROW, FROM LEFT: ROSEMARY MORSE, MOLLY DAGIT, MIRIAM BLIMM, FR. JAMES E. MARTINEZ, O.S.A. (PASTOR), ELSIE CARR, GINA NOSTRANT, MARY ANN SCHRADER AND CARL SOLANO. MIDDLE ROW, FROM LEFT: JOE CAREY, SR. ANNE WOODSHICK, PATRICIA BYRNE, FR. DENNIS M. MCGOWAN, O.S.A., KAREN CAREY, MARIE MCCORMICK (INSYTE PARTNERS), MICHELLE FRANCL-DONNAY. TOP ROW, FROM LEFT: PETER GREENHALGH, MICHAEL DONNAY, ALEX WOLFINGTON, LOIS CARITA (PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT), LIZ ALPERIN SOLMS (INSYTE PARTNERS).



MICHAEL DONNAY VOTES BY ADDING A DOT TO THE MIND MAP.

At the end of the conference, the 80-member cross-section of the parish had come together, achieved a common vision, laid the groundwork for action to kick-off their 125th anniversary year and created plans to direct their common future as a parish.

The reaction of those who attended the conference was a mix of pride and disbelief at what they had been able to achieve. Pastor Fr. Jim Martinez, O.S.A.: "We dared to have a three-day Visionary Conference, asked people to give us three days of their time, dared people to take risks in setting goals." His greatest surprise? "They came!"

Deanna King recalls, "At first, I was questioning what could I do there. But then, when I got there, it was amazing how I could share my opinion in the small group, then share our group's ideas with the larger group. That became our statements and our big ideas. I'm really glad that I went."

Fr. Dennis McGowan, O.S.A., co-chair of the Vision Implementation team:

"The Visioning Conference was one of the most amazing experiences I've had in 27 years as being a priest. What took place in those three days was a beginning..."

Next Steps: keep widening the circle!

Sign-up for action teams...

On January 31, 2010 over 150 parishioners attended a meeting to learn about the common ground that had been found and the Holy Daring as a challenge to renew.

Fr. Dennis McGowan addressed the group, assuring them that the Visioning Conference had not come to specific decisions; instead, they had created a framework for the seven areas of action. "What we're looking for today is to be able to engage with you to mold our future together...and to have Holy Daring to carry it out."

Liz Alperin Solms told the group about a moment from the final day of the Visioning Conference: "One of the things that happened, in a spiritual moment, almost out of the blue, came a vision, not just what we want to do, but how we want to be. And Holy Daring came up. What does it mean? What does it mean to have the beautiful hands of Jesus in everyday life and for Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish to be the Holy Daring? Holy Daring is what we want to be. It's not where we are yet, but it's what we aspire to be."

At the end of the session, the group was asked to pick an area of action that they felt drawn to and, in a breakout group, discuss what Holy Daring meant to them. When the full group reassembled, Liz asked "What does Holy Daring mean to you?"

Many parishioners stood up giving their "take" on what Holy Daring should mean: "get involved"—"make the parish feel like family, like you're home"—"keep up the infrastructure"—"give the youth activities like sports to get them involved"—"be more welcoming to those with disabilities."

One parishioner stood up and said Holy Daring was remaining faithful to the Magisterium of the church. Another quickly followed saying Holy Daring was remaining faithful to the Magisterium of the church, but questioning it with an open heart.

To teenager Deanna King, "Holy Daring is to not be afraid to show your faith and to believe in it, to be able to speak to others confidently about what you believe, not fearing what anyone else would say."

To Fr. Jim Martinez, "The ultimate dare is to take Christ as best as we can into society...to live in community, to be a call for everyone."

So if Holy Daring is a call for everyone, what is Holy Daring for me and for you? How do we keep widening the circle? And what do we want our lives as Roman Catholics, as Christians or as any faith to look like 10 years from now? What will church, synagogue or mosque look like 125 years from now—in 2135? Holy Daring!

The fact that this process, this spiritual momentum, has sprung from a celebration of the past to inform the future does not seem to be coincidental. Mary is holding this church, is giving her people Good Counsel and is leading them gently, evolving them to the future. And, perhaps, evolving us as well. Our Mother of Good Counsel, pray for us all. ✠

NEWS AND NOTES

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



Peruvian Augustinian Ordained to the Priesthood

Fr. Isoe Dominguez, O.S.A., was ordained to the priesthood on November 11, 2009 at the Augustinian parish of St. Isidore in Morropon, Peru. The ordaining bishop was Bishop Daniel Turley, O.S.A., Bishop of Chulucanas, Peru, of the Chicago Province. Fr. Dominguez is from the Augustinian mission of St. Dominic, in the town of Santo Domingo.

The friars who served in the mission parish were a tremendous influence on his decision to enter the Augustinian Order and to be ordained a priest. It is through the generous support of benefactors that we are able to maintain our Formation program in Peru and Japan bringing new life to the Church through young native friars and priests.



Four Men Join the Augustinian Discernment Program at Casa Agustín

On March 13th 2010, four young men joined the Augustinian discernment program Casa Agustín in Miami Gardens, Florida. The welcome ceremony was presided by the Prior Provincial Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A. The new members are Anthony Veiga, from Rincon in Havana, Cuba; Dailon Lisabet, from Guibara, Cuba; Emilio Nuñez from Santiago, Cuba; and Walberto Colón from Ponce, Puerto Rico. Casa Agustín is a house of discernment for Spanish speaking Hispanic/Latino men discerning their vocation with the Augustinians. For further information call 305.474.0576 or email vocaciones@losagustinos.org

Augustinian Lay Congress 2012

The International Commission for the Laity met in Rome from 20 - 22 of November, 2009 including Fr. Gary N. McCloskey, O.S.A., who replaced Joseph Narog, O.S.A., as a member. The Commission met with the lay representatives (LAR) elected at the Lay Congress 2006, as well as other representatives (Spanish, Italian, American, Maltese, Dutch, Australian and Slovakian) to discuss themes, expectations etc., with regard to the next Augustinian Lay Congress in 2012 and also to share information about initiatives in each country.

Change of Augustinians on the Villanova Board of Trustees

William T. Garland, O.S.A., has stepped down as a Villanova Board member after two five-year terms. Congratulations to Fr. Bill on his decade of dedication and service to Villanova University. Paul W. Galetto, O.S.A., has been elected to the Villanova Board to fill the seat vacated by Fr. Bill.



Augustinian Seculars Profess Promises

On Sunday October 25, 2009, fifteen members of the Friends of Augustine Group of the Saint Katherine Drexel Catholic Community of Cape Coral, Florida, professed their promises as Augustinian Seculars at the 10:30 parish Mass. Fr. Gary N. McCloskey, O.S.A., received the promises on behalf of the Order. At the same Mass three more members began their time of formation as Augustinian Seculars. Bill O'Connor represented the other Augustinian Seculars in the Province.

The new Augustinian Seculars are Jean Cerabona, Dennis Delikat, Ann Friga, Teri Idler, Rose Midgett, Barbara Monarchio, James Monarchio, Joseph Pescatrice, Robert Plazewski, Rosetta Plazewski, Yvonne Saiya, Sal Saiya, Russell Summerton, Geraldine Summerton and Lori Thorn.



Merrimack Announces a New President

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Merrimack College, Chairman Dr. Laurence M. Demers recently announced the selection of Christopher Hopey, Ph.D. as the next president of Merrimack College. He will start the position on July 1, 2010. Dr. Hopey comes to Merrimack College having served as vice president and dean of Northeastern University's College of Professional Studies, as well as vice dean of the Graduate School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Hopey has a Ph.D. in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania and an M.P.A. and B.S. in political science from Northeastern University. The Augustinians welcome and congratulate Dr. Hopey on his new position.

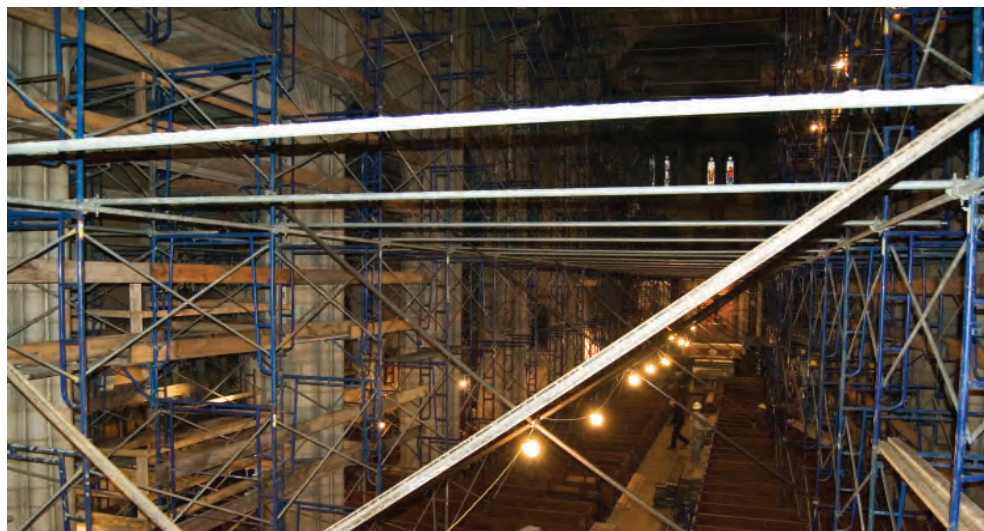


The Dedication of a New Seminary Wing in Peru

On Sunday March 7th, 2010, the new wing of the Holy Trinity Seminary in Chulucanas, Peru, was dedicated by Bishop Dan Turley, O.S.A., of the Chicago Province. This addition was made possible by a grant from the Papal Foundation which was written by our Development Council member, Mary Ellen Maggitti. Mary Ellen, Jim O'Connor, Anthony Dellomo, Natalie Agraz, Larry Legner and Terry Sousa attended the dedication. All members of the group were close friends of Richard D. Appicci, O.S.A. (1928-2007), who spent 20 years of his life in Chulucanas. The group spent several days viewing the improvements made under Fr. Appicci's direction, projects done by Villanova's Christian Service ministry, Malvern Prep's Senior Service projects, and the Augustinian Volunteers. Pictured above: Jim O'Connor, Mary Ellen Maggitti, Larry Legner, Anthony Dellomo, and Bishop Dan Turley, O.S.A.

Suspicious Fire at St. Nicholas of Tolentine, Bronx, NY

An intense two-alarm fire, that started in a storage room in the vestibule of St. Nicholas of Tolentine on March 5th, is still under investigation, but Fr. Joseph Girone, O.S.A., pastor, has no doubt that the fire was caused by arson. As to the toll of damages, Fr. Joe, says “I don’t have any figures, but I would say a million dollars or over. Nothing that was destroyed is irreplaceable; all will be restored as it was using the same materials as best as possible. The fire has made it imperative that the parish move on some projects in the church that will not be covered by insurance. The response...is disbelief that someone could have done something to the church...they take it personally since it is their church. This is the case for present parishioners as well as past. People want to know when they will be able to return as they are used to seeing the doors to the church open during the day and on weekends. We live in exile. As for me and my emotions—well that’s another whole story.”



SCAFFOLDING IN ST. NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINE CHURCH, BRONX NY, TO FIX EXTENSIVE FIRE DAMAGE.

New Book About Saint Augustine by Merrimack Professor

Joseph T. Kelley, Ph.D., describes his new book, “Saint Augustine of Hippo, Selections from Confessions and Other Essential Writings—Annotated & Explained.” as an introductory anthology intended to give non-scholars access to Augustine’s life and thought. Mr. Kelley is founder of the Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy, and associate professor in religious and theological studies, and former provost at Merrimack College in North Andover, MA. He is also a board member of the Augustinian Heritage Institute, Villanova, PA. More info at: www.skylightpaths.com.



New CD from renowned Augustinian pianist, Denis Wilde, O.S.A.

Fr. Denis Wilde, O.S.A., pianist and Associate Director of Priests for Life, received his Ph.D. in music theory from The Catholic University of America (1984) and has been active as a choral director, pianist, and organist, giving performances in 5 continents throughout many years of priesthood as associate professor at Villanova University. Here he draws on the piano repertoire of the Romantic Period, including piano classics of Grieg, Beethoven, Liszt, Debussy, Chopin, Gershwin. The CD was recorded at Saint Thomas of Villanova Church, Villanova, PA. It is available at <http://www.priestsforlife.org/store/c-30-audio-cds.aspx>.



New Music from “Augustinian Friends”

“Be Still”, a new CD from “Augustinian Friends” is set to be released in fall 2010. All proceeds will benefit the Augustinians Missions.



Students from Saint Augustine’s Prep visited the UN on Feb.24.

Augustinian Volunteer Brian Roe, who is working part time with Fr. Jack Deegan, O.S.A., on the O.S.A./Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), helped to arrange the February 24th visit and gave a talk to the students on the Augustinian presence at the UN.



St. Helen’s Parish—New Home for 300 Zulu families to Worship

After many years of prayer, hard work and the leadership and generosity of North American benefactors, in particular Mr. and Mrs. Randy Thurmon and Mr. and Mrs. John Kennedy, the dream of the Zulu community in South Africa was finally realized on Sunday, February 14, 2010, as Cardinal Wilfred Napier, O.F.M., Archbishop of Durban, consecrated the new church of St. Helen’s in Edwaleni, South Africa. Over 700 people were in attendance, some spilling over to the outdoor verandas. The cardinal and the chief (i.e. the Inkosi) each received a live goat and a ceremonial blanket. The cardinal even received a Zulu headband and staff, which, in a very kindly spirit, he put on as he sat in front of the altar once the Mass ended! Present also were the Augustinian Volunteers serving in South Africa and many parishioners from Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Kloof.



OVER 700 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE CONSECRATION OF THE NEW CHURCH OF ST. HELEN'S IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Sanctuary Plans Podcasts for summer and beyond...

“SEEDCAST,” Sanctuary’s podcast offering for Lent 2010, met with great success, drawing listeners from the US and around the world, including Australia, India, Malta and Russia. The program took the form of a ‘podcast’, a series of reflections by Shawn Tracy, O.S.A., matched with musical selections from the album “Passion.” The group plans to continue this format over the summer and beyond with seasonal material based on other recordings, new music, live recordings and other creative digital projects. Information about Sanctuary, recordings, podcasts and performances can be found at www.sanctuary.villanova.edu.



“Sidewalk Sam” comes to Merrimack College

“Sidewalk Sam,” the renowned artist, who creates art at the feet of pedestrians, was the featured guest during Merrimack’s first annual Blue, Gold and Green Festival. Known for participatory sidewalk art initiatives to raise awareness, “Sidewalk Sam” recruited students, faculty and staff to create a chalk vine throughout the paved areas of the campus. Participants then wrote environmental messages on the leaves.

The event was organized by Merrimack’s Campus Sustainability Initiative and student-led Green Team.

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

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THE VISIONARIES

A PBS Series Selects Augustinians for Documentary

The *Visionaries* is a PBS series, hosted by Sam Waterston, that crafts the stories of non-profits who take a stand for people and the planet. Now in their 16th season, the film company has selected the Augustinians of the Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova, to tell the story of Augustinian Friars and their initiatives in downtown Philadelphia and South Africa.

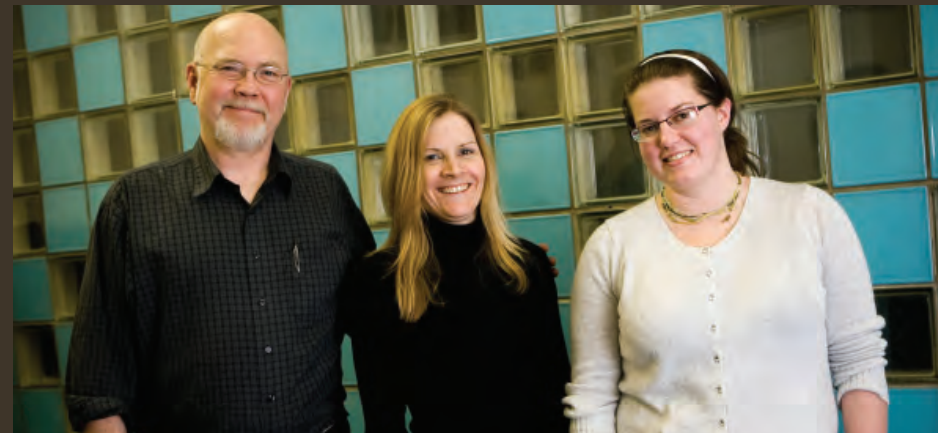
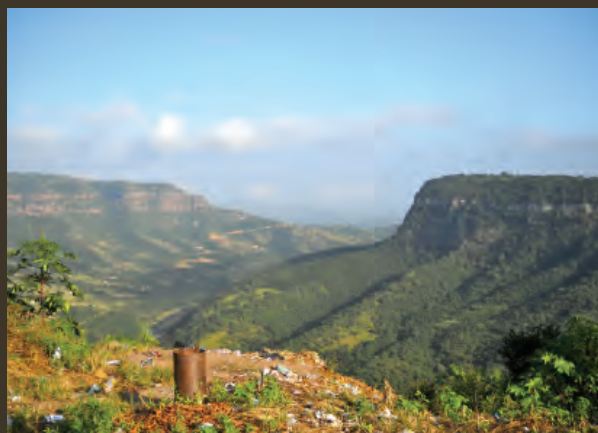
Producer/Director, Jody Santos, an award-winning author, journalist and documentary filmmaker, along with Director of Photography, Bruce Lundeen, and Audio Engineer/Associate Producer, Ashley Bishop, filmed the episode on location in March of 2010. The result is a powerful documentary that captures the stories of lives that have been touched and changed through the work of the Augustinians, Augustinian Volunteers, Alumni from The Villanova School of Nursing and Augustinian benefactors.

Photos on these pages capture Jody and her crew at work.

The 30-minute documentary is scheduled to be up on satellite on July 18th, available for airings on PBS stations for the next two years. See www.augustinian.org for airtimes in your area.

Also, special airings are being planned for next fall. If you would like information about these events, please contact communications@augustinian.org.

This program is underwritten by Halloran Philanthropies and Lavin, O'Neil, Ricci, Cedrone & DiSipio. We are most grateful for their generosity and support.





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*
- Thomas Buckley
- James Delaney
- Anthony Dellomo
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- Michael Picotte
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- Susan Wojtas

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- William Hallissey
- Gary Holloway

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

*"For all that has been –Thanks.
For all that shall be –Yes."*

Dag Hammarskjöld

This beautiful quote from the Swedish diplomat aptly sums up the fundraising efforts of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova for the past eight years and the confidence with which we look forward to our future. In 2002 the newly appointed Provincial Council took a hard look at the needs of the Province and decided to launch its first fundraising effort in over 40 years. St. Thomas Monastery, on the campus of Villanova University, was over 100 years old and badly needed a massive renovation. The ministries of the Province needed additional assistance to continue to thrive. We asked you, our friends, to Embrace the Future with us and you responded. The accomplishments of that campaign have been many:

- The Monastery received a complete renovation and now houses 57 friars. The entire second floor is a medical suite where our infirm friars receive professional nursing care 24/7.
- The Richard Appicci Endowment for the Augustinian Missions has been set up to sustain our foreign missions in Japan, South Africa and Peru. Through your generosity we have built two churches in the Valley of a Thousand Hills in Durban, South Africa: St. Leo's was built under the direction of Fr. Ed Hattrick, O.S.A., and the recently completed St. Helen's under the leadership of Fr. Frank Doyle, O.S.A. Food programs have been added to St. Leo's School and feeding the orphan heads of households on weekends and vacations now takes place.
- 69 young men have entered the seminary in Trujillo, Peru. Four wells have been dug in Chulucanas, computers have been placed in the elementary school, wheelchairs, walkers, eyeglasses and medicines have been donated to the

clinic, and scholarships have been offered to enable poor students to attend trade schools.

- 203 Augustinian Volunteers have experienced the Augustinian Community way of life by serving with Augustinians in San Diego, CA; Chicago, IL; Philadelphia, PA; Camden, NJ; Bronx, NY; Lawrence, MA; San Gimignano, Italy; Chulucanas, Peru; and Durban, South Africa. These young men and women have touched thousands of lives in schools, clinics, housing projects, orphanages, and homeless shelters.

In 2006 we launched our first annual appeal, the Augustinian Fund, and invited you to...be part of something powerful. The annual appeal gave the Province immediate funds to be used for day-to-day expenses. We added prison ministries and Augustinian Defenders of the Rights of the Poor (ADROP) to the outreach efforts of the Province. Friars minister to inmates in the Chester County Prisons and the Philadelphia Prison system, and run Adeodatus, a support group for those recently released from prison. ADROP sponsors the Unity Clinic offering medical services to the immigrants and indigents in downtown Philadelphia in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania and the Villanova School of Nursing. A legal clinic, ESL classes and a tutoring program are also offered. We are humbled by the support we have received; you have helped us achieve extraordinary things.

Our initial fund raising goal was \$25,000,000.00.

The past eight years have yielded a total of \$25,683,490.

Thank you.

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ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA

Please join the Augustinians on their journey to the future by memorializing a stone in the walkway of the Prayer Garden of St. Thomas of Villanova, at the Monastery on the campus of Villanova University.

Each step of the walkway is an opportunity for you to dedicate a stone to a member of your family or to an Augustinian.

**SHARE THIS SACRED SPACE
WITH THE AUGUSTINIANS
TODAY...and always.**

You have a choice of a 6"x12"
Sandstone paving stone or a 4"x8"
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