



The Midwest Augustinian

"One Mind, One Heart"

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SPRING 2012

LETTER FROM THE PRIOR PROVINCIAL



Dear Friends of the Augustinians,

I hope you enjoy receiving *The Midwest Augustinian* newsletter. This publication, now offered on a biannual basis, will also include information formerly included in the overseas missions newsletter called *Vision*. It will also begin to have a new

look and feel to it as we move forward. This Fall, you will also receive a biannual publication, the *Augustinian*. This magazine unites efforts between our Midwest Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel and the East Coast Province of St. Thomas of Villanova to collaborate more closely and to communicate with our friends and benefactors more efficiently.

The Augustinians of the United States and Canada have recently entered into a Federation which allows us to work together across province boundaries more easily, so as to use our resources and personnel in the best way possible to continue serving our ministries. As I have stated several times since I have taken office, Vocations are my highest priority. With the recent appointment of Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A. as the Vocation Director of both the Villanova and Chicago Provinces, we now collaborate on all levels of Vocations and Formation. I am grateful to Fr. Tom who is willing to be of service to both provinces in creating a hope-filled future for our Order by assisting young men who are interested in joining us. He will have Vocation Offices both at Villanova University in Pennsylvania and at St. Rita High School in Chicago, IL.

As we continue to look for new ways to work together to reshape our future, I ask your continued support for our seminarians, our elder friars, and our missions in Peru. If you have already made a contribution to our annual fund this year captured in the phrase "For the Love of God and all his children...", thank you for being partners with us in ministry. If you have not made your gift yet this year, please consider using the enclosed envelope to do so, or you can give online at our website www.midwestaugustinians.org.

Sincerely in Christ and St. Augustine,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Bernie".

Very Rev. Bernard C. Scianna, O.S.A., Ph.D.
Prior Provincial, Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel

THE MIDWEST AUGUSTINIAN

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Mr. Patrick T. Murphy

ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATE



TRUJILLO, PERU: The Augustinians serving Northern Peru in 2012



CHULUCANAS, PERU: Augustinian Missionary Rev. John Lydon, O.S.A. blesses newly ordained Rev. Delfio López, O.S.A.



SANTO DOMINGO, PERU: Large crowd marches in the Andes Mountains to celebrate the new Augustinian ordinations

“The Fruits of Nearly 50 Years in Mission: My First Glimpse of Peru”

By Michael Gerrity

When first asked to visit the Augustinian missions in Peru, nervousness and uncertainty were my initial responses. I had similar but far less intense reactions during my first visits to Rome and Jerusalem, but this was South America, and what did I know? I knew the overseas missions in Peru were a long outstanding vital component of the Province’s overall broad mission. As a veteran fundraiser of 27 years, I also knew that being there would allow me to speak more effectively with supporters. I cannot talk passionately about something I never had experienced firsthand. Yet I was anxious, as perhaps anyone would be about new countries and overseas travel. I comforted myself by realizing that God would never take me where He did not need me.

At first, my eight days seemed like an endless, closely interwoven blur of travel, rough roads, different sleeping places and menus, fascinating characters, intriguing night noises and smells, an array of beautiful caring human beings, generous kind Augustinians (Peruvian, American, Canadian, and Cuban), and stunning vistas. But as I reflected carefully on what I was seeing, it came into sharp, clear focus. I could see the tremendous fruits of almost 50 years of Augustinian influence and works. It was visible in the two newly ordained Peruvian Augustinians, Rev. Rogelio Adrianzén, O.S.A. and Rev. Delfio López, O.S.A. It was visible in the way that scores of men, women, and children honored and respected the Augustinians. It was visible in each of the 40 men enrolled in Augustinian seminary studies. It was visible in all the fabric of the daily lives of hundreds of thousands of Peruvians served by the Augustinians. These good men, missionaries who began working

there almost a half century ago and continue working there today, had successfully ignited the flames of faith in keeping with the best traditions and charisms of the Augustinians. The Peruvians now take up that torch and spread farther and wider than ever could have been imagined 50 years ago. I realized that the powerfully positive impacts of these works will likely carry on for centuries to come. I was seeing the Church on the move, growing, expanding, and vibrant... because of the Augustinians.

I left Peru changed--deeply moved, inspired, and committed to doing all possible to further the Augustinian works in that beautiful country. I would strongly encourage others to go. I plan to return.

Michael Gerrity is a veteran Catholic fundraiser of 27 years. He joined the Augustinians in July 2011 as the Province Advancement Director.



“Leading by Example: The Augustinian Community of Lemont, IL”

By Patrick T. Murphy

Leading a community by example is perhaps one of the most humbling, spiritual, and challenging tasks anybody can take on. And yet this exact style of leadership is lived out on a daily basis at a homey retirement center called Franciscan Village in Lemont, Illinois.

This past January, I had the privilege of spending time with the retired Augustinians of the Blessed Stephen Bellesini Community. I'll admit to feeling slightly intimidated at first: What should I say? What should I not say? I would be making a first impression to a handful of religious that had years of experience and knowledge beyond me. But a lot of those worries washed away when I was first greeted by Brother Jerome Sysko, O.S.A., the community Prior, with a warm “Welcome!” and a close hug. I had opened up the conversation by saying to him, “So, I heard you're like a rock-star here?” He humbly laughed it away, but I was proven right when we started entering the residential area.

Nearly every hallway we turned down and every elevator we entered, smiles bounced back and forth between him

and every nurse, patient, and staff worker we saw. He had gone out of his way to be able to greet every person there in their native language: English, Spanish, Polish, even languages from Ghana!



LEMONT, IL: Rev. Francis Lawlor, O.S.A. (left) receives the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick from Very Rev. Bernard Scianna, O.S.A. (right) during Mass at Franciscan Village

“I have time to think and time to pray.” These were some of the more profound words I took away from my experience that day. As with any ministry, Brother Jerome has had to adjust to the ministry of caring for the elderly and the sick, but his commitment and openness to the task have given him a new perspective into the lives of his Augustinian brothers. He shared with me that there are special, ineffable moments in his current ministry where he can see a

spiritual side of his brothers he never could have seen before. Why? Because this entire community can now focus on two simple things that may often get shrugged aside in our fast-paced society: the time to think and time to pray.

The most inspiring aspect of my few hours at Franciscan Village regards the profound impact that this Augustinian community, even in retirement, is still leading a Church by example. In these past two years of community life and prayer, a staff member had been watching this community grow and share together: in daily mass, in contemplative prayer, in communal meals, in the loss of a brother. She had been turned away from the Church for a number of years, but simply by observing the Augustinians' living

out the core values of the Order, she once again found the path back to her faith.

I am happy to have had this chance to meet the community in Lemont and look forward to my next visit--from the wealth of joyous storytelling shared by some to the more peacefully humble smiles expressed by others. I am also grateful that I have the opportunity to be able to work for each one of these fine friars.



Your will

An Extraordinary Act of Love

When considering how to distribute all that God gave you in life, please remember the Augustinians.

Our full legal name is **Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel of the Augustinian Order.**

If you have included the Augustinians in your will, please let us know so we can enroll you in our Legacy Society.



**MIDWEST
AUGUSTINIANS**



Why a bequest?

- Perpetuate your annual giving after you have gone home
- Gift your money or assets after you no longer need them
- Memorialize family and loved ones
- You can choose where the money goes: retired Augustinians, seminarians, overseas missions

The Power of Perpetual Giving

Bequest	Annual Perpetual Gift*
\$ 10,000	\$ 250
\$ 20,000	\$ 500
\$ 50,000	\$ 1,250
\$ 100,000	\$ 2,500

**Estimates 2.5% annual payout so principle is preserved.*

For More Information or to Notify Us of Bequest

Please contact Province Advancement Director Michael Gerrity at mikewger@gmail.com or call 773-595-4035. All inquiries are confidential.



**Bernard
Cissell**

Bernard Cissell was born in October 1975 in Indianapolis, Indiana and considers himself a die-hard Hoosier. He is currently a Postulant for the Augustinians, meaning that he has not yet professed any Vows, but has already been discerning his vocation and will begin studying as a seminarian shortly.

After receiving his Master's Degree from the St. Meinrad School of Theology for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis in 2002, he began teaching six and a half years in Chicago Public Schools, which he is now completing. In 2007, he earned a Masters of Arts in Teaching from National Louis University, and is now in his third Theology at Catholic Theological Union, with a strong interest in liturgy and sacramental theology.

He has competed in 8 separate marathons in Chicago, Maui, Florence, and Walt Disney World. He also has a strong interest in national politics, traveling, experiencing other cultures, and has a great deal of respect for his paternal grandparents.

How I Found The Augustinians

By **Bernard Cissell**

Bernard had these words to share regarding his path to finding the Augustinians:

In 2009, I assisted in the coordination the 100th anniversary celebration for my home parish of Saint Philip Neri in Indianapolis. While coordinating our liturgical celebrations, my best friend and Pastor, Father Carlton Beever, told me “I think you missed your vocation.” I was shocked!

With the assistance of a good spiritual director, I began to think about the permanent diaconate with its unique opportunity to teach and be involved in parish life. As I discerned this further, I realized that God was calling me to the priesthood, and I wanted to be around other men who were like me—with whom I could share the joys and struggles of life. Community! Discovering this, I began to talk to the mendicant orders, and I contacted Father Tom McCarthy, O.S.A., who was very supportive and encouraging. Fr. Tom assured me that he would walk with me in my discernment process to see if I was being called to the



INDIANAPOLIS, IN: Bernard serving as MC for Bishop Chris Coyne, who was making a pastoral visit



CHICAGO, IL: Mr. Cissell teaching his juniors about the importance of being a smart consumer

Augustinians. I consider my vocation story complex, as Saint Rita's was, and I credit my prayer and her intercession with my acceptance into the Order of Saint Augustine. I feel very much at home with all of the friars I have met, especially the men with whom I live at Saint Rita High School Monastery. I am very proud of the work of the Augustinians, and already feel very much a part of the order. Peace!



CHICAGO, IL (left to right): Prior Provincial Very Rev. Bernard C. Scianna, O.S.A., Ph.D., President of St. Rita High School Mr. Ernie Mrozek, Chairman of the Board at St. Rita Rev. Thomas R. McCarthy, O.S.A., St. Rita Principal Mr. Brendan Conroy, and Director of Augustinian Mission at the high school Rev. Rich Young, O.S.A.

Stronger Vocations and Leadership on the Way

Great leaders are destined to take on great challenges. This past February, an announcement from St. Rita High School in Chicago, IL illustrated that exact sentiment among numerous individuals inspired with core Augustinian values. Prior Provincial Very Rev. Bernard Scianna, O.S.A. (St. Rita Class of '83) announced that Rev. Thomas R. McCarthy, O.S.A. (St. Rita Class of '83) has been named the new Director of Vocations for the Augustinian Provinces of Our Mother of Good Counsel in the Midwest and St. Thomas of Villanova on the East Coast, where he will have an additional office at Villanova University. Additionally, the eastern Province also announced that Rev. Jorge L. Cleto, O.S.A. will now serve as Director of Hispanic Vocations for both provinces as well. This initiative to focus greater efforts on Augustinian vocations is sure to illuminate a great hope across the United States for the Order. In the last three years alone,

Fr. Tom has brought 10 men into the Order who are studying to become Augustinians. Fr. Tom will continue to maintain a position of key leadership at St. Rita High School by serving as the Chairman of the Board, after serving as the High School President for 12 years. Fr. Tom says, "I am honored to be able to serve the Order by focusing on vocations for the Augustinians. At the same time, St. Rita is my home, and I am thankful to be able to continue to work with the students and the community."

Current Board Chairman and Vice-President Ernie Mrozek (St. Rita Class of '71) was appointed as St. Rita High School President. Mrozek retired from a successful career with The ServiceMaster Company in 2008, having served as the Fortune 500 company's chief financial officer and then as its president and chief operating officer. He has served as St. Rita's Vice President since 2009.

Additionally, Rev. Rich Young, O.S.A. (St. Rita Class of '82) has been appointed to the new full-time position of Director of Augustinian Mission. As Director, he will head the newly created Office for Mission and Ministry, directing activities that demonstrate St. Rita's commitment to living out the Augustinian mission and values in all aspects of campus life. Brendon Conroy will continue his role as Principal, supported by his team of assistant principals, faculty, and staff.

"Father Tom, Ernie, Father Rich, and Brendan make a very strong senior leadership team with complementary skill sets, and we are confident these promotions will ensure the continued success of St. Rita," says the Provincial. "With these men guiding our school, and with a talented and dedicated faculty and staff, we will preserve the continuity of our Augustinian philosophy and spirituality."



FLINT, MI: St. Matthew Parish has been served by the Augustinians for over 85 years

St. Matthew Parish Celebrates 100 Years

In 1926, with St. Matthew Catholic Church \$500,000 in the red, the Bishop of Detroit was having trouble finding a Pastor to take over the flagging downtown parish. “The story goes that nobody would take the parish because it was so heavily in debt,” said Rev. Fred Taggart, O.S.A., current St. Matthew Pastor. The Augustinians accepted the challenge to lead the parish through the Great Depression and on to prosperity.

That history was recalled on Saturday, September 24, 2011, when a dozen priests, including the Augustinians, joined Bishop Earl Boyea of Lansing in celebrating St. Matthew’s 100th Anniversary. In addition to Rev. Frederick H. Taggart O.S.A., Very Rev. Bernard Scianna, O.S.A., Prior Provincial, concelebrated along with Rev. James (Jerry) Ryan, O.S.A. and Rev. Ronald Scheible, O.S.A., retired Augustinian priests who assist at the 450-family parish. Bro. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A., who had previously served the parish years ago, was also in attendance. The parish’s first mass was on October 8, 1911, with a piano serving as the altar for a liturgy celebrated in a storefront on downtown Saginaw Street. The parish’s first church was on the first floor of a two-story brick building on the opposite corner of the present church.

My Greater Call to Spiritual Care

By Rev. Bernard Danber, O.S.A.

Catholic presence in the health care industry has a long tradition in the Church. Over the years, several of the men in our Province have worked as hospital chaplains. We are a public face to people at vulnerable times in their lives. We minister not only to the patients, but also to the entire staff of the hospital. And because Holy Cross has undergone a demographic shift, as has the entire St. Rita Parish neighborhood in Chicago, IL, I accepted an opportunity to represent the Catholic Church to many people who may not have had much experience with it as the new Director of the Department of Spiritual Care.

My first encounter with hospital ministry took place during my seminary years, when I participated in a program called Clinical Pastoral Education (C.P.E.). I spent the summer of 1977 at Methodist Hospital in Peoria, IL along with 6 other student chaplains. It was a better experience for me than I had expected. I always kept in the back of my mind that I could happily do this type of work...if I ever left teaching.

After serving 23 years in high school education, I wanted a major change. Holy Cross Hospital is in the midst of the same neighborhood as St. Rita Parish and St. Rita High School. It is



CHICAGO, IL: Fr. Bernie (left) serves Holy Cross Hospital with Stacy Watson (center) of the Human Resources Department, and Sister Juline Revas, SSC, (right) Vice President of Mission Services

owned and operated by the Sisters of St. Casimir, who have a long history of cooperation with the Augustinians, especially through Maria High School. There was an opening for a part-time chaplain, and so I started to work at the hospital. Last year, the Director of the Spiritual Care Department died quickly from cancer, and I became a full-time chaplain. The hospital has seen the work I have done for the past 7 years, and offered me my new position, which I graciously and warmly accepted. I ask for your prayers, on behalf of all of those who are serving in public ministry. God bless!



PALOS HEIGHTS, IL (left to right): Friends of Tolentine Vice-President Jack Vlazny presents \$20,000 to Vicar Provincial Rev. Michael Slattery, O.S.A. with the group's Treasurer Ron Dubin, the 2011 Man of the Year Mike Zunica, and incoming Friends of Tolentine President Mike Foley

Friends of Tolentine Name 2012 Man of the Year

This past January, the Friends of Tolentine donated \$20,000 to the Province to support Augustinian seminarians. This annual reception reflected decades of love, appreciation, devotion, and support to the Augustinian Order.

The Friends of Tolentine are primarily alumni from St. Rita High School and the now-closed Mendel High School. Both of these Augustinian high schools have had a profound impact on members' lives. The evening consisted of deeply intimate stories of how the Augustinians have shaped their lives, and how they have taken the initiative to give back to the Order by sponsoring seminarians--a gift that will last for decades to come.

The Friends plan to redouble their work to support the Augustinians. In 2012, they plan to double their past year's contribution through the largest dinner event to date, and



PALOS HEIGHTS, IL: Mike Foley (left) accepts the Presidency of the Friends of Tolentine from Jack Vlazny (right)

also other fund-raising like a raffle. To learn more about the Friends of Tolentine, please contact President Mike Foley at follaw@sbcglobal.net. May God continue to bless them in their work!

After Mikey Foley, of Foley and Foley, was sworn in as the new President of the group, he shared some thoughts about this year's "Man of the Year" Award, which will be received by Jack Vlazny this upcoming October. Mike had this to say:



Jack Vlazny has had his shoulder to the wheel, both with Mendel Alumni and Friends of Tolentine for many years. He has done a great job as keeper of the Augustinian flame. I am honored to be mentioned in the same breath, much less as his successor in this very important endeavour. I have been indebted to Jack for many years--he introduced me to the great Lou Guida. Lou brought me to Mendel. At Mendel, I received a great education, in the classroom and outside.

Mendel is gone. But the Augustinians' important work in education for preparing the next generation continue at St. Rita High School (Chicago, IL), Providence Catholic (New Lenox, IL), Cascia Hall (Tulsa, OK), Villanova College (King City, ON), and Austin Academy (Macomb, MI).

— Mike Foley





PROVINCIAL ADVANCEMENT COUNCIL

- Very Rev. Bernard C. Scianna, O.S.A., Ph.D., *Prior Provincial*
 - Mr. Mark S. Hacker
 - Mr. Blake Hastings
 - Mr. Wayne G. Klasing
 - Mr. Tony Lauinger
- Rev. Joseph E. McCormick, O.S.A.
 - Mr. Mike Zunica

The organized, active support of our most influential laity is essential to the success of the Midwest Province's mission. Hundreds of thousands of men, women, children, and families depend upon that very mission, and have done so for over 100 years. The Augustinians, both active and retired, depend upon these leading laity to step forward and partner with them in this great cause.

CHICAGO, IL: The first members of our Council include (from left to right): Wayne Klasing, Mark Hacker, Blake Hastings, Very Rev. Bernard Scianna, O.S.A., Ph.D., Tony Lauinger, and Mike Zunica

Meet the First Provincial Advancement Council

The first five of many lay leaders stepped forward this past January at the first Provincial Advancement Council meeting held at our Province Headquarters in Chicago, IL. Each member has donated his time and blessings to assist in helping our Augustinian Province grow. These are their stories:

Mr. Mark Hacker graduated from St. Rita High School in Chicago, IL in 1990 and attended Villanova University afterwards. While studying law at Villanova, Mark met his wife, with whom he now has two children. He joined the Council as a way to give back something to the Augustinian Order, which has given him so much already.

Mr. Blake Hastings, a 1967 graduate of Cascia Hall in Tulsa, OK, has had a deep love for the Augustinians for many years. At one point, he decided he wanted to serve his children by becoming active at Cascia Hall; however, he was surprised to realize that he was the one that was in fact being served by the Augustinians throughout the process.

For 16 years, Mr. Wayne Klasing has been actively involved in St. Jude Parish and

Providence Catholic High School, both Augustinian communities in New Lenox, IL. After selling his small business, he began giving back to his community by serving on a number of community boards and helping fund-raise for both Providence Catholic and St. Jude's capital campaigns.

Mr. Tony Lauinger is a 1992 graduate of Cascia Hall in Tulsa, OK. Feeling a strong call to the Augustinians, he began discerning a vocation with the Order in the 1960's, but felt God had been calling him to married life: a life that has since blessed him and his wife Phyllis with 8 children and 11 grandchildren. Today, Tony serves as a member of the National Right to Life Committee and is now joining the Provincial Advancement Council to further help the Augustinians.

Mr. Mike Zunica found the Augustinians by accident. Mike had always been a strong advocate of supporting Catholic education, so much that he devoted his life to it. Mike has worked in Athletics and Development, and has decided to give his sons the incredible gift of an education at St. Rita High School.

The Augustinians have made a profound impact on each one of these council members' lives, so much that they feel they must begin to give back. If you, or anyone you know, may be interested in joining their cause as a leader, please contact Advancement Director Michael Gerrity at (773) 595-4035 or mikewger@gmail.com

Overseas Missions

Re-Installation of Augustinian Parish in Peru

Welcome signs flowed outside the church doors and onto the streets of Parroquia San José Obrero (St. Joseph the Worker Parish) last December in Chulucanas, Peru. Warm blessings and smiles greeted Bishop Daniel Turley, O.S.A. and the many Augustinians gathered to celebrate the parish's re-installation ceremony. A couple years ago, the Augustinian Provinces of Our Mother of Good Counsel and St. Thomas of Villanova raised over \$40,000 for the construction of this

collapsing church, a landmark site of our Peruvian mission efforts.

The Very Rev. Fidel Alvarado, O.S.A., Regional Vicar, and Parish Pastor Rev. Juan Carlos Olaya, O.S.A. concelebrated the mass with Bishop Dan, who graciously acknowledged the contributions of our benefactors from afar and the local volunteers of the parish who helped with the construction. When a white dove was presented during the Offertory, Bishop Dan released it into the air, and the

bird finally perched above the altar watching along the entire rest of the celebration.



CHULUCANAS, PERU: The People of San José Obrero Parish celebrate the newly constructed church

Irrigation Project in Peru means hope for thousands



SONDORILLO, PERU: Governor of Piura Javier Atkins (left) and President of Peru Ollanta Humala (right) ignite the first explosion into the mountains



The first explosion into the mountains means hope for the people of the Diocese of Chulucanas



President Humala (left) and Bishop Daniel Turley, O.S.A. (right) embrace at the project's opening ceremony

Water can be a scarce resource in our mission sites of northern Peru. For many years, Bishop Daniel Turley, O.S.A. has been a leading advocate for the government project, "Proyecto Alto Piura," a project to bring water through desert and mountains to the thousands that need it. This past December, the project finally exploded into action as Peruvian President Ollanta Humala blew the first hole into a mountain with dynamite. He, as well as the Governor of Piura, explained that the program is not only incredibly important for improved irrigation, but also for the promise of hydro-powered energy. Bishop Dan met the President at this historic event and prayed for the project's success.

ANNUAL FUND PROGRESS REPORT

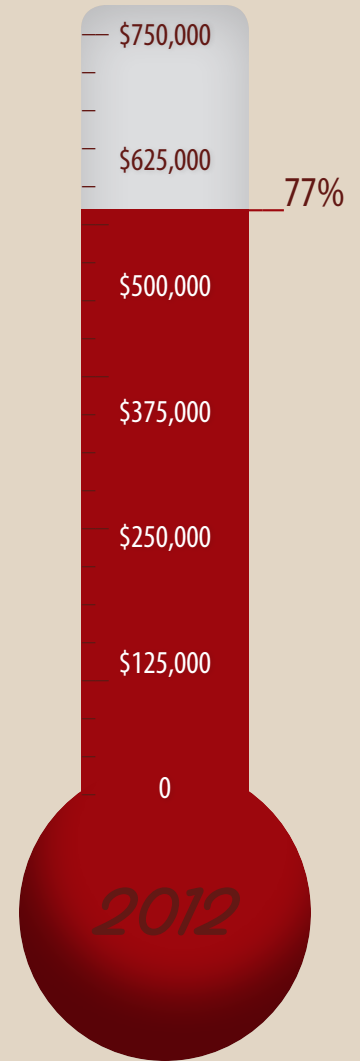
In October 2011, we launched our first ever all-Province annual fund with a \$750,000 goal for 2012. The 2012 Annual Fund's theme is captured in the phrase "For the love of God and all his children." Our Province has a \$1.2 million revenue gap. We do not expect to get there in one year; our goal is to be there by the end of 2014.

Our seminarians and vocations, our 40 retired and elderly friars, and the missions in Peru are the primary focus of the Annual Fund. The Augustinian Missions Office is being folded into the Advancement Office. It will receive more support and exposure than it previously enjoyed.

As of February 24, the total raised is near \$575,000. We are very grateful for the almost 1,600 donors who have contributed to this success. We are just over three quarters of the way there. We would be grateful for your help in reaching this goal. Here are the key ways you can help:

- Pray for our seminarians, vocations, elderly and retired Augustinians, and overseas missions
- Use the envelope in this newsletter to donate, or go to www.midwestaugustinians.org
- Host a get-together for 8 to 12 people for a presentation
- Call the Advancement Office at (773) 595-4008 and volunteer to help:

With your support and prayers to St. Augustine and Our Mother of Good Counsel, we feel confident of success.

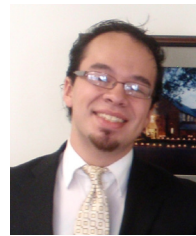


Our New Advancement Staff

We are pleased to announce the growing staff for the Province Advancement Office!



Mr. Michael Gerrity, Advancement Director, has been leading the Province Advancement Office since this past July. Over the past 27 years, Michael has worked in advancement for religious orders, dioceses, secondary schools, hospitals, a university, and overseas missions.

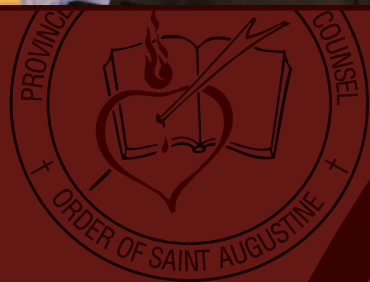


Mr. Patrick Murphy, Advancement Associate, has already been working for the Midwest Province for two years in the Missions Office. After becoming familiar with nearly all of the Province communities in the Midwest, Peru, and Canada, he is pleased to be taking on a much larger role for the Augustinians.

The staff is thrilled to be working for such a worthy Order with a longstanding tradition in the Catholic Church. The works of the Midwest Augustinians span over one dozen dioceses in the world and have a powerful story to tell--the staff is happy to share it with you!

For the love of God and all his children...

Please consider a gift toward our Annual Fund



MIDWEST AUGUSTINIANS

PROVINCE OF OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL

Our Strategic
**ADVANCEMENT
PRIORITIES**

*Commitment
to vocations*

*Care for the elderly
and retired who have
given their entire lives*

*Our Missionary
Efforts – Peru*

FINANCING OUR PRIORITIES

Friars in formation and vocations program	\$ 300,000
Elderly care and health care	\$ 1,440,000
Overseas mission in Peru	\$ 545,000
Province management	\$ 921,000
<i>Total</i>	\$ 3,206,000

*Contact us.
Make a real
difference...*

*You can make a gift with the
enclosed envelope or go to
www.midwestaugustinians.org*

Thank you for your support.



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(773) 595-4035



Patrick Murphy,
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Keeping Track

Following their Vow of Obedience, the Augustinians find themselves called to where they are needed. Each issue hopes to connect you with some familiar faces as we provide brief updates on the Augustinians serving throughout our vast Province.

Bro. Robert C. Basler, O.S.A.



Bro. Robert, a seminarian still in formation, was born in Chicago Heights, IL and raised in Park Forest, IL. He initially joined the Augustinian Pre-Novitiate program in early 2005 at St. Rita Parish in Chicago, IL. Afterwards, he was received into the Novitiate in Racine, WI and professed his Simple Vows in August 2006. He then began his theological studies at Washington Theological Union in Washington, D.C. He then transferred to continue his studies at Catholic Theological Union and resided at St. Augustine Friary, both in Chicago. Bro. Robert is now completing his pastoral year at San José Obrero Parish in Chulucanas, Perú.

Bro. Paul L. Koscielniak, O.S.A.



Bro. Paul was born and raised in Gaylord, MI. After spending his first months of religious community life in Holland, MI, he was first received as an Augustinian Novice in 1958 at the Saint Monica Novitiate in Oconomowoc, WI. He later continued to on to pursue separate ministries from 1962 through 1999 in Flint, MI including teaching English, Religion, Latin, and developing a program in liturgical music.

In 2000, he began his ministry in Augustinian education at Cascia Hall Preparatory School in Tulsa, OK. He continued on to teach at St. Rita High School in Chicago, IL in 2003, the same year he professed his Solemn Vows as an Augustinian. After serving as Director of Vocations for four years, Bro. Paul began serving as a teacher at

Villanova College in King City, Ontario and continues to do so today.

Rev. William E. Lego, O.S.A.



Fr. Bill, born and raised in Chicago, IL, received his high school diploma from St. Augustine High School Seminary in Holland, MI. After earning his B.A. in Sociology at Villanova University in 1977, he entered the Novitiate program in St. Louis, MO. After professing his Solemn Vows in 1981, he earned an M.Div. at Catholic Theological Union one year later. Shortly after, he was assigned to serve in the foreign mission of Santo Domingo, Perú as a deacon; he was ordained into the priesthood one year later in 1983.

After ordination, Fr. Bill spent 10 years as a missionary, serving in a number of Peruvian sites, including Lima, Morropón, Chalaco, and the Diocese of Chulucanas as the Vicar for Finances. After returning to the United States in 1993, he continued parish ministry across Chicago, served as the Province Treasurer, and later was elected as the Prior Provincial in 2006. Today, Fr. Bill is the Subprior of the Augustinian Community at St. Rita Parish in Chicago and the Pastor of St. Turibius Parish, where he currently resides.

Rev. Joseph E. McCormick, O.S.A.



Fr. Joe, born in Chicago, IL, attended high school at St. Augustine Seminary in Holland, MI. After spending his Novitiate year in Oconomowoc, WI, he professed Simple Vows in 1968 and Solemn Vows in 1975. Two years later, he earned an

M.Div. from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, an M.Rel.Ed. from Loyola University Chicago, and was also ordained into the priesthood by Bishop John C. McNabb, O.S.A.

In 1982, Fr. Joe began focusing on parish ministry at St. Clare of Montefalco Parish in Chicago. Five years later, he was named Formation Director, and then the Midwest Province Director of Development until 1995. Years later, he continued working in Development for Catholic Theological Union, and served in parish life at Holy Rosary Parish in Kenosha, WI, St. Clare of Montefalco Parish in Grosse Pointe Park, MI, St. Mary Parish in Niles, MI, as well as a Chaplain for the Dominican Sisters in Oxford, MI. Today, he is currently serving as the Pastor at Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Edwardsburg, MI.

TO WRITE BRO. ROBERT:

Parroquia San José Obrero
Jr. Amazonas 380
Chulucanas, Piura
Perú

TO WRITE BRO. PAUL:

Our Lady of Grace Monastery
P.O. Box 550
King City, ON L7B 1A7
Canada

TO WRITE FR. BILL:

St. Turibius Parish
5646 S. Karlov Ave.
Chicago, IL 60629-2395

TO WRITE FR. JOE:

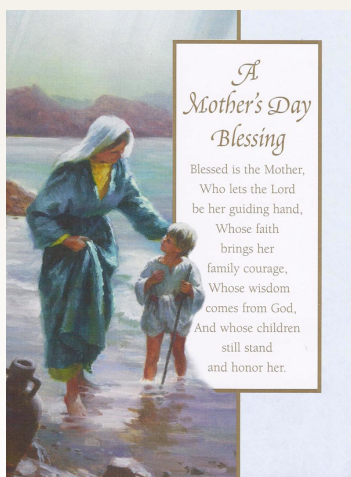
Our Lady of the Lake Parish
24832 US-East
Edwardsburg, MI 49112-8900

Join us in celebrating a Mother's Day Novena



Novena celebrations are a uniquely special way to commemorate a loved one or a special intention. Our Augustinian Novenas offer masses across the Province for nine consecutive days in honor of your request. This Mother's Day, send a beautiful card to the

mother in your life to let her know that she is in the thoughts and masses of the Augustinians.



A suggested offering of \$50.00 is requested for this holy event. To honor your contribution properly, please make sure we receive your intentions no later than Friday, May 11, 2012. Please contact the Advancement Office at augadvmw@gmail.com or (773) 595-4008 to enroll in this Mother's Day Novena.

What do "you" want?

To be the best stewards for the Augustinians, we want to use your gifts wisely. Please check the box below and return it to tell us "what you want." You can mail your answer using the envelope provided, or simply call (773) 595-4008 or email augadvmw@gmail.com.

Please keep sending me quarterly newsletters and updates*

I prefer to receive my newsletter online.

My email address is* _____.

I would like more updates about the works of the Province by an occasional phone call.*

Thank you, but please do not continue to send a newsletter.

*The Augustinians of the Province of Our Mother of Good Council never reveal, sell, rent, or lend your address, email, telephone number, or other information to any other organization, church, or otherwise.

IN PARADISIUM



Rev. Charles J. Bodden, O.S.A.

December 16, 2011 marked a day of surprise and sadness across all of Peru, as Augustinian missionary Fr. Charlie "Carlos" Bodden, O.S.A. passed away suddenly due to a heart failure at 61 years old. Fr. Charlie was born in Fond du Lac, WI in 1950, professed his first Augustinian Vows in 1969, and was ordained a priest in 1978. Spending all of his priesthood in Peru, his largest ministry focused on formation, where he nurtured Peruvian vocations from the desert on the Pacific Coast to the Andes Mountains to the Amazon Jungle. He is buried in the diocesan plot in Chulucanas, Peru next to his Augustinian friend and brother in mission, Rev. Joseph Graham, O.S.A.

"We believe Fr. Charlie will always live in our hearts and in all our projects as a Vicariate. Charlie will be with us forever."

— Very Rev. Fidel Alvarado, O.S.A.
Augustinian Regional Vicar in Peru



The MIDWEST AUGUSTINIAN

Augustinian Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel
5401 South Cornell Avenue
Chicago, IL 60615-6200

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Save the Date | Friday, April 26, 2013

Feast Day of Our Mother of Good Counsel, Patroness of Our Province, and the Inaugural Province Gala in Chicago, IL to benefit Seminarians, Retired Augustinians, and Our Missions in Peru.

PHOTO, TULSA, OK: Blessing of St. Augustine the Teacher Statue at Cascia Hall Preparatory School