SIXTH ANNUAL

AUGUSTINIAN GALA

Hosted by Very Reverend Bernard C. Scianna O.S.A., Ph.D.

Honoring

Brother Jerome Sysko, O.S.A.
Tony & Phyllis Lauinger
Reverend John Merkelis, O.S.A.

APRIL 27, 2018

PROVINCE OF OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
ORDER OF SAINT AUGUSTINE

Program Book Sponsored by Denise & Rob Utter

Congratulations to the Honorees

from

The St. Rita High School Fathers Club

"Building on a Proud Past for a Hopeful Future"

Welcome from the Prior Provincial

Dear Friends of the Augustinians,

Thank You for being here tonight for our 6th Annual Gala! We appreciate your friendship and support!

Today we are happy to honor four wonderful people who embody the Augustinian Spirit in varied ways through their different vocations.

Brother Jerome Sysko, O.S.A. truly lives the value of Caritas/Love. He is all heart! Whether he was preparing and serving food in the Mustang Spa on 63rd Street, visiting prisoners or parishoneers in Rockford, Flint or Dobbs Ferry, New York or serving as spiritual and formation director in St. Louis, Villanova or in Poland, or caring for our infirm and elderly brothers in Lemont or Crown Point, Bro Jerome has shown his love and dedication as a True Brother!

Tony and Phyllis Lauinger have known the Augustinians practically all their lives, and were recognized as Augustinian Affiliates for their Augustinian Spirit of Veritas/Truth. Tony constantly refers to the influence the Augustinians had on him in his early days as a student at Cascia Hall in Tulsa, and how they influenced and shaped his mind and heart in pursuit of Truth, i.e. God. This was done not only in the classroom, but also on the sports field where many Augustinians coached. This influence led him to join our formation program for a while and then to his true vocation, the married life with Phyllis. They have continued their pursuit of Truth by serving the Right to Life Initiative, giving free medical services to the poor, and on many boards and committees for Cascia Hall and the Augustinians over the years.

Father John Merkelis, O.S.A, or simply Fr. Merk has been a faithful Augustinian in his vocation as priest. Fr. Merk reminds me of the value of Unitas/Unity. His collaborative and consensus building style of ministry and leadership has served us all well. His work at Providence Catholic and particularly on Kairos Retreats, and most recently as President, continues to bring us together to be of one mind and heart on the way to God. Fr. Merk creates community wherever he goes! His work for the Province in roles of service such as Vocations Director, Vicar Provincial, Personnel Director, and Victim's Assistance Coordinator have been invaluable.

Please join me in congratulating and thanking these four wonderful Augustinians for their lives of service to the Order and the Church!

Please enjoy the evening and thank you for your continued love, encouragement and support. As I end my tenure as Provincial in June, one thing is clear to me, I could not have done all this without all of you!

Sincerely in Christ and St Augustine,

Fr. Bernie

Very Rev. Bernard C. Scianna, O.S.A.,Ph.D.
Prior Provincial of the Augustinians of Chicago, Canada, and Chulucanas, Peru

MENU

DINNER WINES

Canyon Road Pinot Grigio
Canyon Road Cabernet Sauvignon

SALAD COURSE

Roasted Apple and Bourbon Cherry, Roquefort, and Balsamic Vinagrette

INTERMEZZO

Trio of Champagne, Lemon, and Raspberry Fruit Sorbet with mint and Frozen Grapes in Martini Glass

MAIN DISH

Duet of Fennel Pollen Swordfish accompanied with 72-Hour Red Wine Braised Beef Short Ribs served with Caramelized Carrot Puree, Butter Poached Carrots and Creamed Kale

Vegetarian Option: Kale Lasagna with Creamy Parmesan Sauce

DESSERT

Salted Chocolate, Deep Caramel Sauce, Devil's Food Chocolate Cake, Dark Chocolate Mousse

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop
835 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030
312.534.8230
archchicago.org

Spring 2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In your spirit of gratitude for Augustinian friars, I am with you this evening, even if I am unable to join you in person. Thank you for your prayerful and generous support of the Augustinians, who, since 1905, have served and educated the faithful of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

As you know, the Midwest Augustinian Province is in the middle of a yearlong campaign to support the increase of new vocations. As Archbishop, I am heartened to see new vocations to the Midwest Augustinian Province, especially among those young men who were raised in the parishes of our archdiocese. Together they will ensure the continued presence of an Augustinian spirituality in our schools, parishes and ministries.

As I call to mind the importance of Augustinian ministries in our city, once again I want to congratulate the Pastoral Migratoria from St. Rita of Cascia Parish, recipient of this year's Saint Toribio Romo Award, and thank them for their service to the city's immigrant community. Earlier this month, I was delighted to present them with the award at the Archdiocese's Keep Hope Alive benefit concert.

This evening I would like to acknowledge the service of the 2018 Augustinian Gala honorees: Father John Merkelis, O.S.A., a longtime spiritual leader for the students of Providence Catholic High School; Brother Jerome Sysko, O.S.A., former Prior of the Augustinian Health Care Community; and Augustinian Affiliates Tony and Phyllis Lauinger, chairpersons for the National Right to Life and tireless advocates for the unborn.

With gratitude for all you do for the Church, particularly as the Archdiocese continues the Renew My Church initiative, you are in my prayers. Please keep me in your prayers as well. With every good wish, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Card. Blase J. Cupich
Archbishop of Chicago

Sixth Annual Augustinian Gala
Midwest Augustinian Friars
April 27, 2018

Letter from the Overall Gala Sponsor

Dear Friends of the Augustinians,

It is truly my honor to serve as the Overall Sponsor of the 2018 Augustinian Gala, the sixth such gala since Fr. Bernie inaugurated the event in his first term as Prior Provincial. As we gather now in the final months of his tenure, we can look back at the remarkable transformation he helped bring about in this Province, a transformation that allows us to also look forward to a future filled with new vocations and new Augustinians.

It seems fitting and providential, then, that this Gala falls right on the midway point of the Midwest Augustinians' Year of Vocations Campaign, which opened on the birthday of Saint Augustine, November 11, 2017. This campaign was begun in response to the immediate expenses that accompanied the historic rise in new vocations under Fr. Bernie's direction. I am proud to be a major supporter of this campaign. How distant a past it appears now, when Fr. Bernie took office in 2010 and the Midwest Province had not ordained a priest in over a decade! If that trend had continued much longer, it would have meant the dissolution of the Midwest Province.

I was in the position to have witnessed closely what happens to schools when vocations to the Augustinians are on the decline. I was one of the 3,000 plus young men blessed enough to have graduated from Austin Catholic Preparatory School, which was run by the Augustinian friars in Detroit, Michigan since it was founded in 1951. A decade and a half after I graduated in 1963, however, my alma mater was selected for closure by the Midwest Province, in the face of fewer Augustinian friars available to serve as staff and faculty.

Nevertheless, the Augustinian friars had already left their indelible mark on me—and it was deep enough that it has called me to serve the newly formed Austin Catholic High School in Michigan, just as it has called me to support tonight's Augustinian Gala.

The example, education, and leadership the Augustinians provided me have been among the most important formative elements of my life. As a successful businessman, a husband and father, and as a Deacon in the Chicago Archdiocese, I can tell you that our country cannot get enough men like the Augustinians to serve us and the Church.

On this night we honor four individuals who have given their lives to the service of the Church, so that we may see what Augustinian spirituality, and Augustinian virtues, are capable of achieving in this world. These individuals are Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A., whose presence at Providence Catholic High School has truly been invaluable; Br. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A. who will leave among his many legacies the establishment of the Province's first Health Care Community; and Affiliates Tony & Phyllis Lauinger, cornerstones of the Cascia Hall community and stalwart champions of the Right to Life.

Like myself, our honorees want that great tradition and legacy of service—which began sixteen centuries ago with the life and works of St. Augustine—to continue. This is why I am so pleased that the revenues from this evening will go towards forming—spiritually and intellectually—the next generation of Augustinian leaders of the Church.

Most sincerely yours,

Deacon John Sfire

2018 Honoree

Br. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A.

Br. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A. embodies the Augustinian virtue of Caritas, the selfless love and service for our neighbors. Br. Jerome has heeded his call to love at whatever level the Order demanded, from cooking at St. Rita High School to the Novice Director for the Augustinians of Poland.

He has served Augustinians from their first entrance—as Assistant Director of the Pre-Novitiate at Villanova—to their final days—as the founder and Prior of the Augustinian Health Care Community for the retired and infirm in Crown Point, IN.

When the friars needed new habits, he was their tailor. When the imprisoned were in need of consolation, he was their minister.

A Chicago native, Br. Jerome entered Augustinian formation after graduating from St. Philip Basilica High School. Over the next three years he moved between three different Augustinian communities before, providing service to the Order prior to his entrance into the Novitiate.

He professed vows to the Order in 1965, after which he was assigned to cook in the cafeteria of St. Rita High School. In 1970, he was moved to Augustinian Academy, St. Louis, MO, where he was Cafeteria Manager. Two years later, he was transferred to Immaculate Conception/St. Henry Parish, St. Louis. There he did parish ministry, taught Religious Education to First Grade students and served as a member of the Novitiate Formation Team.

He was assigned in 1979 to St. Mary Parish, Rockford, IL, where he did parish ministry and served as Procurator. He moved in 1982 to the Augustinian Midwest Priory, at Villanova University, and served as Assistant Director of the Augustinian Pre-Novitiate Program.

"Br. Jerome is all heart! What you see is what you get...a very caring and loving Brother!" said Fr. Bernie Scianna, O.S.A.. "He was one of my Director's in Formation at Villanova, where we had many wonderful times and a few challenging ones...I guess I wasn't always an easy one to form!"

Br. Jerome had organized several projects to support the revitalization of the Augustinian Province of Poland. In 1990 he was placed on loan to the Province of Poland by the Prior General. Four jurisdictions of the Order collaborated in sponsoring the ministry there in support of the Province of Poland.

In 1993 he went to Poland to serve as Director of Novices in Lomianki, near Warsaw. He returned to St. Matthew Parish in 1997, again devoting himself to parish ministry. In 2003 Br. Jerome was assigned for a fourth time to St. Rita High School and was named Campus Minister.

One of the most lasting legacies of Br. Jerome's service to the Province will surely be his dedicated work in establishing the health care community of Bl. Stephen Bellesini Friary. The Bellesini Friary was formed in order to ensure that those friars in need of long-term health care and assisted living could still experience Augustinian community life. Br. Jerome served as Prior and caregiver for the elder friars from 2010 until June 30, 2017, when he resigned as Prior.

"Br. Jerome has always been willing to do what the Order needed, including an assignment to Poland to help re-establish the Order there," said Fr. Bernie. "For the last seven years, he was willing to take on the new ministry as the Prior of our Health Care Community where he cared for our sick and elderly and built a wonderful sense of community! He will be welcomed back soon to St Rita High School where he will assist part-time in the school and in the Shrine, particularly with the monthly novena."

2018 Honorees

Tony and Phyllis Lauinger

Augustinian Affiliates

Our honoring of the Lauingers will celebrate a relationship begun 68 years ago, when six-year-old Tony Lauinger began accompanying his older brothers as they walked through "the woods" on the Cascia Hall campus to cheer on the Cascia football team. Since then, Tony's love for Cascia Hall and its Augustinians has ever increased, and today the Midwest Province counts him and his wife Phyllis among its most active and dedicated lay leaders.

The sixth of seven children, Tony followed his brothers as a student at Cascia Hall, where he was a member of the Commandos' football, basketball, baseball, and tennis teams. For Tony, the story of his time at Cascia Hall is a roll call of the Augustinians who had a lasting impact on him. There was Fr. Labadie, O.S.A., his eighth-grade football coach, who "taught us to rise above ourselves and push ourselves further than we knew we could go." There was Headmaster Fr. Sinnott, "the best teacher I ever had," who taught apologetics, "the most important course I ever took." Fr. Spielmann, O.S.A., his baseball and basketball coach and biology teacher, remained a lifelong friend to both him and Phyllis, whose family he had known in the 1930's. Father returned to New York in 1971 to concelebrate Phyllis and Tony's wedding Mass.

It was Fr. Porreca, O.S.A., who first asked Tony in eighth grade to consider whether he might have a vocation to the priesthood, "planting a seed" that Tony continued to nurture throughout high school. Upon graduation from Cascia, Tony pursued his discernment and entered the Augustinian Novitiate in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. There he was reunited with his close friend and English teacher from Cascia, Fr. Gaffney, who had become Novice Master. After a year, Tony discerned that marriage, not the priesthood, was his vocation, and he enrolled at Georgetown University.

Not long after Tony and Phyllis were married, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its Roe v. Wade abortion decision – an event that changed the course of their lives. The Lauingers immediately got involved in the pro-life movement, helping to start Tulsans For Life, their local right-to-life group, in their living room. Phyllis, a physician, gave pro-life lectures, and Tony later became President of Oklahomans For Life. Tony is now Vice President of National Right to Life. Phyllis has dedicated her medical expertise to providing free health care to Tulsa's uninsured through Xavier Medical Clinic. She also helps take care of the Cascia Hall chapel as a member of Saint Rita's Guild. The Lauingers have eight children – seven of whom are Cascia alums – and seventeen grandchildren.

As a recognition of their dedication to both Cascia Hall and the Augustinians, Tony and Phyllis were made Affiliates of the Order in 2013. Prior Provincial Fr. Bernie Scianna, O.S.A. explained the Province's selection of the Lauingers as honorees: "Tony and Phyllis are true friends of the Augustinians and were made Affiliates because of this relationship. Tony knows of us from his early days at Cascia Hall. They were always very involved with the activities and sports of their children. They both contribute a great deal to the broader community with Tony as President of Oklahomans For Life and Phyllis giving so generously of her time and her skills as a volunteer physician for the poor and needy. They are also very generous to the Province, where Tony serves as a member of the Advancement Council. From Tony's time more than a half century ago as an Augustinian Novice with Fr. Gaffney – who is now in his 100th year and whom Tony still visits regularly – to the present day, it is evident that the Lauingers' bonds with our Order are very deep!"

2018 Honoree
Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A.

In celebrating Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A, we honor a man who has provided extraordinary spiritual care and guidance to the community of Providence Catholic High School, to the friars he serves as Personnel Director and Vicar Provincial, and to all those who are blessed to call him a friend.

Fr. Merkelis had recognized his call to the priesthood from a very early age, though his call to the Augustinian Order happened without his even knowing it. As he said in a 2015 interview:

I knew I wanted to be a priest. I guess you could call it dumb luck or the Holy Spirit. One day, the Augustinians came into my 7th or 8th grade classroom when they were doing grade school visitation. They said, "If you want to be a priest, here's how you do it." I remember running home to my mom saying, "Mom, I found out how you have to be a priest. It took me about a year in the seminary before I found out that Augustinian religious life is different than diocesan priesthood.

At the age of 14, he entered the Augustinian Seminary in Holland, MI and continued his formation at Villanova University. He made his solemn profession of vows to the Order in 1984, and, following a diaconate internship at St. Joseph Parish in Pekin, IL, was ordained a priest in April of 1985.

His first post was as Associate Pastor at Immaculate Conception/St. Henry Parish, St. Louis, MO, which he held from 1986 to 1988. In 1988, Fr. Merk became Director of Pastoral Ministry at Providence Catholic High School, where, in 1994, he was named Principal.

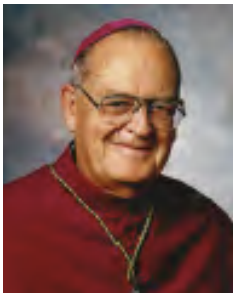
Though it is hard to believe a Principal could take on a second job, Fr. Merk took over as Director of Vocations in 1999. He moved to the position of Pastoral Director of Providence Catholic in 2004, and he stepped down as Director of Vocations in 2006, when he became Director of Pastoral Ministry at the school.

In 2012 he was appointed Province Personnel Director. He was re-elected to this office in 2014. Also in 2014, Father Merkelis was appointed a member of the Province Council. He continues to serve as Province Personnel Director, Vicar Provincial, and Director of Pastoral Ministry and President at Providence Catholic.

"Merk has been a very pastoral person in all if his ministries, most especially at Providence Catholic High School over these many years. His work with the Kairos Retreat Program has been a wonderful way for him to communicate with the young people to help them realize more fully, God's endless and unconditional love!" said Fr. Bernie Scianna, O.S.A..

History of Augustinian Gala Honorees

2013

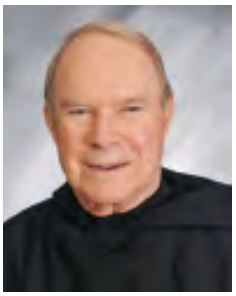


Most Reverend John C. McNabb, O.S.A.†

Most Reverend Robert F. Prevost, O.S.A., J.C.D.

Most Reverend Daniel T. Turley, O.S.A.

2014



Father David L. Brecht, O.S.A., Ph.D.†

Father Jack Gavin, O.S.A.†

Father Bill Sullivan, O.S.A.

2015

Deacon Jim Foody

Father Tony Pizzo, O.S.A.

Father Ray Ryan, O.S.A.†

2016

Ernie Mrozek

Father Mike Slattery, O.S.A.

Father Ted Tack, O.S.A.†

2017

Father Thomas McCarthy, O.S.A.

Father Jim Friedel, O.S.A.

Don and Anne Berschback

Provincial Council

"The *Counselors* have the duty of assisting the Prior Provincial in the governance of the Province by their prudent advice and energetic work. Together with the Prior Provincial they constitute the Council of the Province."

– The Constitutions of the Augustinian Order

Prior Provincial

Very Reverend Bernard C. Scianna, O.S.A., Ph.D.

Province Counselors

Reverend Thomas J. McCarthy, O.S.A.

Reverend Athony Pizzo, O.S.A.
Province Treasurer

Province Secretary

Brother Thomas Taylor O.S.A.

Reverend William Sullivan, O.S.A.

Reverend John Merkelis, O.S.A.
Vicar Provincial

Our Mission and Priorities

Mission Statement

We, the Augustinians of the Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel, are members of the worldwide Order of St. Augustine in the Roman Catholic Church. Centered in the Eucharist and prayer, we search for God in community by sharing our lives, goods and spiritual journey with each other and the people of God. In harmony of mind and heart on our journey toward God, our experience of common life flows into and shapes our ministries. We continue to serve the Church in schools, parishes and missions as we seek to discern new paths to which God calls us.

Our Priorities

Men in Formation and Vocations Outreach

Our vocations are the future of our religious order. These young men in formation and discernment will be the next leaders for the global Church. We are blessed to have seen a steadily growing amount of young men interested in joining our community the past few years. Placing greater emphasis on vocations outreach will allow these efforts to exponentially blossom.

Where We Serve

Unlike a diocese which cares for an area within specific geographic boundaries, the Augustinians move without borders to serve wherever the Church needs. For example, the Augustinians answered the call to found Cascia Hall Preparatory School in 1926 at the request of the local bishop's need for a Catholic school in Northeastern Oklahoma. In 1963, the Augustinians answered the Pope's request to evangelize Latin America by establishing missions in Northern Peru. In 2010, the Augustinians answered the Archdiocese of Chicago's need for priests to serve in a multicultural parish by staffing St. Turibius Parish.

Today the Midwest Augustinians staff parishes and high schools in the United States and Canada, in addition to other institutions such as universities and hospitals. Our Peruvian missions include nearly a dozen parishes, schools, and formation houses.

Retired and Infirm Augustinians

It is only right and just that we care for those who give all of their lives in service to the Augustinians and the Church. This includes those currently retired and infirm, those currently serving in active ministry, and those who have joined the Augustinians in the past few years.

Missions in Peru

For over 50 years, the Augustinians have been serving the impoverished missions of Northern Peru. This service takes place in schools, parishes, and in basic human support activities across a rugged mountainous area covering well over 14,000 square miles. Thanks to the dedication of the Augustinians, there are now over two dozen solemnly professed Augustinians in Northern Peru and over 50 in formation studies across the entire country.

Midwest Augustinians

YEAR OF VOCATIONS CAMPAIGN

CALL TO ACTION: INVESTING IN VOCATIONS

Through the grace of the Holy Spirit, the Midwest Augustinians are witnessing an influx of new vocations, the likes of which the Province has not seen in decades. Today the Augustinians have **11** men in formation in the Midwest Province and **32** across the United States. This truly is great news for all – for the universal Church, for us, for our children, and for their children.

We stand, therefore, together with you at a decisive point in the history of the Church, in the history of an Order, and in the history of a Province that, less than a decade ago, looked as though it might close if it did note receive new vocations.

In order to fulfill our mission by serving the Church in schools, parishes, and missions, we must consider the responsibility of supporting our current and future vocations. We have benefited, as have our families and children, from hundreds of vocations of Augustinians who have served us. **Now, we have the opportunity to support new Augustinians in formation: Augustinians who will serve generations to come.**

WHY ARE MEN JOINING THE AUGUSTINIANS?

Br. Joe Roccasalva, O.S.A., 27, Professed

"I joined the Augustinians because I had a strong desire to pursue the priesthood and religious life. I searched through many different orders, but felt 'at home' whenever I was with the Augustinians."

Br. Nicholas Mullarkey, O.S.A., 31, Professed

"I joined the Augustinians because I felt called to share communal prayer and life. Besides being drawn to the example of Augustine himself, I was also drawn to the long heritage of the Augustinians and the many ways that they serve."

THE COSTS OF OUR VOCATIONS

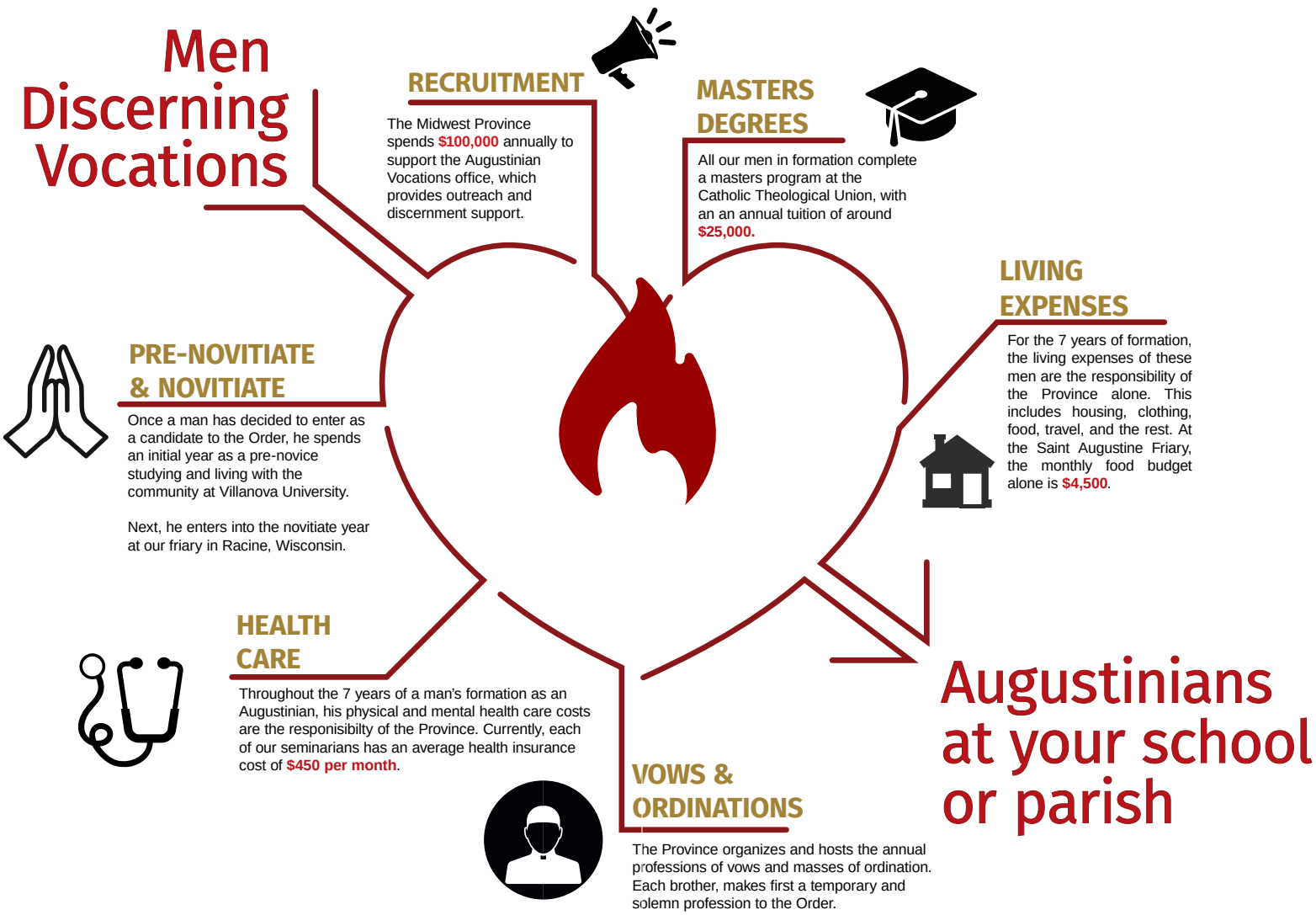
Where are the Augustinians of tomorrow going to come from? It falls upon the Province to reach out to men across the nation, aid them in their discernment, and then form them intellectually and spiritually. This process takes 7 years on average, during which the men in formation are solely dependent on the Province to provide their living expenses, tuition, health care, and travel.

It costs $42,000 annually to support just one of our seminarians.

Additionally, the Province spends $100,000 each year to support the Augustinian vocations outreach program, run for nine years by Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A. and recently taken over by Fr. Richie Mercado, O.S.A.. This money allows our friars to travel to parishes, campuses, and conferences across the country to speak with men discerning a vocation to the religious life.

In 2017 it cost the Province $850,000 to support the men in formation and the vocations outreach program. We project this number to reach $1,000,000 in 2019.

HOW THE PROVINCE BRINGS YOU AUGUSTINIANS



$1.5 Million Campaign

November 13, 2017 - November 13, 2018

Our Province holds the conviction that no valid vocation should be turned away due to financial constraints. We believe strongly that you, our supporters, hold this same conviction. For this reason, our Advancement Council, our Provincial Council, and I have decided to launch a new capital campaign with a target goal of $1.5 million.

We have chosen to name this our *Year of Vocations* campaign, which will run from November 13, 2017 to November 13, 2018. This date is the birthday of Saint Augustine, the Feast of All Augustinian Saints, and the official day for the promotion of vocations to the Augustinian Order.

The *Year of Vocations* campaign will allow us to develop the funds of the Fr. Ray Ryan Trust, dedicated to supporting Vocations outreach and the formation of new Augustinians in the Midwest Province.

WILL YOU INVEST IN VOCATIONS?

$3,500 . . . will support one man in formation for one month.

$1,150 . . . will cover 10 days of studies.

$450 . . . will cover one month of health insurance for a man in formation.

$120 or $10/month . . . will cover one day of formation.

Please visit AugustinianCampaign.org for more info.

Augustinian Advancement Advisory Council

The Council is comprised of highly respected and influential laymen and laywomen from states and cities across the Province who serve the Augustinians through generous contributions of time, talents, and treasure. They advise the Provincial and his advancement staff on fundraising and communications strategy and programs, and they also provide leadership in these efforts. Members are appointed by the Provincial and may serve multiple two-year terms.

Norma Berman
Ted Berman
Anne Berschback
Donald Berschback
Matthew F. Coughlin, III
Jim Foody
Nancy Foody
Ryan Gandurski
Michael Gerrity, *Chief Advancement Officer*
Mark S. Hacker
Catherine Hennessy
Ed Hennessy
Gregory Jania, *Vice-Chairman*
Wayne Klasing, *Emeritus Member*
Anthony J. Lauinger
Pat Ormsby
Very Rev. Bernard C. Scianna, O.S.A., Ph.D., *Prior Provincial*
Lisa Ann Solava, PHR
Richard Solava
Robert Sullivan
Denise M. Utter
Robert Utter
Martin Wojcik, CFRE, *Chairman*
Mike Zunica

Our Midwest Augustinians

The following Augustinians, as part of the Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel, have served as pastors and teachers, missionaries in both foreign and domestic lands, Bishops, Priests, Deacons, and Religious Brothers, administrators and counselors, retreat leaders and parish missioners, leaders of social justice and ministers of Holy Sacraments, coaches, chaplains for prisons, airports, and hospitals.

Adelsbach, David W.
Andrews, Edward A.
Barker, Brian
Basler, Robert C.
Bates, Donald J.
Benedict, Anthony
Broudou, Joseph G.
Burke, Alfred M.
Carroll, III, Robert O.
Cook, Philip C.
Currier, John Patrick
Danber, Bernard R.
Deffenbaugh, Terry
Dodaro, Robert J.
Dodge, Erwin J.
Dowling, John J.
Dueweke, Robert F.
Emken, Mark D.
Flores, Raymond
Flynn, John F.
Follmann, Roland F.
Friedel, James C.
Gaffney, John H.
Gersbach, Karl A.
Griffin, Thomas E.
Halstead, James R.
Hamill, William A.
Heyman, Jerome M.
Hibbard, John M.
Isley, Stephen
Jacobs, Richard M.
Joutras, Samuel L.
Kaiser, Frederick R.
Kersten, Edward J.
Knies, Jerome G.
Koscielniak, Paul L.
Kret, John A.
Laird, Martin S.
Lego, William E.
Lewandowski, Don
Maibusch, Henry B.
McCarthy, Thomas R.
McCormick, Joseph E.
McGrath, Richard J.
Mercado, Richie
Merkelis, John D.
Mullarkey, Nicholas J.
Nicholas, Gerald A.
O'Connor, Michael J.
Ohner, John M.
Osborne, Thomas L.
Palmer, Richard D.
Petraitis, David V.
Pizzo, Anthony B.
Prevost, Robert F.
Raths, Jeffrey D.
Roccasalva, Joseph
Ruiz, Joe L.
Sánchez, Homero
Scheible, Ronald E.
Schurman, Robert J.
Scianna, Bernard C.
Siegel, Joseph D.
Sheridan, James J.
Slattery, Michael J.
Sotak, John J.
Sparacino, Lawrence
Steinle, Christopher
Sternemann, Reinhard
Stobba, John J.
Stobba, Joseph G.
Sturn, Angelo A.
Sullivan, R. William
Sysko, Jerome A.
Szura, John P.
Taggart, Frederick H.
Tasto, John P.
Taylor, Thomas
Thomas, Spencer
Thompson, James G.
Tierney, Jack
Turley, Daniel T.
Tyma, John A.
Van Overbeek, Gerald
Vargas, David G.
Young, Richard A.

A Special Thank You to Our Sponsors

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Deacon John & Bobbi Sfire (2)

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William Gabriel, 25
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Nick Mullarkey, 31
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Jeff Raths, 24
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Philip Yang, 37
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Fukuoka, Japan

Aldo Potencio, 43
Iriga, Philippines

Congratulations to the Honorees!

St. Augustine's Class of 1968

Cor unum!

The Scianna Family Congratulates the Honorees

Keep Smiling!

Dear Son, Brother, Brother-in-Law, Uncle, and Godfather,

We are so proud of your accomplishments over the past 8 years as Provincial. Your devotion to both our family and our Augustinian family is above and beyond.

We know that whatever the future holds for you that, with the Lord's help, you will give it your 110%!

All Our Love,

Mom and Dad, Michael and Laverne, Tom and Dawn, Joe and Dina, Christopher and Daryl, Thomas, Amanda, Anthony, Nicholas, Trevor, Trent, and LaJean

Congratulations

to 2018 Augustinian Gala Honorees:

Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A.,
Br. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A.,
and Tony & Phyllis Lauinger!

And thank you,
Fr. Bernie Scianna,
for your inspiring
leadership and
Christian example!

From,
The Mrozek Family

St. Rita of Cascia High School Congratulates the Honorees

Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A.
Vicar Provincial

Br. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A.
Former Prior of Health Care Community

Tony and Phyllis Lauinger
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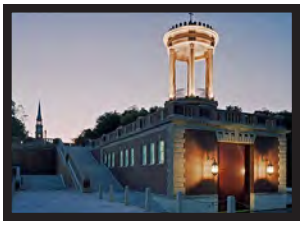
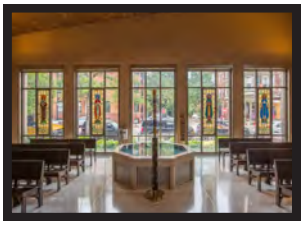
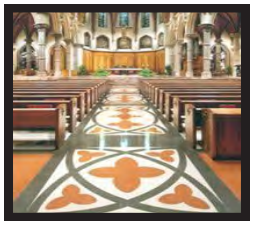
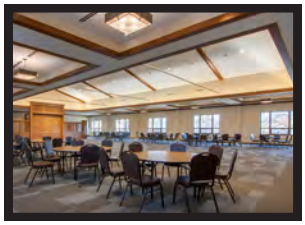
Our Congratulations and Gratitude go out to this year's honorees for their decades of service!

Denise & Rob Utter

Congratulations Fr. Merk!

From Ward Contracting and the Ward Family

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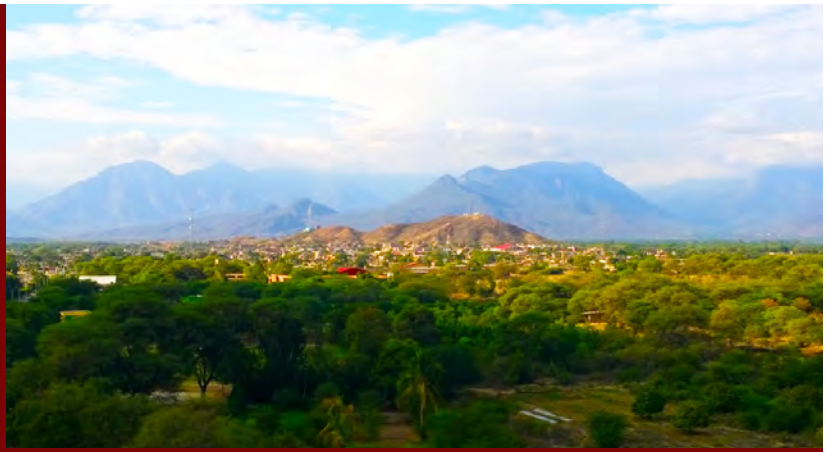

PROVINCE OF OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL
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In Loving Memory of
Bishop John C. McNabb, O. S. A.,
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Saint Isaac Jogues Parish

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Our priests, deacons, staff and parishioners join the celebration to support the continued missions and ministries of the Midwest Augustinian Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel!

We thank Father Bernie Scianna, OSA and Father Tom McCarthy, OSA for their priestly ministry in the Church and visits to our parish.

St. Rita Parish

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Congratulations to

Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A

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Tony and Phillis Lauinger

Thank you for your

Commitment and service

Congratulations

Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A.
Vicar Provincial

Br. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A.
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This year the reverence table is a tribute to:
Rev. David L. Brecht, O.S.A.
Rev. W. Timothy Cuny, O.S.A.
Rev. Daniel J. Hartigan, O.S.A.
Rev. William A. Perez, O.S.A.
Rev. Henry V. Spielmann, O.S.A.
Rev. Theodore E. Tack, O.S.A.

And those Affiliate members of our order:
Mr. Robert F. Biolchini
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111th Annual Solemn Novena

Sunday, May 13, 2018 through Monday, May 21, 2018

6:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation | 7:00 p.m. Mass and Novena Prayers

Feast Day Masses

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

9:00 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation | 10:00 a.m. Mass and Novena Prayers
6:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation | 7:00 p.m. Mass and Novena Prayers

Schedule of Celebrants

St. Rita of Cascia
Patron Saint of the Impossible

Sunday May 13th *Solemnity of the Ascension*	**Rev. James Halstead, O.S.A. Ph.D. ST.D.** *Professor, DePaul University* **Deacon Bryan Kerns ~ Preaching**
Monday, May 14th *Feast of St. Matthias*	**Rev. Joseph Mostardi, O.S.A., D. Min.** *Director of Augustinian Formation*
Tuesday, May 15th *Easter Weekday*	**Rev. Brian Walker, O.P.** *Dominican Mission Preacher*
Wednesday, May 16th *Feast of Sts. Alypius & Possidius*	**Rev. Bradley Zamora** *Director of Liturgy & Instructor, University of St. Mary of the Lake*
Thursday, May 17th *Easter Weekday*	**Rev. Anthony Pizzo, O.S.A.** *Pastor, St. Rita of Cascia Parish*
Friday, May 18th *Easter Weekday*	**Rev. William McFarlane** *Pastor, St. Ann Parish*
Saturday, May 19th *Vigil of Pentecost*	**Rev. Richie Mercado, O.S.A.** *Augustinian Vocation Director*
Sunday, May 20th *Solemnity of Pentecost* *Healing Mass*	**Rev. Richard Fragomeni, Ph.D** *Professor, Catholic Theological Union* *Director, Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii*
Monday, May 21st *Easter Weekday*	**Rev. Robert Kelly, S.V.D.** *Pastor, Sts. Anselm & Elizabeth Parishes*
Tuesday, May 22nd **10:00 a.m. Mass**	**Rev. Jerome Heyman, O.S.A.** *Former Director, St. Rita of Cascia Shrine*
Tuesday, May 22nd **7:00 p.m. Mass**	**Very Rev. Bernard Scianna, O.S.A., Ph.D.** *Prior Provincial, Midwest Augustinians* *Director, St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel*

Blessed roses will be distributed at the St. Rita Feast Day Masses

St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel

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God's Blessings

Midwest Augustinians

Congratulations to our 2018 Honorees

Father John Merkelis OSA
Brother Jerome Sysko OSA
and
Tony and Phyllis Lauinger
Augustinian Affiliates

2018 Augustinian Gala Honorees

In gratitude for the wonderful Augustinians with whom we share our faith journey

Br. David W. Adelsbach
Fr. Robert Basler
Fr. Joseph Broudou
Fr. Bernard R. Danber
Fr. Terry Deffenbaugh
Fr. Erwin J. Dodge
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Fr. John A. Kret
Fr. William E. Lego
Fr. Thomas R. McCarthy
Fr. Joseph E. McCormick
Fr. Richie Mercado
Fr. Michael J. O'Connor
Fr. David V. Petraitis
Fr. Anthony B. Pizzo
Bishop Robert F. Prevost
Fr. Homero Sanchez
Fr. Bernard C. Scianna
Fr. Michael J. Slattery
Br. Lawrence Sparacino
Fr. Christopher Steinle
Fr. Joseph Stobba
Fr. Bill Sullivan
Br. Jerome A. Sysko
Br. Thomas Taylor
Fr. David Vargas G.

In remembrance of Fr. Henry A. Wierman
Confessor to our foundress,
Venerable Maria Kaupas

The Sisters of St. Casimir

THE PROVINCE OF SAINT THOMAS OF VILLANOVA

CONGRATULATES GALA HONOREES:

Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A.

Br. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A.

Tony and Phyllis Lauinger

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Blessings and Thanks you to the past and present Augustinian Community, St. Rita of Cascia Parish, Racine WI. We have been so Blessed to have you as a part of our Parish Family.

Corona Family

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Congratulations
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Congratulations

to the 2018 Augustinian Gala Honorees:

Fr. JOHN MERKELIS, O.S.A.

BR. JEROME SYSKO, O.S.A.

TONY & PHYLLIS LAUINGER

From Greg & Wendy Jania

Congratulations and Blessings
to the 2017 Gala Honorees:

Fr. John Merkelis, OSA,
Br. Jerome Sysko, OSA,
and Tony & Phyllis Lauinger,

~ Michael and Elizabeth Gerrity

"It's not how much we give but how much love we put in the giving." ~Mother Teresa

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- From St. Augustine's Confessions

For so effectively and beautifully sharing two lifetimes of love with the unborn, with the medically underserved, and with our two families, we salute Phyllis and Tony Lauinger for this richly deserved recognition.

The Peggy & Matt Coughlin and
Jeanne & Bob Sullivan Families

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Brother Jerome O.S.A.,

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Pat O'Connor

"Act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8

In memory of

Father Ray Ryan, O.S.A.

Father John J.X. Glynn, O.S.A.

Father Harry Wierman, O.S.A.

Bill and Bonnie Small

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CONGRATULATIONS TO

Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A.

And

Br. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A.

And

Phyllis and Tony Lauinger

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Earl & Darielle Linehan

Bishop John McNabb, O.S.A.† (left) with Fr. Francis Cavanaugh, O.S.A.†

In memory of

Fr. Francis J. Cavanaugh, O.S.A.†

From the

McCone Family

THE FAMILY OF PHIL REYNOLDS† CONGRATULATES AND THANKS FR. MERK

HONORING

Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A.

Br. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A.

Tony & Phyllis Lauinger, Augustinian Affiliates

for their years of ministry and service to the Midwest Augustinians. Thank you.

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A Catholic Augustinian School

Thank You
for your Service to God's people

Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A.
Br. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A.
Tony & Phyllis Lauinger
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Tulsa, Oklahoma

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cumulative total of 53 school years
of education, inspiration, and life lessons.

Our deepest gratitude for your devotion and selfless
service to God and to the young people who have
been privileged to be your students

Saint Rita of Cascia Church

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Congratulations to the Honorees of the 6th Annual Augustinian Gala

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for all the ways
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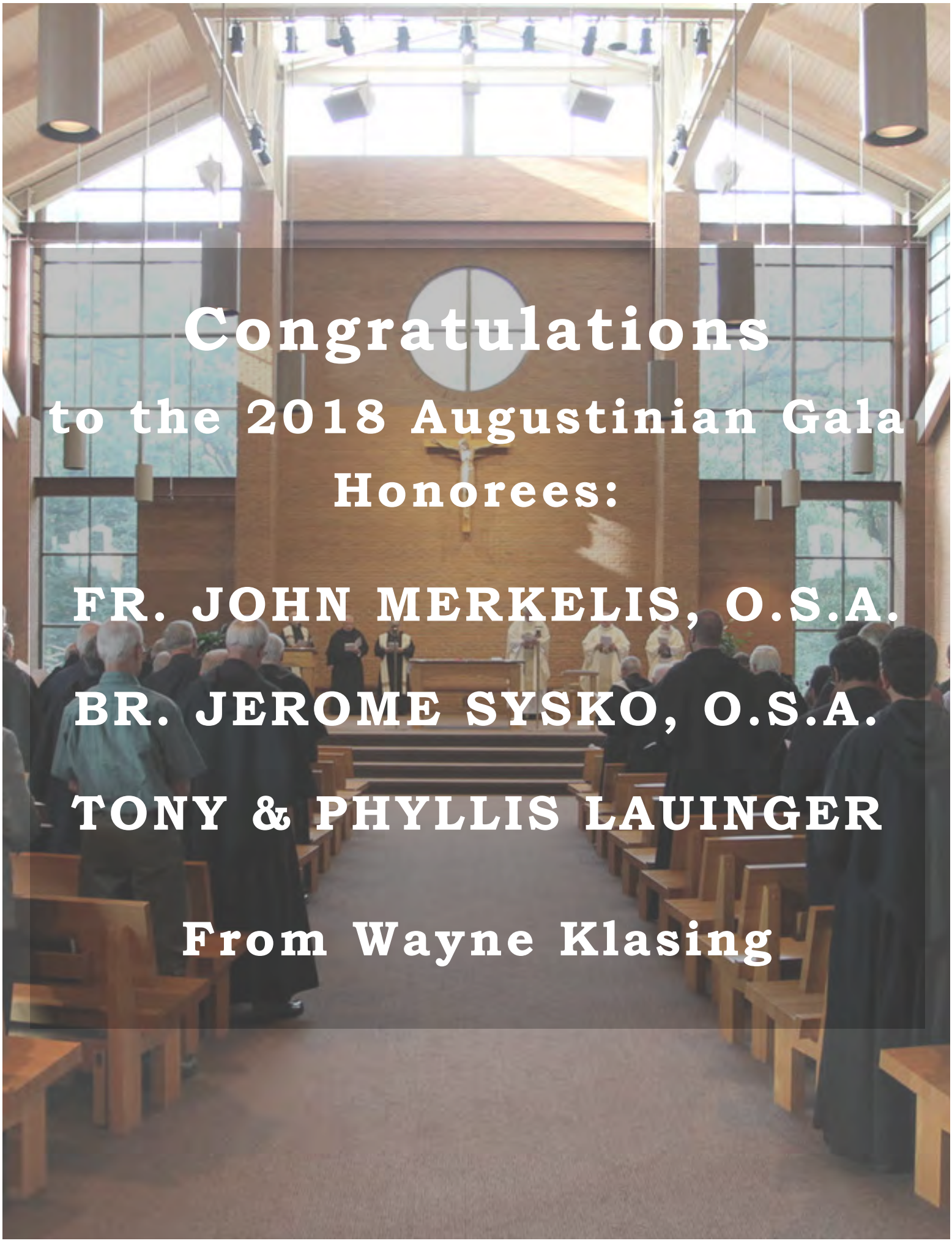
Congratulations
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Honorees:
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BR. JEROME SYSKO, O.S.A.
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AUGUSTINIAN GALA

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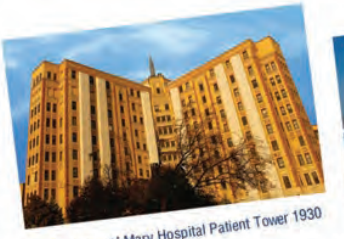
AUGUSTINIAN GALA
HONOREES

BEST WISHES ON YOUR CONTINED SUCCESS.

FR. JOHN MERKELIS, O.S.A.

BR. JEROME SYSKO, O.S.A.
&
AUGUSTINIAN AFFILIATES
TONY & PHYLLIS LAUINGER


Little Company of Mary Hospital Patient Tower 1930

LCMH West Pavilion and Women's Center for Life & Health 2012

In Loving Memory
of the Devoted Friar

Fr. Timothy Cuny, O.S.A.

From his Family