



THE MISSIONS

OF THE AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova

Winter 2012

Inside this issue:

1-

Letter from the Director

2-

Events in Peru:
The Ordination of
Two Peruvian
Friars.

The Yearly
Assembly

3-

The Augustinian
Volunteers Leave
for the Missions in
Peru and South
Africa.

4-

The Dedication of
a New Church in
Fukuoka, Japan

Contact us!

Dear Friends of the Augustinian Missions:

Youth! For some of us that is a memory of the past. We can look back and remember when we were “able to do that” without any strain. It is not as easy for us to do some things as we once did in the past. It is the same for Religious and missionaries. Many of our “senior missionaries” will recall the “early” days of the mission. Yet they are also blessed to have lived to see the growth and development of our missions. Religious today are concerned about who will come after us to continue the ministry of proclaiming the Gospel. The continuation of ministry is always a concern of the Church.

Still, we remain a people of faith who believe that God will provide faithful ministers in all time and all places. Perhaps it will not be in the same manner as we experienced in our younger days, but ministry will continue.

We in the Augustinian Order are truly blessed to see the ministry of our Order continue with new faces, new methods and new dynamics. But the charism of the Order continues in many parts of the world. In this edition of *The Missions*, we see some of the “newest” faces, this “youth” of ministry.

In Peru, we celebrate the ordination of two young Peruvian friars to the priesthood of Jesus Christ by an Augustinian Bishop. Our young Augustinian Volunteers departed in January to serve with our friars in the missions of Peru and South Africa. We celebrate the growth of the Church in our mission in Japan as we witness the dedication of a new parish church. It is all growth, it is all hopeful, it is service by the young: our growing Order and the Church.

None of this would be possible without the continued support of you, our generous benefactors. Your prayers and financial support enable the Order and our Church to continue to grow in our missions areas. May God bless you.

In St. Augustine,

Anthony P. Burrascano, O.S.A.
Director, Mission Office



Ordination Procession, Peru



Two Peruvian Augustinians Are Ordained



Bishop Turley with Fr. Rogelio
and Fr. Delfio

On Saturday, November 19, 2011, two Peruvians of the Vicariate of Chulucanas were ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Dan Turley, O.S.A., in the church of San Jose Obrero in Chulucanas. Rogelio Adrianzen, O.S.A., from the nearby town of Morropon, and Delfio Lopez, O.S.A., from the mountain town of Santo Domingo, were ordained surrounded by friends and family. After the ordination Mass everyone assembled in the pastoral center of the diocese to share a meal and to listen to some of the youth sing and present folk dances of the region.

Fr. Rogello has been stationed in the mission parish of Pacaipampa, high in the Andean mountains, and Fr. Delfio is a volunteer to the international community in San Gimignano Italy, where he has lived for close to two years.

Yearly Assembly of Friars in Peru

Each year the friars serving the Church of Peru gather for a two-week period. They travel from the heights of the Andes, from the desert and from the capital to be together. Most years they travel to the city of Trujillo, which is right on the coast of northern Peru. It is the location of our House of Formation. It affords the friars the opportunity to meet those young men who have begun their journey in the Augustinian life, and for the young men to come to know the professed friars.

The first week is a time of retreat. It is a wonderful opportunity to briefly put aside their service to others and spend time in refreshing and renewing their spiritual life. The second week is a time to plan their ministry for the coming year. It is also a wonderful opportunity to experience the Augustinian charism of Community. As you can see from the above picture, we are blessed with many young Peruvian vocations.



The Peru Assembly 2012



Augustinian Volunteers Leave for the Missions

On the weekend of January 12 - 15, 2012, seven young men and women gathered at the Augustinian House in Ocean City, New Jersey. It was not a weekend at the *Jersey Shore*. These men and women had been initiated into the Augustinian Volunteers. They were spending this weekend preparing spiritually, emotionally and socially to begin a year of service alongside the Augustinian Friars in Peru and South Africa, attending to the needs of the poor. The Augustinian Volunteers are not the Peace Corps. Yes, they go to a foreign land to serve those in need. What makes the Augustinian Volunteers different is that, in addition to their service, they are called to live the Augustinian life. They pray together, eat together, share in decision making and strive to live community. Their service has a spiritual dimension: an Augustinian call to build community among themselves and the people they serve.

As they begin their year of service and community living, please pray for these men and women who have given a year of their lives to share the Gospel with others.



Peru Volunteers, Fr. Tony, South African Volunteers

Missions Blog & Augustinian.org Website

Please visit the new Missions Blog found on the Augustinian website, www.Augustinian.org. Under the drop down menu "What We Do," go to the column title "Missions" and then to "Blog." Or, click here: [Missions Blog](#).

Keep up to date with what is occurring in our missions. Please check back often for updates.

Supporting the Missions

The main source of financial support for our missions is through the preaching of Mission Appeals in parishes during the summer months. The other important source of support is from you, our generous benefactors receiving this **Mission Newsletter**. Can you make a commitment to support the foreign missions with as little as \$20.00 per month?

To donate online, please visit our website at www.augustinianfund.org. Click the link here for the [Augustinian Fund](#) page. Please check the box labeled **Augustinian Fund: Missions**.

Thank you for your continued support!

The Dedication of a New Church in Japan

On September 3, 2011, Bishop Dominic Ryoji Miyahara, a long time friend of the Augustinians, consecrated our new church complex of St. Augustine, in Fukuoka, Japan. The wide stained-glass window covering the back of the church is an abstract picture of the Blessed Virgin Mary with her arms encircling the congregation. It is a symbol of the long, Japanese Catholic tradition of respect and love for Our Lady. The church seats two hundred and eighty people. With the excellent plan of sliding doors the church can be extended to seat three hundred and twenty. There is also a small chapel for daily Mass and quiet prayer.



The Dedication of St. Augustine Church,
Fukuoka, Japan

Adjacent to the church on the left is a large parish hall, which is equipped with a modern kitchen. There are three rooms for Sunday school and for meetings. The sliding walls can be adjusted to accommodate more people into the hall.

The Monastery is adjacent to the church on the right. There are comfortable bedrooms, a modern kitchen, a bright dining room, and a special room for the Japanese “ofuro” (hot bath), which is delightful during the winter. Because of the lack of space for burial in Japan, cremation is almost universal. Most Japanese place the ashes of their family in a columbarium provided by the Buddhist Temples. The price for such a unit is over \$20,000.00. Our architect proposed a columbarium, which would be within the budget of even poor families. She offered a choice to the parishioners: they could choose a unit for \$1,000.00, \$2,500.00 or \$6,000.00. The choice is determined by the number of urns one would like to put into the unit. The parishioners are delighted with these prices and the artistic design of the columbarium, which is situated on the left side of the vestibule of the church. Since the Japanese venerate their ancestors, an artistic columbarium adds a traditional Japanese flavor to the church.

The parish was founded in 1959. The process of building the new church started ten years ago when the people of the parish began to raise funds. It was a long, tough journey for the three hundred participating families. They deserve so much credit. The contribution of the Augustinian Order was very great. It was an amazing accomplishment. May this new church unite the parishioners around the Eucharist, may it be a window to the to the Buddhist community in that area and most of all, may it be a quiet house of prayer.

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