



THE MISSIONS

OF THE AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

Province of Saint Thomas of Villanova

October 2010

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Dear Friends of the Augustinian Missions:

For those who live in the northern part of the country, autumn brings a type of “death.” The leaves explode in one last burst of color, turn brown, and fall to the ground to die. There is a period of dormant nature as the earth comes to a rest. This is not necessarily the case in the Augustinian Missions. This autumn we are experiencing some wonderful new life and growth in our foreign ministries.

In this issue of the **Mission Newsletter**, you will read of two types of new lives. In Peru Pascual Cordova, O.S.A., was ordained to the priesthood for our Peruvian Vicariate. How exciting it is to see that after some 50 years in Peru, the local Church and Augustinian Order continue to grow and thrive with the new life of native vocations. Missionaries are intended to go to an area, develop a local Church and Order, and pass our ministry on to local friars. As we continue to see young Peruvians assume leadership in their local Church and Vicariate, it is a fulfillment of the vision of those first missionaries. The formation of Father Cordova, and all Peruvian friars, would not have been possible without our American benefactors’ support, both spiritually, through your prayers and financially, through your donations. It is also your celebration!

You will be introduced to Fr. Bob Terranova, O.S.A., who leaves for our mission in South Africa. Fr. Bob is no stranger to missionary service for he has spent time serving in Peru. In addition to his missionary experience, Fr. Bob will bring his warm, gentle and prayerful presence to our Augustinian community and the Church of South Africa.

We may be entering into the dormant autumn period in our country, but we rejoice as we see such new life in our foreign missions. Thank you for making this new life possible!

In St. Augustine,

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





A Peruvian Missionary is Ordained to the Priesthood

On July 24 in Morropon, Peru, Bishop Dan Turley, O.S.A., ordained to the priesthood Pascual Cordova, O.S.A, a member of our Peruvian Vicariate. Pascual comes from the Andes mountain village of Chalaco where the Augustinians used to serve. Three years ago the Prior General asked for volunteers to participate in a mission to Annaba, Algeria (the ancient city of Hippo where St. Augustine was bishop). Pascual and fellow seminarian Jose Manuel Vizcarra, O.S.A., offered to go. After finishing their theological studies in Rome, they gained entrance into Algeria as deacons last December. The two Peruvian friars thus became the first native missionaries of our Vicariate in Peru.



Bishop Dan Turley, O.S.A., lays his hands on Pascual Cordova, O.S.A., during ordination.

At the ordination, the Prior from Algeria, Fr. Rafael Abdilla, O.S.A., expressed his profound thanks to the entire Vicariate for sending the two missionaries to accompany him in his work in Annaba. Bishop Turley likewise underscored the historic nature of this ordination for the Vicariate. Among the priests present for the ordination was fellow missionary Jose Manuel, O.S.A., who chose to be ordained in Annaba the previous month.

After the Mass a lunch was offered in St. Rita's High School in front of the Morropon parish. Lunch was followed by some typical dances and songs offered by members of the parish and school communities. Early the following morning, Pascual, his family and a large contingent of Augustinians traveled to Chalaco where the newly ordained priest presided at his first Mass. The church was filled with people from all over the Chalaco parish and was followed by a lunch for everyone in the main plaza of the town. It was a true celebration involving all of the friends, family and parishioners who have known Pascual since his childhood.



Residents of Chalaco process around town in celebration of Fr. Pascual's first Mass.

Provincial Visitation in Japan

In September, our newly installed Prior Provincial, Very Rev. Anthony Genovese, O.S.A., began an official Visitation of the mission region of Japan. During his term of Office, the Provincial is required to visit each community of the Province and meet with the friars to assist them in living their Augustinian life. This will be Fr. Genovese's first visit to Japan and will be an opportunity for him to see the tremendous ministry our friars offer to the Church of Japan.



Reflecting on the World Cup in South Africa

By Sinéad Cloughley, Augustinian Volunteer



Sinéad Cloughley watches a World Cup game.

2010 has been a landmark year for South Africa, and the African continent as a whole. As the host of the FIFA World Cup this past June, South Africa had a chance to prove to the world that it was capable of being in the spotlight. For those who could afford it, there were the new, state-of-the-art stadiums where fans could cheer on their favourite teams. But for the majority of South Africans, tickets to matches were well beyond what they could afford, and so they had to blow their vuvuzelas (a type of South African horn) at home.

Schools were closed for the entire month of June, which is twice the length of the usual holiday, and most children in rural areas had nowhere to go. The learners (students) at the Augustinian school of St. Leo's were no exception—for four weeks, they sat at home or at a relative's house, trying to entertain themselves. There was

also a marked increase in the number of human trafficking instances in the valleys to prepare for the influx of potential foreign customers. With all this in mind, the Augustinian Volunteers decided to organize a holiday program for our learners at St. Leo's, to keep them off the streets and entertained. With a huge helping hand from Themba, one of our fellow teachers, we set up a soccer-themed camp that lasted about two weeks.

Though we had some organized activities like arts & crafts and worksheets, most children were content to have a safe place to play soccer and to eat a small meal at lunchtime—food that they otherwise would go without while school was closed. Most of the children who go to St. Leo's depend on the hot meal they get during the day for their main source of nutrition, so we thought it important to maintain a feeding scheme throughout the holidays. It was challenging to restrict the program to solely St. Leo's learners though, as other area children started showing up. As a result, we had to end our camp a few days early, which was disappointing but necessary for safety's sake.



The St. Leo's Library was decorated with projects about the World Cup.

As volunteers serving in South Africa, we have a very unique opportunity to see both sides of life here. The World Cup was no exception: at one moment, we were cheering on teams with people from all over the world on the beach in Durban, and at the next, providing food and safety for our learners down in the valley. The whole event seemed to be a success in many ways, but the long-term effect that it will have on the economy and social makeup of South Africa is yet to be seen—and that's something on which I'll be keeping a watchful eye in the years to come.

New Look — Same Newsletter!

You may have noticed that our Newsletter has a new look to it. Don't let this fool you—its still the same content, just a fresh design. We hope you enjoy it! Thank you for your continuing support of the Missions.

A New Missionary in South Africa

In late September, Fr. Robert “Bob” Terranova, O.S.A., joined our brother Augustinian Friars in our mission in South Africa. Fr. Bob has previous experience in our missions having served in Peru from 1992-2003. Since returning to the United States, he has served at St. Nicholas of Tolentine Parish in the Bronx.



Fr. Bob was born in Philadelphia on February 25, 1946 to Gaetano and Margaret Terranova. He was educated in the Augustinian tradition, graduating from St. Denis School in 1959, Monsignor Bonner High School in 1963 and Villanova University in 1967. After graduating from Villanova, he entered the novitiate and was ordained in 1973. In addition to his time in Peru and the Bronx, Fr. Bob has served at Carroll High School in Washington D.C.; Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish in Staten Island, NY; and Holy Rosary Parish in Lawrence, MA.

Fr. Bob joins two friars from our province already serving in South Africa: Fr. Frank Doyle, O.S.A., and Fr. Jack McAtee, O.S.A. They are assisted by Fr. Benji Gamos, O.S.A., from the Cebu Province in the Philippines. In a future Newsletter, we will feature a reflection from Fr. Bob on his first few months in South Africa.

Feast of All Souls

November 2 is a special day in the life of the Church, the day when we remember in a very special way our family, friends and loved ones who have ended their earthly journey and returned to our God in heaven. We remember them at the central event of our faith, the Eucharist.

To commemorate this very special day the Augustinian Friars in Japan, South Africa, Peru and the United States will offer prayer and Mass for the departed.

If you would like your loved ones commemorated in this special way, please print the attached All Souls Flyer and mail it to the Mission Office.

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Feast of All Souls

As St. Monica, the mother of St. Augustine, prepared to leave this life, she said to her son:

"Lay this body where you will; ...this only I request, that you would remember me on the Lord's altar, wherever you may be." (Conf. 9.11.27)

As we celebrate the *Feast of All Souls*, **November 2, 2010**, your deceased family, friends and loved ones will be remembered on that day at Masses and prayer by the Augustinian Friars in Japan, Peru, South Africa and the United States:

On the Feast of All Souls please remember the following at prayer and Mass:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

A minimum donation of \$10.00 is suggested

Please print and mail to:

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