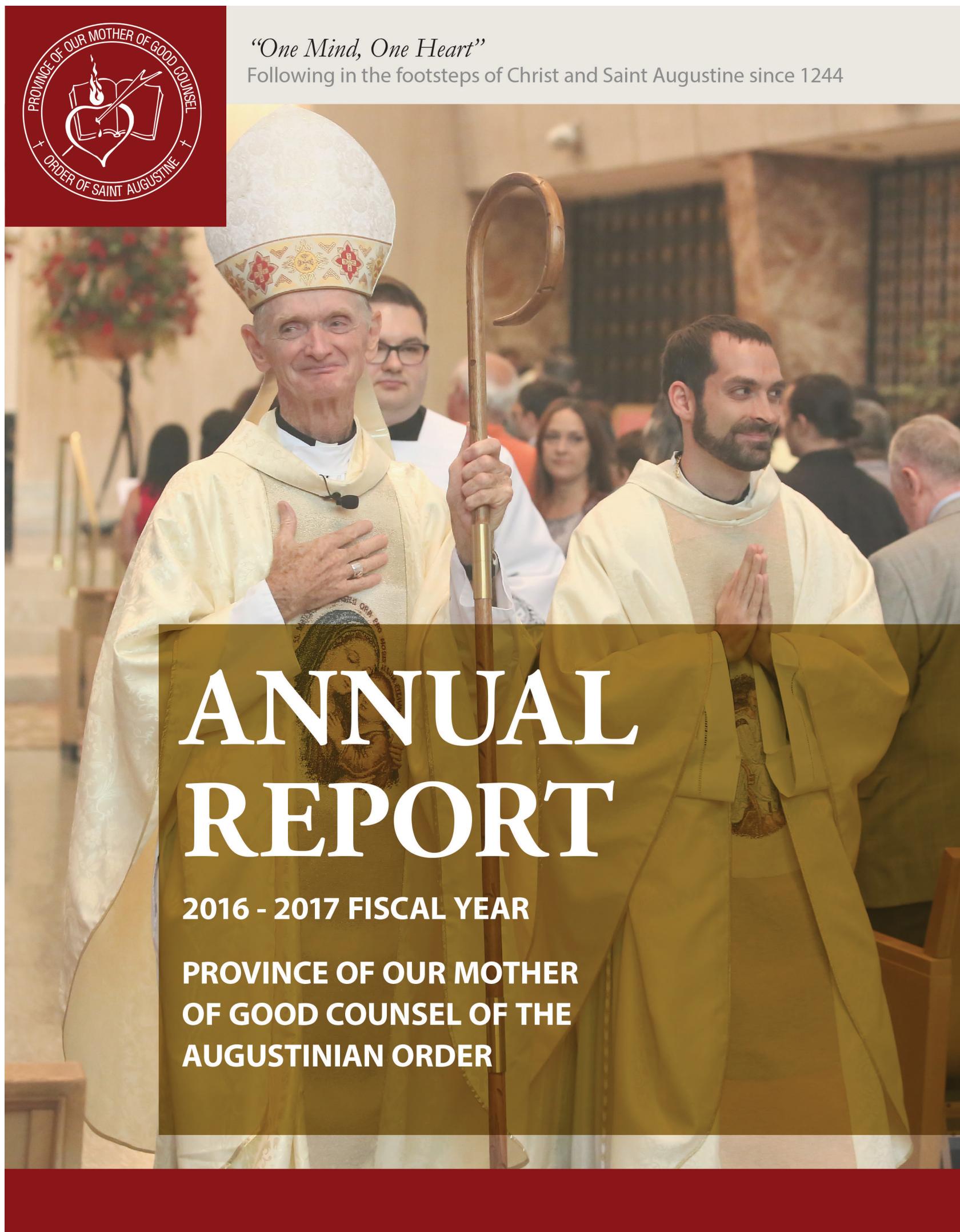




“One Mind, One Heart”

Following in the footsteps of Christ and Saint Augustine since 1244



ANNUAL REPORT

2016 - 2017 FISCAL YEAR

**PROVINCE OF OUR MOTHER
OF GOOD COUNSEL OF THE
AUGUSTINIAN ORDER**



Friars gather at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery for the blessing of the Augustinian Memorial.

Care for Retired & Infirm Friars

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- In accordance with our Province’s “Covenant of Care” program, Augustinian friars remain in a religious community for as long as possible. Those in need of more care move to the Blessed Stephen Bellesini Friary in Crown Point, Indiana, where they can both remain in a community of Augustinian friars and enjoy the facilities of Saint Anthony Village. Saint Anthony is a Catholic retirement community sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago; the facility offers all necessary levels of medical care for the friars.
- There are presently 19 total friars in full retirement in our Midwest Province with an additional 19 friars in “semi-retirement.” Friars in semi-retirement may assist in residence at our parishes, as priors of our communities, or other part-time ministries that might earn modest salaries for the Province.
- Among our retired friars, 15 of them are members of the Blessed Stephen Bellesini Friary at Saint Anthony Village in Crown Point, Indiana. Due to varying circumstances, one friar receives care at Montereau in Tulsa. All others remain members of our “active” communities in our schools and parishes.

19

Friars in
Semi-Retirement

19

Friars in
Full Retirement

Donations specified for the care of retired an infirm friars increased from \$42,255 to \$111,710 since Fiscal Year 2015-2016.



Recently professed friars and those preparing for solemn vows took part in the traditional pilgrimage to the Augustinian sites of Italy in June.

Men in Formation

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- There are 31 men in Augustinian formation across the United States and Canada.
- The Midwest Province of Augustinians currently has 11 men in formation.
- This summer, the Augustinians welcomed into its novitiate Thomas Abbott, age 23, from Grand Blanc, MI, and Spencer Thomas, age 24, from Tulsa, OK. Also joining them is Fr. Ray Flores, a 44-year-old ordained priest from New Mexico, who is discerning a vocation with the Augustinians.
- This past June, Fr. Stephen Isley, O.S.A., became the newest friar ordained to the priesthood for the Midwest Province. He has been assigned to the Augustinian Community at Cascia Hall Preparatory School, Tulsa, OK.
- The number of people visiting augustinianvocations.org reached its highest point yet in the past year. Between July 2016 and June 2017, over 16,000 unique visitors learned more about Augustinian vocations, especially from metropolitan Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles.

- After years of great success, Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A., has stepped down from the position of Director of Augustinian Vocations for the Eastern, Midwest, and Canadian provinces. He is succeeded in the Midwest by Fr. Richie Mercado, O.S.A., who had previously served as the Assistant Vocation Director. Fr. Richie will retain his current position as Chaplain of St. Rita High School, and Fr. Tom will remain on the campus of Villanova University as the Augustinian Advisor to the Office of First and Second Year Initiatives. Fr. Joe Narog, O.S.A. will head vocation outreach for the Eastern Province.

“ I never thought I would be the Augustinian Vocation Director. I never thought, after nine years as Vocation Director, I would be saying how blessed I have been because of this ministry. And blessed I am! Thanks to all who have supported me and my team in this ministry. ”

- Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A.

Students and staff of Colegio San Agustino at the blessing of the campus construction.



Missions in Peru

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- Since Bishop John McNabb, O.S.A. accepted the request of Pope John XXIII in 1963, the Midwest Province of the Augustinians have maintained an active ministry to evangelize and serve the people of Northern Peru. The greatest success in this period has been in the cultivation of new vocations amongst native Peruvians. Currently our Augustinianian Vicariate in Chulucanas is almost entirely Peruvian, with only three missionaries currently serving from the United States. Two Augustinians from the Midwest Province, Bishop Robert Prevost, O.S.A.; and Bishop Dan Turley, O.S.A., also serve the Diocese of Chiclayo and Chulucanas, respectively.
- The Augustinian novitiate in Lima, officially a house of our Province, currently houses 17 novices, of which two are from our Vicariate of Chulucanas. In January of 2017, 19 men made their first profession of vows to the Order, out from the 22 men that began the novitiate year. Of those 19 professions, four are from are Vicariate in Chulucanas. Twelve professed brothers are pursuing their theologate studies in Trujillo Peru.
- In the summer of 2017 Bishop Dan Turley O.S.A. ordained two priests in our Vicariate: Fr. Yhony Cordova, O.S.A., who will serve the San Jose Obrero parish in Chulucanas; and Fr. Martin Arriaza, O.S.A., who will serve the parish of Pacasmayo, the newest Augustinian apostolate in Peru. At the same Mass, Dn. Falu Benites, O.S.A., was ordained into the diaconate, and he will serve Morropon parish, which was the first parish assumed by the Midwest Augustinians in 1964.
- Currently the most imperative long-term project being undertaken in our Vicariate is the construction of a permanent campus for Colegio San Agustino, a K-12 school in Trujillo, the country's third-largest city. The Augustinians made a crucial step towards realizing this project with the completion of a surrounding barrier wall for the campus. In Northern Peru, the construction of a secure wall around the construction site is a necessary precursor to any long-term project. We believe that the construction of permanent classroom facilities and housing could be a final step towards achieving the independence of the Augustinian Vicariate in Chulucanas at our next General Chapter in 2019.

Students of St. Rita of Cascia High School proudly display the names of the colleges they will be attending.

Augustinian Education

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- The Midwest Augustinians currently sponsor two Augustinian schools—St. Rita of Cascia High School in Chicago and Cascia Hall Preparatory School in Tulsa—and administer one school of the Diocese of Joliet—Providence Catholic High School in New Lenox, IL. Two other independent Catholic schools are members of the Augustinian Secondary Education Association, though they are not officially sponsored by the Augustinian Order: Saint Thomas of Villanova College in King City, Ontario; and Austin Catholic High School in Chesterfield, Michigan.
- The Augustinian Community at Cascia Hall underwent significant changes in the past year. Fr. Don Lewandowski, O.S.A. transferred from his position as Pastor of St. Jude Parish in New Lenox, to serve as Prior and Treasurer of the St. Augustine Monastery at Cascia Hall. Leaving the community was Br. Jack Hibbard, O.S.A., who now serves as Prior and Treasurer of the Bl. Stephen Bellesini Friary in Crown Point. The newly ordained Fr. Stephen Isley, O.S.A. received his first assignment to Cascia Hall, where he will serve as Chaplain to the middle school and teach high school courses in Theology and Mathematics. Br. Nicholas Mullarkey, O.S.A. stayed on to teach at Cascia Hall for his second year of Pastoral Ministry, and Fr. Brian Barker, O.S.A., also remains the Director of Augustinian Mission.
- Under the direction of President Fr. Richard J. McGrath, O.S.A., Providence Catholic High School launched a capital campaign to expand the school's facilities. The campaign, with a goal of \$6 million, is the largest in the school's 99-year history. Providence Catholic has also made significant strides towards preparing its students for college through the introduction of College Dual Credit Courses. Significant student achievements included the Regional Championship of the Scholastic Bowl Team and Varsity Hockey teams second consecutive Kennedy Cup.
- St. Rita of Cascia High School launched a new "mini-mester" program that allows students to gain hands-on educational experience out of the classroom during weekends or breaks. Second, St. Rita H.S. introduced the "Caritas Project," which requires every senior to undertake a service project of at least 100 hours.



Parish Ministry

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

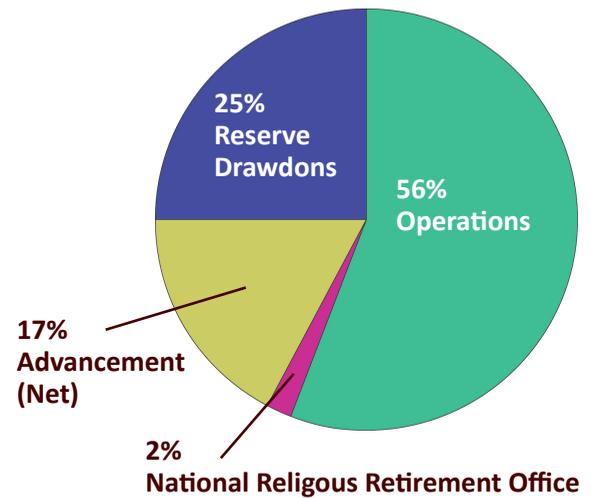
- Beyond the parishes served in Canada and Peru, the Augustinians now direct seven parishes: St. Bernard Parish in Homer Glen, IL; Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish in Homer Glen, IL; Saint Jude Parish in New Lenox, IL; Saint Gabriel Parish in Chicago; Saint Rita of Cascia Parish in Chicago; Saint Turibius Parish in Chicago; and Saint Rita of Cascia Parish in Racine, Wisconsin.
- In early 2017 the Provincial Council made the difficult decision to move Fr. Joe McCormick, O.S.A. from his pastoral service at St. Ann Parish and Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Michigan. With this transfer, the Augustinians no longer have an active priest or parish in the state of Michigan. While these departures are never easy for the Augustinians, the Province has always needed to reshape where it serves geographically. Bishop Paul Bradley of Kalamazoo extended his gratitude to Fr. Joe and all the Augustinians who have served the diocese over the decades, and holds an open invitation for the return of the Order, should it be possible in the future. The Our Lady of the Lake Parish installed a plaque of Our Mother of Good Counsel in thanksgiving to Fr. Joe at a farewell Mass on July 2, 2017.
- Saint Bernard Parish in Homer Glen is the newest pastoral responsibility taken on by an Augustinian. Father Joe McCormick, O.S.A., transferred from Michigan, has assumed the position of pastor at the invitation of Bishop Daniel Conlon of the Diocese of Joliet. The diocese is currently moving ahead with plans for the construction of a new friary for the Augustinians serving both St. Bernard and Our Mother of Good Counsel parishes. Fr. Joseph Broudou, O.S.A. remains as the pastor of Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish after taking over in 2016.
- Saint Jude Parish bid a grateful farewell to Fr. Don Lewandowski, O.S.A., who served as Pastor since 2006. Fr. Robert Basler, O.S.A. took over as the Administrator of the parish. Fr. Hugo Erazo, O.S.A., of our Peruvian Vicariate is also serving as an Associate there.
- Saint Rita of Cascia Parish continues to receive commendation from the Archdiocese of Chicago for the parish's leadership in the diocesan Pastoral Migratoria outreach program. Pastor Fr. Tony Pizzo, O.S.A. has been a leader in advocating for the dignity of vulnerable immigrant populations, including through the parish's biweekly citizenship classes.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Province Revenues July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

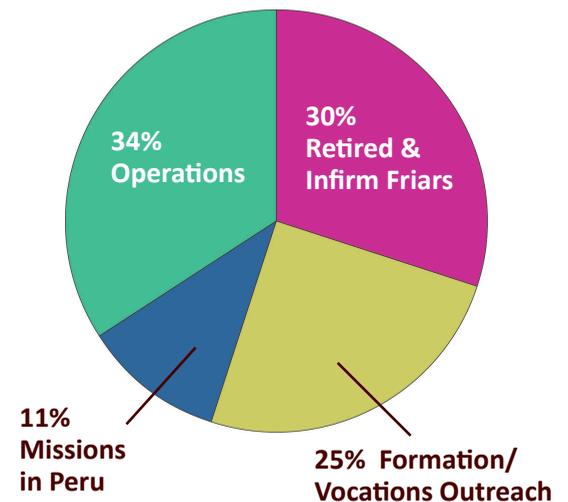
Operations ¹	\$2,234,253
National Religious Retirement Office	\$97,231
Advancement (Net)	\$663,583
Reserve Drawdowns	\$1,000,000
Total Revenue	\$3,995,067

¹ Operations Revenue includes salaries from Augustinians in positions of active ministry.



Province Expenses July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

Operations	\$1,097,172
Care for Retired & Infirm Friars	\$970,265
Missions in Peru	\$361,209
Formation & Vocations Outreach	\$798,408
Total Expenses	\$3,227,054



EXCESS REVENUE OVER EXPENSES \$768,013

Most excess year-end revenue represents donor-restricted contributions that go towards replenishing the financial trusts of the Augustinians, which provide the "Reserve Drawdowns" shown in our revenues.

Advancement

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

- The Provincial Office of Advancement continues to see a steady growth in our active donors and annual gifts. During fiscal year 2017, we increased our number of active donors from 1,941 to 2,101.
- Total contributions to the Annual Fund rose from \$812,000 during Fiscal Year 2016 to \$945,250 during Fiscal Year 2017. In the same period, contributions to the Annual Fund that were restricted to support our Men in Formation rose from \$55,858 to \$87,416, those restricted to the support of Retired and Infirm Friars rose from \$42,255 to \$111,710.
- The Augustinian Advancement Advisory Council, a group of lay volunteers committed to providing vital advice and insight into building a strong philanthropic and mission-driven arm of the Province, has grown from 19 to 22 volunteers this past year.
- We held our fifth annual Augustinian Gala at the Drake Hotel in downtown Chicago chaired by Deacon John Sfire. The net revenue of this event reached a record high at \$170,000. We are now preparing for our sixth gala to take place on April 27, 2018, also at the Drake Hotel. We will honor Fr. John Merkelis, O.S.A.; Br. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A.; and Augustinian Affiliates Tony and Phyllis Lauinger.

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 of service to which God calls us.

