



NEWSLETTER

AUGUSTINIAN FORMATION ASSOCIATION (AFA)

Supporting the training of brothers and priests for the Augustinian Order

**Post Office Box 679
Brookvale 2100**

**No. 3/05
October 2005**



Dear Friends and Members,

I can't believe how quickly the year has gone. It only seems like yesterday that I wrote the first newsletter. Anyway, here I am putting pen to paper and outlining the various outings and things we have achieved over the last twelve months. It's certainly been a year of change as we have done quite a number of different activities, such as the Dutch Auction instead of the annual Mothers Day stall in the Corso. Considering the number of people who attended the outcome was pretty good. I would like to have seen many more people attend. Better luck next year we hope. The Annual Mass and Barbecue was very well attended and a most enjoyable day was had by all. We were fortunate to have Father Pat Fahey, OSA celebrate Mass. Father Pat has done so for many years and for that we are truly grateful. I would also like to thank Sr Josie OSA for playing the organ and organising the music.

The drive for membership was a great success as we received a handful of new members. The Committee also went to St Clair Parish on a Sunday and put on a brunch of egg and bacon rolls and tea and coffee to try and advertise AFA and try to establish a committee but as yet this has not happened.

We also raffled the painting Tan so beautifully did for us and a St Clair parishioner won. By far the most popular activity was the bus trip to the Benedictine Monastery and morning tea at the Sublime Point Restaurant. By all accounts they all had a wonderful time, on the way stopping in on Tan's parents bakery at Albion Park. As I was sick and unable to go I was told the shop was left almost empty of stock.

Last but not least is our **annual Christmas party** to be held at the **Master Builders Club at Dee Why** on the **26th November. The cost is \$35 per head.** This includes a three course buffet and music. We will have the tombola going as well. Every guest is asked to bring a small gift to raffle. It has been a most enjoyable year and I thank Father Jones, Tan and Kay for all their hard work throughout the year and look forward to working with them again next year.

On behalf of the association I would like to give our good wishes and our prayers to Lino who had to return to Korea. We also remember and pray for all those members who have died throughout the year.

May I extend to you all the blessings for a Holy Christmas and a happy New Year.

PS: The funds that we make through membership and our functions all go towards helping the upkeep of educating those who are training for the priesthood.

Yours sincerely,

Trudi McFadden
President
Tel: 9972 4326

NFr Peter Jones writes

Australia's increasing awareness of itself overtime as a nation in the Asia Pacific has its parallels in the Augustinian world. Since the formation of the Asia-Pacific Augustinian Conference (APAC) in the 1970's there has been an increasing collaboration among Augustinian jurisdictions in the region as well as among different congregations of religious in the Augustinian family.

Today whereas APAC links the different congregations, male and female, OSAAP (Order of St Augustine Asia-Pacific) more specifically coordinates the Asia-Pacific jurisdictions of the Augustinians. Both organisations have formation of candidates as an important focus of attention.

In August Tan (Minh-Tan Hoang, osa) professed candidate for the Australian Province attended a one week Institute of Spirituality in Cebu, Philippines. The Institute gave Tan an opportunity to deepen his familiarity with Augustinian Spirituality. Presenters with expertise in the field provided the input among them Fr Laurie Mooney from Australia.

Just as significant was the opportunity Tan had to visit the formation houses of the Cebu Province - Novitiate in Cebu and houses of study at Quezon City and Guadeloupe in Manila. With large numbers of candidates in each, Tan was able to meet many others who like himself are preparing for Augustinian religious life.

In December Fr Robert Prevost OSA, Prior General will visit Australia. Fr Prevost has the responsibility of leadership of around 3,000 Augustinians in over 40 nations throughout the world. As well as meeting with the Augustinians in Australia there will also be the opportunity for those among whom the Order ministers to meet him. I encourage all members of AFA to come along to the gathering in your particular region and meet Fr Robert. As great supporters of the Order, Fr Robert appreciates your work on behalf of those preparing for Augustinian life.

A happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas to all!

Fr Peter Jones OSA, Formation Director



Prayers for those not enjoying good health

Dorothy Brennan, Peter Keogh, Veronica Muller, Pat Stephenson and Yvonne McLoughlin.

If you know of AFA members who are not enjoying good health and wish to be included in this newsletter's prayer list please contact

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REST IN PEACE

Harley Cullen, Audrey Rochford and Maria Columbro

Please remember to visit the Augustinian website
<http://www.augustinians.org.au>