

Newsletter

AUGUSTINIAN FORMATION ASSOCIATION
(AFA)
Australia

No. 1/07
March 07

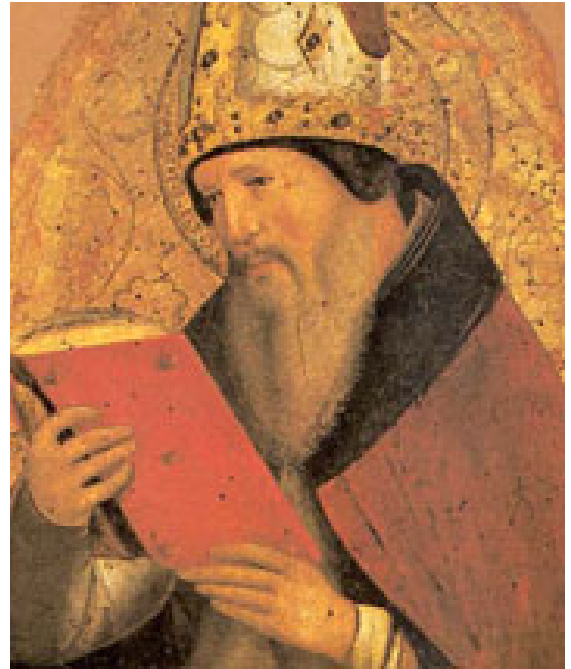
Supporting the training of brothers and priests for the Augustinian Order

Dear Friends and Members,

Welcome to 2007! The years just seem to roll by so quickly. First of all welcome to Father Laurie Mooney our new formation director and to Father Peter Tangey who is going to assist him.

We had our Annual General Meeting of the Association on 7th March at St Augustine's Priory, 60 Federal Parade, Brookvale. The hospitality and friendship were top class. It was good to see some new members turn up. The positions were all vacated and elections were held. The executive committee for 2007 is:

President:	Trudi McFadden
Secretary:	Yvonne Claire
Treasurer:	Eddie Robinson
Committee:	Sue Colwell
	Rosemary McEwen
	Marian Mills.



St Augustine of Hippo

I would like to thank the existing members for taking on their executive positions for another year. We will strive to do our best to serve you as best we can.

The membership drive forms are included in this newsletter; please continue your support. This year hopefully we are going to hold an extra two fundraising events—a trivia night and a three-day trip to Gloucester and Barrington Tops (this was a suggestion made on the day trip to Mount Tomah last year). We have organised the excursion with Taylor Tours at a cost of \$575 dollars. We need 35 people; if we can't get that number, Taylors will still organise the trip but we will need to share the trip with others—but this should still be a fun time. A deposit of \$100 must be given to me by the 15th April so as to confirm the booking for the 10th, 11th and 12th June. Please indicate as soon as possible if you intend to go by phoning me on 9972 4326 or 0425 230 251.

Daily Progress toward God

As Christians, our task is to make daily progress toward God. Our pilgrimage on earth is a school in which God is the only teacher, and it demands good students, not ones who play truant.

In this school we learn something every day. We learn something from commandments, something from examples, and something from Sacraments. These things are remedies for our wounds and materials for our studies.

St Augustine, Sermon 16A, 1



Augustinian Spirituality Centre—Greystanes, NSW.
<http://www.augustinians.org.au/communities/>

We are also organising a **one day retreat** at the Spirituality Centre at Greystanes with Father Peter Jones O.S.A. some time in the coming months. The schedule for the day would commence sometime by 10am with morning tea then have a group session and questions then time for personal reflection and then lunch. Perhaps another session and then home around 3pm. More details later. Please look at the Augustinian website for general information about the Spirituality Centre, I have listed the address below the photo.

We would really like to have some families take an interest in spending some time with the young men in the formation house, such as perhaps inviting them over for dinner or lunch or even taking them out for a drive.

We're almost coming up to Easter a time of reflection about where we are in our faith journey, let's take this opportunity during the time of Holy Week and Easter Sunday to participate in all that is going on in our local parishes.

We hope Tan is enjoying Rome and keep him in our prayers. To all those members who are sick we wish them a speedy recovery and those who have died eternal peace.

Love
Trudi McFadden
President
Tel:9972 4326

STILL MEETING FORTY YEARS LATER



In the late 1960s, a group of people who then had sons attending Villanova, the Order's upper primary and secondary school in Brisbane, Australia, were recruited for a special task by the Augustinian Provincial of the time. Previously the second Rector of Villanova, he was (the late) Fr John Louis Hanrahan O.S.A.

The Australian Province had initially rented space for a seminary at Lindum (Brisbane), and then in 1969 moved to its own venue that it purchased at Clayfield (Brisbane), and named Augustinian College). Father Hanrahan wished to have a seminary committee to undertake fundraising for the maintenance of the seminary.

These women, plus other men and women now deceased, continued this task until after the Augustinian seminarians were transferred to Sydney nine years later.

These "seminary ladies" have continued to meet about twice a year ever since, and the photo (*above*) was taken at their pre-Christmas gathering in 2006. It was attended by Fr Brendan Quirke O.S.A., who had been the Student Master at Augustinian College during almost all of the decade that the Clayfield property functioned as a seminary residence.

Since the photo was taken in December, one of the ladies has died. The Augustinian Constitutions require that each community and each Augustinian offers Mass for deceased benefactors of the Order at set times each year, and this obligation is faithfully fulfilled.

PRIESTLY ORDINATION IN THE NEW ST RITA SPIRITUALITY CENTRE IN INCHEON, KOREA



The above picture was taken at the ceremony of priestly ordination of Paolo Hyun-Woog Kim O.S.A. On 27th December 2006 he became the third locally-born Augustinian serving in the Delegation of Korea to become a priest.

Venue for the ordination was the brand-new 250-seat auditorium of the St Rita's Spirituality Centre, the latest addition to the facilities for ministry by the Incheon community.

The egg-shaped building, typically snuggled onto a very confined space, is in the Buddhist tradition of architecture that wonderfully characterises all of the Augustinian buildings in Korea.

Australian Augustinians have been serving in Korea since the Order first went there twenty years ago.



The two new buildings at Incheon.

THE AUGUSTINIAN EMBLEM

The emblem of the Order of Saint Augustine is a flaming heart pierced by an arrow on the background of an open book. The open book suggests a dedication to intellectual searching or study; the pursuit of knowledge, both divine and earthly.



Saint Augustine is often portrayed holding a flaming heart to indicate his great personal charity and the fact that he preached love of neighbour as the way to serve God.

In the emblem of the Order it reminds Augustine's followers that they must practice and preach charity toward God and neighbour. The arrow piercing the heart and the book represents the Spirit of God piercing our minds and hearts and calling us to a continual growth of faith, hope and love in our lives.

The Order does not have an official motto, but often you see the Latin words **Tolle Lege** used like a motto. Those words mean **Take! Read!** They have an historical connection with the conversion of Saint Augustine.

When he was troubled and trying to take the final step of becoming a Catholic, he was in a garden with his friend Alypius, reading the *Letters of St Paul*.

He had put the book down and walked away; suddenly he became aware of some children nearby repeating those words **Tolle Lege** over and over again; he rushed back to where he had put down the book; he took it up and opened it at random and read from **St Paul's Letter to the Romans Chapter 13 verses 13 and 14**.

Immediately all his hesitation vanished and he was able to make the decision to become a Catholic.

**Augustinian
Formation Association
AFA**

**PO Box 679
Brookvale NSW 2100
Australia
Phone: 02 9905 3049
Fax: 02 9938 4465**

**Website: www.augustinians.org.au
Email: osaadmin@bigpond.com**

VOCATIONS WEEKEND at BROOKVALE

**From Holy Thursday until Easter Monday,
Six young men from Brisbane, two from the
western suburbs of Sydney and a couple of
“drop ins” will join together with the Brookvale
Augustinian Community for a gathering of
prayer, relaxation, reflection and fun.**

The future is looking promising.

Please keep them in your prayers.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

**Please contact: Trudi McFadden
on
9972 4326**

You will be warmly welcomed

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 Kay Stenner, C/- PO Box 679, Brookvale NSW 2100. Ph. 9905 3049.

Email: osaadmin@bigpond.com

+
REST IN PEACE

Miss Sheila C McGrath