



Carlos raises the cup and paten at the great elevation of his first Mass.

## Fr. Carlos Medina Ordained in June

It would be hard to find a happier weekend than when Carlos Medina was ordained priest Saturday, June 11th, at St. Patrick's Church, San Diego, and celebrated his first Masses there the following day. The ordaining prelate was Very Rev. Robert Prevost, O.S.A., bishop of Chiclayo, Peru. Deacon for the Mass was Fr. Joe Murray, Carlos' classmate.

There was standing room only in the church, a great mixture of people from many different communities: the Karen Burmese refugees from Rockford, Illinois, and San Diego, the Hispanic and Anglo communities of St. Patrick's, where he was deacon during the spring, friends and family from the Bay Area, family members from Panama and Columbia, including his grandfather, Dominican uncle and Dominican great aunt, many Augustinians and affiliates from every region of the Province. The crowd was a tribute to Carlos' zealous and unassuming ministry over the past years.

The ordination was followed by a fine mid-afternoon lunch in St. Patrick's Hall. In the evening there was a great supper for seventy guests in the patio of St.

Augustine's, with the delicious food of monastery chef Roger, and set up by the community, with the Knights of Columbus tending bar for the dinner.

During supper, in giving tribute to religious people who had supported him over the years, Carlos recounted how he had met the Augustinians through a parish bulletin ad for our discernment retreat and had contacted Tom Whelan. Carlos



Carlos receiving the paten and cup from Bishop Bob.

spent his senior year at U.C. Berkeley as a pre-novice in San Francisco. He made his first vows the summer of 2010 and solemn vows a year ago. Carlos is a member of the St. Augustine Monastery community and is the associate pastor at St. Patrick's. ♦



A large part of the congregation joined in the mid-afternoon lunch after the ordination. In the right foreground is affiliate Claire Padama speaking with Alvin Paligutan.

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### THE AUGUSTINIAN

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From left: St. Patrick's pastor Mike McFadden, newly ordained Carlos Medina, Provincial Kevin Mullins, and Bishop Prevost (story on page 5).



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From left: Tom Whelan, Sarfraz Alam, Kevin Mullins, Adnan Ghani, Gary Sanders and Dominic Smith.

## Three Brothers Profess Their First Vows

At Mass on Sunday, July 31st, at St. Rita High School chapel in Chicago, our brothers Dominic Smith, Sarfraz Alam and Adnan Ghani made their first vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience in the Order. Their vows were received by Provincial Kevin Mullins. The journey for the three began two years ago when they were together for a pre-novitiate year at the Cole Street house in San Francisco and continued this past year at the novitiate in Racine. The vow ceremony also included first vows for their novitiate classmates from the Chicago and Villanova provinces.

Dominic, although born in San Diego, grew up in Riverside. Dominic first contacted Tom Whelan by e-mail in September 2013, and they met for the first time for lunch near the Ontario airport. After high school Dominic attended Northern Arizona University, then worked as a fireman and as a safety engineer in large construction before entering the pre-novitiate.

Sarfraz Alam grew up in Hyderabad, Pakistan. As a teenager he sang with a local band and became serious about religion through the influence of a band member. He discerned a vocation with the Augustinians during his final semester of eleven years of seminary studies.

Adnan Ghani, from Multan, Pakistan, completed seminary a year ahead of Sarfraz and had a year of discerning a vocation to religious life.

As pre-novices both Sarfraz and Adnan studied American literature and

history.

The vow ceremony was preceded by a two day convocation of thirty men in formation for the American provinces, the three provincials, and formation and vocation ministers. This convocation was held at St. Xavier University in Chicago. Next year the convocation and profession are scheduled for San Diego. ♦

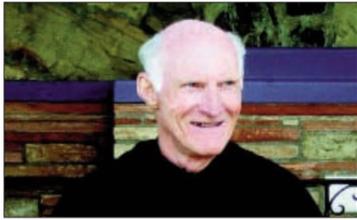


Mauricio Morales and Arturo Renteria

## Two Enter Novitiate

On August 15th, Arturo Renteria and Mauricio Morales entered the novitiate in Racine, Wisconsin. They have spent the past year at St. Augustine Monastery, San Diego, as pre-novices, attending San Diego City College.

Arturo, a native of Mexico, was active in forming and leading his parish youth group and teaching first communion and confirmation classes before becoming a pre-novice. Mauricio was active in the San Francisco Organizing Project, working at preschool, and did engineering and language studies before entering the pre-novitiate. ♦



Deacon Richard Hardick, O.S.A.

## Hardick Celebrates 50th

June 3rd marked the 50th anniversary of the diaconate ordination of Dick Hardick, who has spent the past 48 years ministering at St. Augustine High, San Diego, where he has variously served as varsity basketball coach, math teacher, director of student activities, coordinator of inter murals, and presently, as teacher of religion. Dick was honored by the members of the province during retreat. ♦



Fr. Robert Gavotto, O.S.A.

## Gavotto Honored at Saints

After twelve years of service as chaplain at St. Augustine High, San Diego, Bob Gavotto was honored at his retirement by a special breakfast in the school patio after his final Mass with the Monican's—mothers of Saints students—on May 26th, and at a special community dinner on the 27th, as well as at the final school Mass on the 18th. Fr. Kirk Davis will be the new chaplain. ♦



A large part of the California group pictured in Zurich, Switzerland.

## Large Province Pilgrimage to Two Youth Events

Thursday, July 7th, 34 pilgrims left San Diego for a 27 day trip to Italy, where they visited Augustinian sites, Switzerland, the Czech Republic (to participate in the Augustinian Youth Encounter) and Poland, for World Youth Day. By the end of the pilgrimage the numbers grew to 56. This was the third such large pilgrimage which Kirk Davis has planned and led since his ordination six years ago. He

also plans several yearly community service trips for St. Augustine High students and has become adept in planning low cost group travels.

Other Province members taking part in the trip included Mark Menegatti, Barney Johns, Maxime Villeneuve, and Robert Baiocco. Alvin Paligutan joined them in Prague after a vacation visiting Augustinians communities in India. ♦



At left: The participants at the Augustinian Youth Encounter at the St. Dobrotiva Monastery in the Czech Republic attended Mass at St. Thomas Church in Prague, celebrated by American Augustinian Bill Faix, who is stationed in Prague.

## Ear to the Grindstone

Please remember in prayer Patrick McFadden, brother of Michael McFadden, who passed away on May 10th, and Sunni Ghani, brother of Adnan, who also died in May.

Carlos Medina was awarded an M.Div. degree at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, in May.

Kevin Mullins, with John Keller, Michael Bube and Alvin Paligutan, presented the Province's Anima Una Award to Mrs. Carol Hoffer, retiring Headmaster of Villanova Prep, at the VPS graduation.

Greg Heidenblut began in August teaching as a full time professor of Mariology and American Catholicism at St. Patrick's Seminary and University, Menlo Park, and is at Cole Street on weekends. He is also spiritual director and formation director of 9 or 10 students.

This summer marked the 40th anniversary of our sponsorship of Casa Hogar Infantil La Gloria, our orphanage in Tijuana. A celebration will be held in December. Three reading nooks have been recently installed and plans are underway for early education in computer skills. A part-time development director has been sought.

Barnaby Johns continued his studies in education at the University of San Francisco this summer, living at Cole Street, before going on the pilgrimage to Italy and the Augustinian Youth Encounter and World Youth Day.

Tom Behan, after a couple of months at Balboa Rehabilitation and Convalescent Center, took up residence at Nazareth House in July.

Ojai Augustinians traveled abroad this summer: Alvin Paligutan spent time in July visiting Augustinian communities in India, where he was able to observe the school ministry at Pollachi for a week and spend another week at Kochi, where there is a parish and seminary, before attending the Augustinian

Youth Encounter and World Youth Day. Tom Verber visited the Augustinians in Havana; Fernando Lopez visited family in Mexico and participated in a retreat there with Escuela de la Cruz; and Mike Bube went with Gary Sanders on a cruise in Denmark, Sweden and Norway.

At the final all-school Mass at St. Augustine High the end of May, Kevin Mullins presented the Anima Una Award to Saints alum Ned Wilson as he retired after completing 51 years of teaching at Saints. At the same Mass, gratitude was also expressed to Ms. Nancy Caine and Fr. Bob Gavotto as they retired.

Ray Elam made a good recovery after foot surgery in June. While recovering he was dubbed "Big Foot" because of the bulky bandages. ♦



Above is Brother Nicodemus Pam of the Nigerian Province who is the recipient of a scholarship from our Province for study in Rome for the 2015-16 school year.

At the business meeting at the end of our June retreat, John Keller presented a proposal for religious use of the ranch at Tierra del Sol for a period of two years.

After helping in Hollywood in June, Ronnie Custorio spent two months this summer helping out at Marylake, Ontario, during their busy pilgrimage and retreat season.

Charlie Roy resigned as president of Villanova Prep in July for family and personal reasons. ♦

At right: The first ever quinceanera at our orphanage, Hogar Infantil, May 28th. The honoree, Jocelyn, is seated in the center with a child on her lap. Kirk Davis celebrated the Mass, followed by a big fiesta with Jocelyn's schoolmates, staff and all the children.



Casa Adolfo Camarillo



St. Rita House, San Francisco

## 50 Years of Pre-Novitiate: How We Did It

On St. Augustine's Day at St. Augustine, San Diego, they celebrated the golden jubilee of our pre-novitiate program, which was begun August 28th, 1966, three years before we became a province and has been located at four different sites. In August of 1965, Vice-provincial Vince McGarvey appointed a committee to search for a pre-novitiate site. The new program was to foster in candidates a sense of belonging to the vice-province by having two years of initial formation in California (where students would be ministering and living in the future), initiating them into our "culture of inclusion" of our students: taking part in meetings and celebrations of the vice-province, so the friars could get to know the candidates and vice-versa, and also to have them enter the novitiate with more maturity than the usual candidates. From the beginning, our candidates have been given a tunic and cincture as a sign of consecration and of belonging to the community.

The committee recommended St. John's College, Camarillo, seminary for the Los Angeles Archdiocese. The Camarillo family first leased, then gave to us the historic family ranch house and twelve acres of grounds. Our community members, including Fr. McGarvey, helped renovate the house. .

In demanding two years of college before novitiate, we were trend setters and innovators; the other provinces continued to accept young men into the novi-

tiatiate right after high school. Gary Sanders recalls when he entered the New Hamburg novitiate in 1969, after two years at St. John's College, that a number of the other novices were right out of high school.

John Keller was the first pre-novice director at Camarillo. During the first three years of the program, Harry Neely was studying at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, at the Institute of Formative Spirituality. He was appointed formation director in 1969 and served as director again in San Diego from 1999 to 2005—and is still a valued member of the formation team.

Feeling we could not adequately staff two formation houses, in 1973 the pre-novitiate moved to San Francisco, where professed students were finishing college at the University of San Francisco. In 1980 the pre-novitiate was moved to newly purchased Austin House in San Diego, to be near the largest group of province members. In 1999, it was moved to St. Augustine Monastery, and for eight years, 2007-2015, it was again in San Francisco, returning to St. Augustine this past year.

Tom McLaughlin served as pre-novice director from 1973-75. John Keller, Harry Neely, Tom Whelan and Jim Mott each served twice as directors and presently, Gary Sanders, one of the first pre-novices, serves as director. After 50 years, the program continues to serve very well its original purposes. ♦



Austin House, San Diego



St. Augustine Monastery, San Diego