

May 2017

The Saint Augustine Messenger



Saint Augustine's welcomes all to our historic grounds and chapel.

Our property has been going to the dogs for sometime now. So you will notice new signs on the property. The signs ask that all pets be on a leash when on our property. We were forced to do this because apparently there are new people to the community who do not understand that our grounds are part of our residence and for visitors at the Retreat Center. It seems that many have made our grounds into one large dog park. Most people who come through our grounds are most respectful and do walk their dogs on a leash. After all it is an ordinance here in Hancock County. However there are some who feel they have a right to disturb our members and guests without leashing their dogs.



A few weeks ago two of our SVD members were walking the grounds when two large German Shepherd dogs came around them. The usual words of "they won't bite" were uttered even though teeth were bared. Our men were understandably a bit shaken. Please do let people know who allow their animals to wander freely that the Seminary would appreciate their leashing their dogs. Let them know that children do play on the playground and people walk the grounds.



On May 1, 2017 our Brothers here at Saint Augustine's celebrated the anniversary of their vows as Divine Word Missionaries Brother Matt Connors, SVD now 55 years in vows hails from Massachusetts. Brother Matt has spent time in Lafayette, Louisiana and parishes in Mississippi.

Brother Jim Heebe, SVD 57 years in vows comes from Louisville, Kentucky and spent many years in Ghana, West Africa.

Brother Richard Chambers, SVD who also hails from Louisville now 58 years in vows. He spent many years serving in New Guinea.

Congratulations Brothers!

On Sunday, May 14 after the 9 am mass, some students from St. Stanislaus will be selling boxes of doughnuts to raise funds for their summer mission trip to work on tribal lands of the United Houma Indian Nation in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana. Besides repairing the storm-damaged tribal cultural center, they will be clearing land for a nature walk and garden of plants traditionally used in Houma cuisine, medicine, and culture. The Stanislaus students are part of a large group of young people from 9 Sacred Heart Brothers schools from LA, MS, NY, NJ, NH and RI, over 100 total. Please support the students and Brothers from Saint Stanislaus.



WELCOME TO SAINT AUGUSTINE'S RESIDENCE

*Home for the Southern Province of St. Augustine -
on the web at www.svdsouth.com - email to: svdbaysaintlouis@gmail.com
Mass every Sunday at 9am - daily mass at 7:15 in small chapel*

We are happy you are here!

CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to Mr. Jim Collins, the executive director of the Hancock County food pantry, who was recently presented a Governor's Initiative for Volunteer Excellence Award for his volunteer work in our community.

This award program, presented by Volunteer Mississippi in partnership with the Governor's Office, recognizes and honors the valuable contributions of Mississippi's extraordinary citizens while inspiring others to follow their example.

Mr. Collins has done much for us here at Saint Augustine's and the community over the years.

There is a wonderful biography of his extraordinary service to the community in a May 17 article found at www.bslshoofly.com. Well written and worth reading in its entirety. The following words from the Shoofly article says it all about the man.

"Each day starts with waking at 5am and attending early mass at Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church. Then he drives to his main "job" at the Hancock Food Pantry, where he works most mornings from 8am to noon. Afternoons are spent divided between volunteer jobs. He may be found at Hancock Medical working at the front reception desk. Or serving on the board of St. Vincent De Paul Society, a relief organization. He's become the Bay's traveling barber, and cuts hair for free at the Hancock County Senior's Center, the King's Kitchen, and the St. Augustine Seminary. Collins has been cutting hair now for 70 years.

In addition, he's still a vital part of the Goodwill organization, serving as secretary/treasurer of the Southeastern Association of Goodwill, which oversees nearly 30 stores throughout the region."

Congratulations Mr. Jim Collins!

The Lilies Whisper Poetry Poem by: Deborah Amar

A summer day can never end
Or so it seems each year
The longer cycles of the sun
Make cloudy skies seem clear

Each time the wind begins to chime,
And end begins to near
A whisper of the softest sort
Flows gently to the ear

The scent and sight enough are great
Yet lilies live for more
The lilies whisper poetry
As none have heard before

The lilies whisper to the day
That sends the breeze below
It touches ground that none can see
Where lilies lively grow

Beautifully arrayed in white
And drinking from the soil
Free to whisper their poetry
Without the need to toil

But flowers do not last the year
And newer buds must bloom
So short the span of lily life
To give new blossoms room

The lilies whisper poetry
That none shall ever know
For just as summer cannot last
The lilies cease to grow

But beauty lives from that which dies
And leaves something to last
For lilies whisper poetry
For lilies of the past



Congratulations to our Flower Committee and all who contributed funds to making our Chapel so beautiful at Easter. Thank you!

Yes, lillies whisper poetry.