

NEWSLETTER



SERVANTS OF GOD OF
SAINT AUGUSTINE

JULY 2026

HIGHLIGHTS

July brings us into a season of joyful expectation! As we look ahead to the end of summer, our monastic community is enthusiastically preparing for the principal celebration of our patron: the Feast of Saint Augustine on Sunday, August 23, 2026. We are overjoyed to share that we are expecting around 100 guests and pilgrims from all across the country including friends travelling from Texas, California, South Carolina, and many other states to gather with us in prayer, thanksgiving, and fraternal communion at our monastery in DeLand, Florida.



WHO WE ARE: THE HISTORY OF OUR COMMUNITY

OUR STORY: THE JOURNEY OF OUR MONASTIC FAMILY

The Servants of God of Saint Augustine (Augustinian Monks of the Primitive Observance) is a Roman Catholic monastic community of men living under the ancient Rule and spiritual heritage of Saint Augustine of Hippo. Guided by the primitive Christian ideal described in the Acts of the Apostles, our monks devote their lives to being "of one mind and one heart, intent upon God."

From Maine to Florida: A Journey of Providence

Our community's story began on Peaks Island in Portland, Maine, under the patronage of the Mother of the Good Shepherd. There, the early community, led by Father Seamus, embraced a quiet life set apart from the world, dedicated to daily liturgical chant, contemplative prayer, retreat hospitality, and traditional monastic labor to support the house.



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A Sanctuary of Prayer and Hospitality

For over two decades in DeLand, the daily ringing of our monastery bells has marked the sacred rhythm of our days, calling our brothers to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours, and Lectio Divina. Over the years, our monastery has grown into a spiritual sanctuary for pilgrims, retreatants, and all who seek a place of peace to rest in the Lord.

As we look toward the future, our small community continues to rely completely on Divine Providence and the generosity of our benefactors. We are actively working to build our permanent chapel, expand our guest accommodations, and beautify our grounds so we can continue welcoming all who seek God with open arms and Augustinian warmth.



The Heart of Our Life: Prayer & Intercession

Prayer is the source and summit of our day. Centered on the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours, our monks rise early to praise God in chant and intercede for the Church and the world. A central charism of our vocation is praying for the salvation of souls, for all priests, and for the local intentions of our neighbors in DeLand and the Diocese of Orlando. Through Lectio Divina and silent meditation, we draw closer to the presence of Christ.

Our Monastery & Mission

Consecrated to the Mother of God under the title of Mother of the Good Shepherd, our monastery is located in DeLand, Florida. Bound by vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience, we rely entirely on Divine Providence, our gift shop, prayer enrollment cards, and the generosity of benefactors as we work to build our chapel and guest house.

Location: 2079 Mercers Fernery Road, DeLand, FL 32720

Contact: (386) 686-8862 | monks@augustinianmonks.com

Web: www.osamonk.org (Please call prior to visiting so we may prepare to welcome you!)

UP COMING ACTIVITIES —2026

Looking ahead into August, our community is focused on several key initiatives:

Patronal Feast Day of Saint Augustine (Sunday, August 23, 2026)

The Feast of Saint Augustine is the principal celebration of our monastic year, honoring our holy father whose wisdom, charity, and love of truth continue to guide our community. This year, we are overjoyed to open our doors to over 100 registered guests and pilgrims traveling from across the country including families and benefactors arriving from Texas, California, South Carolina, and beyond to celebrate in fraternal communion.

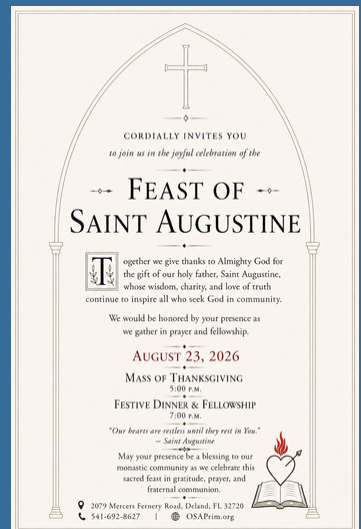
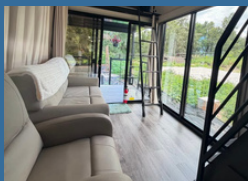
Mass of Thanksgiving (5:00 P.M.): The highlight of the day begins with a solemn Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, offering gratitude to Almighty God for the gift of Saint Augustine and praying for all who seek God in community.

Festive Dinner & Fellowship (7:00 P.M.): Following Holy Mass, all attendees are invited to join our monastic family for a festive dinner, outdoor fellowship, and shared joy on our monastery grounds.

Event Details:

Location: 2079 Mercers Fernery Road, DeLand, FL 32720

Phone: (541) 692-8627 | Website: OSAPrim.org



Monastery Beautification & Prayer Gardens

Finalizing landscape improvements, trimming, and enhancing our peaceful prayer gardens to ensure our 11-acre grounds are welcoming and beautiful for our upcoming August guests.

Airbnb & RV Ministry

Continuing our hospitality ministry by hosting traveling pilgrims and retreatants in our peaceful Airbnb rooms and RV spaces for rest and spiritual quiet.

Vocations & Discernment

Offering ongoing prayer, guidance, and spiritual accompaniment for men discerning a monastic vocation within our Augustinian tradition.

August 23 Patronal Feast Day: Hosting over 100 registered guests arriving from TX, CA, SC, and beyond for 5:00 PM Mass and 7:00 PM festive dinner.



COMMUNITY NEWS

BUILDING A WELCOMING SANCTUARY: PREPARATIONS & MONASTERY IMPROVEMENTS

With the Feast of Saint Augustine on August 23 fast approaching, our monastery grounds in DeLand are filled with joyful activity! As we prepare to welcome over 100 registered guests, benefactors, and families arriving from Texas, California, South Carolina, and across Florida, our community has been hard at work making important physical and aesthetic improvements to our property.



Key ongoing projects and preparations include:

- Shrine of Blessed Father Francis Xavier Trương Bửu Diệp: In commemoration of the historic Beatification of Blessed Father Trương Bửu Diệp this past July in Vietnam, our monastery is preparing to construct a dedicated shrine on our grounds as a place of prayer, devotion, and intercession for all the faithful who visit.
- KMonastery Grounds & Landscaping: Finalizing walkway enhancements, tree trimming, and manicuring our 11-acre grounds to create a clean, serene environment for all our visitors.
- Prayer Gardens & Outdoor Gathering Spaces: Enhancing our outdoor reflection areas to offer quiet, beautiful places for prayer and fellowship following the Feast Day Mass.
- Hospitality Facilities & Accommodations: Readyng our Airbnb and RV retreat spaces to ensure our out-of-town pilgrims experience warm Augustinian hospitality throughout the celebration weekend.

THE HOLY FATHER THIS MONTH

THE HOLY FATHER THIS MONTH & POPE'S PRAYER NETWORK



We invite all our friends, families, and benefactors to unite in prayer with the Holy Father through the universal Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. By offering our daily prayers, trials, and joys alongside the Pope's monthly intentions, we participate actively in the Church's global mission of love, mercy, and peace.

Join & Pray Online: www.popesprayer.va/praywiththepope/



July Highlights of the Holy Father

- July 3: Liberty Medal Honor: Awarded in recognition of his global leadership in promoting human dignity, reconciliation, and peace.
- July 4: Pastoral Visit to Lampedusa, Italy: A day focused on solidarity, prayer, and pastoral care for migrants and refugees.
- July 5–27: Summer Residence at Castel Gandolfo: Spending time in reflection and hosting public Angelus addresses for pilgrims.
- July 11: Mass & Fellowship at Borgo Laudato Si': Celebrating Mass and sharing a community lunch with the poor and migrants at Castel Gandolfo.
- Mid-July: AI for Good Global Summit: Delivering a papal message calling for the ethical use of artificial intelligence in service of humanity.



OSA CALENDAR—AUGUST 2026

- August 1 – St. Alphonsus Liguori
- August 8 – St. Dominic
- August 15 – Assumption of Mary
- August 23 – Monastery Feast Celebration (5 PM) (Destacado)
- August 27 – St. Monica
- August 28 – Solemnity of St. Augustine

2026							AUGUST						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8							
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22							
23	24	25	26	27	28	29							
30	31												



SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

"You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You."

Saint Augustine (Confessions, Book I)

August is a sacred time of renewal for our monastic family as we honor our holy father, Saint Augustine. His famous confession reminds us of a fundamental truth: no earthly comfort, achievement, or noise can satisfy the human soul, our true home and peace are found in God alone.

As we prepare to open our monastery doors on August 23 to pilgrims and friends arriving from near and far, we recognize that gathering in fraternal love is a living reflection of heavenly communion. May Saint Augustine inspire us to quiet our restless hearts, seek God in deeper prayer, and welcome every guest with Christ-like love, humility, and joy.

CONTACTS

Do You Have a Prayer Intention?

If you would like us to pray for a special intention, please reach out and share it with us. We will be honored to include your request in our community prayers.

www.OSAMonk.org

Email: JohnPaul@OSAMonk.Org

Phone: (541) 692-8627

2079 Mercers Fernery Rd. Deland, FL 32720