Re-imagining HOPE

2026 NATIONAL LAY CONGRESS

October 9th…10th…11th

St Joseph's Centre,
30 Fitzgerald Street, South Yarra 3141

FRIENDS OF ST AUGUSTINE AUSTRALIA

invites you to Congress 2026

Why this National Congress?

- To assist lay people to grow in their spirituality…
- To explore the spirituality which motivates Pope Leo XIV…
- To develop an awareness of ideas for a better world…
- To celebrate your faith.

Who is it for?

For all laity who seek to grow in faith and are curious about aspects of their faith.

Christian spirituality consists in living according to the Spirit of Jesus Christ. Following Jesus, which all the baptised have in common, is the foundation of spirituality. To the phrase Christian spirituality, we can add the adjective Augustinian, Franciscan, Dominican, Carmelite, etc.
These are different models, but all the fruit of the abundance of the Spirit, with their common denominator being following Jesus Christ. *On the Way. Handbook for Augustinian Secular Fraternities* Paragraph 21



Turning now to consider **Augustinian spirituality**, we may see that it is a concept of the human being as a mirror and reflection of God. This journey, this search for God, is conceived by St. Augustine in community.
On the Way Paragraph 23

St. Augustine, Christian man, is a companion on the journey, a fellow disciple *(Sermon 134, 1)*, a worker in the vineyard who, like us, labours according to the strength that God gives him. *(Sermon 49, 2) On the Way* Paragraph 24

In the year following the election of the first Augustinian as Pope Leo XIV, we have prepared a Congress exploring the Augustinian charisms of restlessness, interiority, fraternity and service within the context of the 'signs of our time'.

Hosted by Friends of St Augustine & the Australasian Augustinian Province, this invitation is open to all, particularly those interested in the spirituality of Augustine.

Augustine reminds us***, Our hearts are restless, until they rest in You***

Pope Leo XIV invites us***, Together, as one people let us walk towards God.***



FRIENDS OF ST AUGUSTINE *(**FOSA**)* meet in local gatherings several times a year, and every three years a National Congress is hosted by Friends bringing together members of each of the groups active in Australia, with attendance welcomed from the whole lay community.

QUARTERLY PUBLICATIONS

- ***AMICI*** — A newsletter bringing members up to date with local activities and developments within the movement as well as news from International Augustinian Laity.
- ***PRAYER RESOURCE GUIDE*** — Prepared by the Chaplain, Dave Austin OSA provides nourishment for one's prayer life with ideas to reflect upon.

NATIONAL CO-LEADERS

Judith Duncan and Mary McCormick

Judith Duncan is leader for the South Yarra group and may be contacted on 0417 309 747
Gatherings are usually held in Feb, Apr, Aug, Oct, in the Parish Centre.

ACROSS AUSTRALIA groups meet in Mareeba, Cairns, Coorparoo, Gold Coast, St. Clair, & North Harbour

Re-imagining HOPE

2026 NATIONAL LAY CONGRESS

OCTOBER

Friday 9th 6.00pm – 9.00pm Supper and Augustinian Fellowship (Open to those already in town.)

Saturday 10th 8.30am Registration
9.00am Opening Ceremony

KEYNOTE ADDRESS 1 – STAN GRANT – *Re-imagining Hope!*
Morning Tea
Exploring Hope today! Restlessness & Conversion
Lunch

KEYNOTE ADDRESS 2 – TONY BANKS OSA – *Augustinian Spirituality*
Afternoon Tea
Group reflection: 1. Finding Hope – Interiority 2. Finding Hope – Community
Evening Eucharist 6.00pm
Congress Dinner 7.00pm

Sunday 11th 9.00am Morning Prayer
PANEL exploring Pope Leo XIV's Encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas*
as 'Humanity, created by God in all its grandeur'
Session 1: Meeting Today's Reality. Into a future with Hope.
Morning Tea
Session 2: Bringing Hope to the World – Current initiatives & New opportunities.
Closing Ceremony
Lunch

Total Cost per person AUD $275 00

Early Bird Rate $260.00 (Closes August 28, 2026)

Registration / Payment to: **Friends of St Augustine**
(WESTPAC) **BSB 033 059 ACCOUNT 807 280** *Ref: Your Name.*

Please forward these details to FOSA Via Augustinian Web site.
Or C/- St Joseph's Parish, PO Box 21, South Yarra 3141
Or Email secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au

(Please advise of Dietary or Access needs)

Enquiries to: National Co-Leaders - Judith Duncan 0417 309 747 / Mary McCormick 0419 134 075

Name……

Address……

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Mobile/Phone……

Email……