



THE GUARDIAN

Vol. II, No. 11

Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

July 2001

The last few weeks of school were filled with activities. Some were good (outdoor procession and Queenship ceremonies on May 27, dedication of our church, Pontifical High Mass and Act of Total Consecration on May 31, trip to Seattle to see a Mariners game on June 6-7); some were not so good (cumulative Theology test on the last day of school — ugh!). But all in all, it was a good end to a good year.

Although school has been out for a few weeks, we hope you enjoy reading the following articles written during the final week of school. Have a great summer and pray for us, that we enjoy our summer but also stay close to God.

I love being a slave

by Charlie Rodriguez, gr. 11

Funny title? Please don't laugh because it is more than it sounds. The slavery I am talking about is the most wonderful and the most beautiful. It is slavery to one whom I love very much and would do anything for. This particular slavery is one I hope you will desire to make. It is a slavery of love, dedication, reward, and crosses. It is Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary. It is Holy Slavery.

Before a person can become a slave to Jesus through Mary, he must first set aside a whole month for the preparation. The one desiring to make Total Consecration must faithfully perform the small exercises each day of that month. This preparation is taken from the book on Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary by

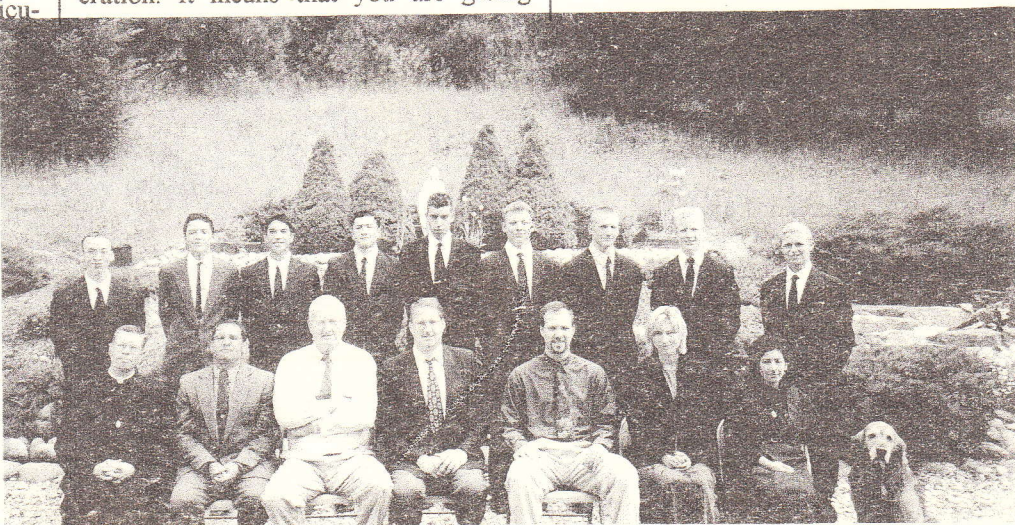
St. Louis Marie de Montfort. There are special prayers to be said every day, and along with the prayers is the reading of passages taken from Scripture or other meditation books.

There are four steps in the preparation for Holy Slavery. The first part is "Renouncement of the World." The person who wishes to be totally consecrated to Mary renounces the world and all of its evils. The second part is "Knowledge of Self." Again, he spends a few days learning more about himself and admits his faults. He tells Jesus he is truly sorry and knows he cannot stay in God's grace without the aid of Jesus and Mary. The next step is "Knowledge of Mary." This should be self explanatory. The person spends a few days here in getting to know the Mother of God better. The fourth and final part of the preparation is "Knowledge of Jesus Christ."

Even before a person starts on this angelic practice, he should know that Holy Slavery is more than just a consecration. It means that you are giving

everything you are or own to Mary. Now, I'm not saying that you do not have the use of your possessions, but rather that everything you do or own should be considered Mary's. That is, you should only use your goods and gifts as she would have you use them. Also, the fruit of all your good actions are to be used only by your sovereign Queen. You give up the right to use the value of your good works for another soul or even yourself. You say to Mary that she has the entire and full right of disposing of all your good actions, past, present and future. She can give those graces to whomever she chooses.

I hope you will consider performing this wonderful deed. Take into consideration that God's Holy Mother will take your merits and use them more perfectly than you possibly could. She will become your advocate and love you all the more. You will become one of the many who become knights under a victorious banner.



The faculty and students of St. Joseph Seminary.

Wonderful Wednesdays

by Francis Abernathy, gr. 12

Wednesdays are special days at St. Joseph's Seminary for two reasons. First, Mass is at 11:30 a.m., so the seminarians are allowed to sleep in a little. Second, if the weather is nice, Fr. Benedict takes us to the park where we play either baseball or basketball. When we take these trips to the park, Mr. Duff usually comes along for the ride. Mr. Duff not only joins in with us but also announces the games while we play and makes it interesting and fun.

I'm not sure exactly why we enjoy these trips so much. I guess it's because we always have so much fun. For example, on one of the last trips we took before the school year ended, it was very hot outside. So, after we played both basketball and baseball, Father took us to the river and we all went swimming. Then to make the outing perfect, we all went out for ice cream. We don't always go swimming and have ice cream, but we do get some good exercise at the park. Yes, Wednesdays are always fun and exciting, and we all can't wait for the outings we will take next year.

Three in a row!

by Louis Picard, gr. 10

The 1-and-1 pitch to Francis is high, but he makes solid contact. "Going, going, going, gone! Goodbye baseball" for a home run and two RBI's. The seminarians look forward to the middle of the week when we play baseball. Mondays are always hard for us to get up and get moving, and to concentrate at school, but Wednesdays are the relief in the middle of the week that feels so good. At the beginning of the year, going to the park did not seem as fun as it is now.

Teams have been selected to play and our team has been the better lately. We have beaten the other team three games in a row, but they had beaten us several times before. The final game will be the grand finale in a few days on the last day of school. I am looking forward to our championship game on Friday and to a good summer.

An adventurous journey

by Kevin Cox, gr. 12

For our end-of-the-year trip we went to Seattle to see a Mariners baseball game. This trip was provided by the generosity of our teacher Mr. Duff, and I want to give a special "thank you" to him.

As the time came to "push off" and begin our trek to Seattle we went into chapel to pray the *Itinerarium* that we would have a good trip. We began the road trip with the Rosary, and then we picked up Mr. Duff. He was waiting at his house with his van, which we were to take. So we transferred everything that we had into his van and began once again. Now in this van we were able

to watch movies, play cards, and sleep, so that is exactly what we did. After watching a movie we stopped to eat the lunch Mrs. Carpenter had packed and then resumed the journey. As we continued westward the seminarians and Father started a game of "Spades" and, before we knew it, we were there.

We arrived at the ball park a little before the gates were opened, so we waited until that time. After the game we went over to the Rodriguez home to spend the night. The following day began with Holy Mass at St. Mary's Church and then breakfast from Mrs. Rodriguez. Soon we were on our way again, enjoying the scenery and the other activities of traveling. The return trip was quite the same, except for a stop at Leavenworth, a quaint Bavarian-style village just over the pass from Seattle. Later, we stopped at a park for a barbecue. Finally, after more driving and another movie we made it home.

The seminarians and Father would like to thank the Rodriguez family for the stay at their home and Mr. Duff for all that he did to make this trip possible.

Adios!!!

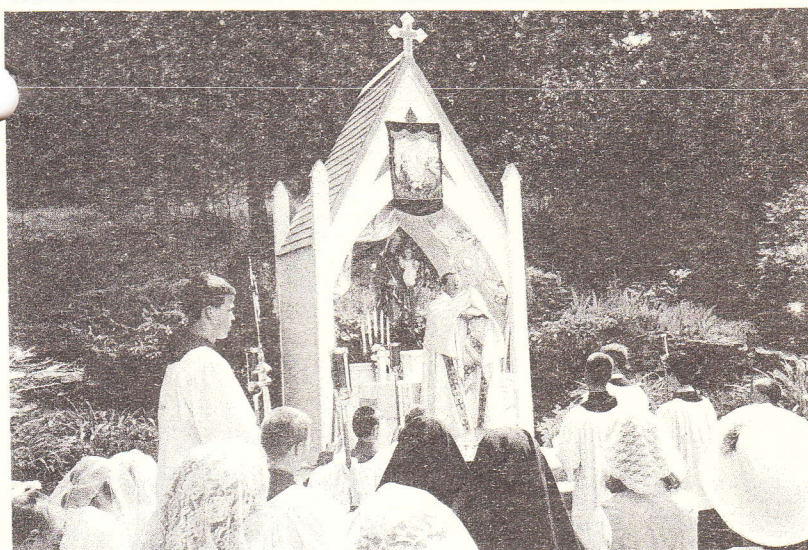
by Isaac Martin, gr. 11

Summer arrived a little late this year, but at last it is time to say goodbye. For the last two months we have been counting down the days 'til school gets out — three more days to be exact. I can't wait! Although this school year has gone by slowly for me and quickly for others, we all agree in saying, "It is time for a vacation." This is true even for the teachers. We normally cannot tell if the teachers are tired or not, but when the school year draws to an end you can see it plain as day.

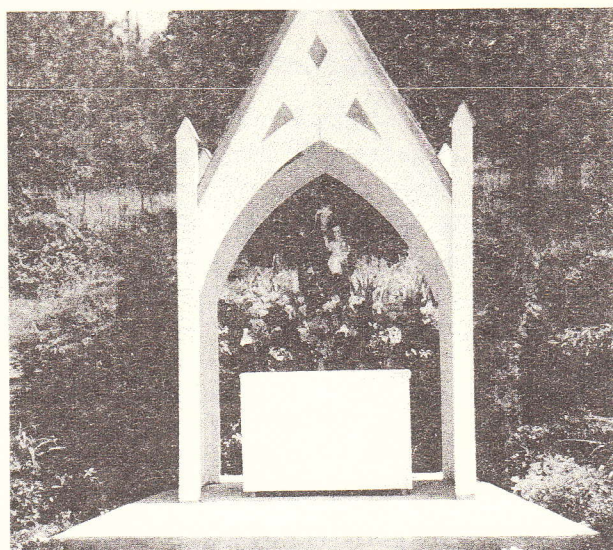
No matter how badly we want to go, there is something deep inside of us that makes us regret having to leave. I know it sounds kind of funny, especially after not seeing our families since Christmas, but this place, as they say, can really grow on you. Most of the time you don't realize it right away, but if you look hard enough it's there. I would like to say just one more thing in this article, the last one I will write during this school year, and that is — I hope to see everybody back here next year, and thanks to all the teachers for a blast. But most of all, thanks to Mrs. Carpenter for all the good food.



The seminarians enjoy watching the Seattle Mariners win another game of baseball.



Father elevates the monstrance for benediction of the Blessed Sacrament during our annual Corpus Christi procession.



Our outdoor shrine to Mary was refurbished for the Queenship ceremonies.



Children honor Our Lord by dropping flower petals along the path during the Corpus Christi procession.



Bishop Pivarunus sprinkles holy water on the walls of the new church addition during the dedication ceremonies.



The seminarians get in a short session of Frisbee at the park on one of their recent field trips.



Good catch, Kevin!

Patience merits the crown

On the final day of school I asked each of the boys to tell the class one or two of his most memorable experiences of the past year. There were the expected statements of: "the basketball season, snowboarding on Silver Mountain and going to the Mariners game." But I was also pleased to hear such things as: "the spiritual books we read, the corrections received, the Lenten retreat." I wish I had written down what they all said.

Yes, it has been a good year. Sometimes you have to stop and think back over the entire year to realize the progress made. Teaching can be a tedious task because progress comes only by degrees, often unobserved. As with gardening, patience is the order of the day. The big difference, however — apart from the obvious monumental difference between the souls of youth and vegetables — is in the length of the growing season. Whereas plants mature and reach their full bloom in a matter of a few months, the work of education takes years. A teacher must remember that often he will not even see the fruit of his labors — they will appear years down the road. Those teachers who are looking for instant change may be bitterly disappointed. This is why it is so gratifying for me at the end of a year to look back and see the progress that has been achieved.

I thank you for your help to make this work possible. It is a work that must go on. The devil would love nothing more than for good souls to get discouraged and for works such as this to fail. Please pray for the continued success of this seminary.

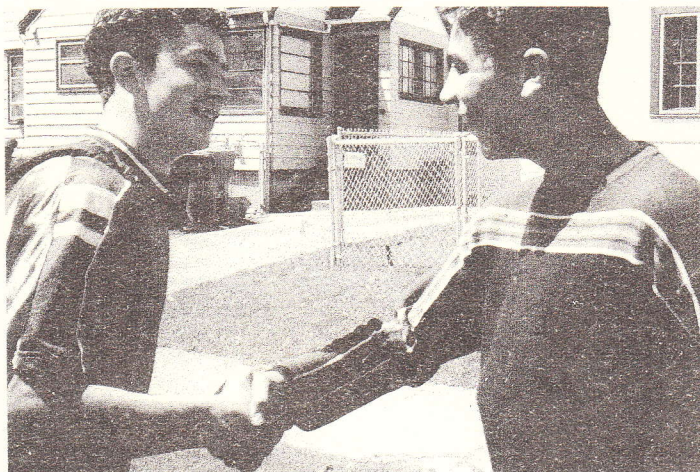
Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI

Seminary Support Club

If you are not yet a member of the Seminary Support Club and would like to become a member, you may write to the seminary at the address below. Members pledge to pray for the success of the seminary and, if able, to send a regular financial contribution for its support.



The schoolchildren and seminarians chant the litanies in one of our Rogation processions during the month of May.



Philip and Charlie say "goodbye" at the end of the school year.

Do you have a vocation?

If you are a young man of high school age who has a vocation, then St. Joseph Seminary may be the place for you. Our four-year course of studies offers the regular high school curriculum, with an emphasis on Theology, Latin, choir and foreign language. A well-rounded program of daily Mass, prayer and sports complements our academic schedule. For more information, write to the rector of St. Joseph Seminary at the address below.

The Guardian is published monthly for the enjoyment of our benefactors and for the family members of our seminarians. This newsletter is free upon request.

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