



# THE GUARDIAN

Vol. III, No. 6

Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

February 2002

We seminarians returned in early January, well rested from our Christmas break. On Thursday of our first week back, we continued our tradition of an Epiphany celebration with exchanging of gifts. That is always an enjoyable event for us.

The weather for the first ten days of January was unusually mild. Much of the snow melted, as it rained for several days. Cold temperatures have once again returned, however, and with them more snow has fallen. That is especially good, as we are looking forward to skiing.

Soon we shall begin the Season of Lent, a time for penance. Even though our human nature shrinks from the idea of penance, we know it is necessary. Lent is always a time of special blessings for those who spend it well. Please pray for us that we do just that. We continue to remember you daily in our prayers.

## Yes! Yes! Yes!

by Charles Rodriguez, gr. 11

The seminarians had our usual Epiphany party after Christmas vacation. In Advent we had picked our KK, or Kristkindl, by pulling the name of one of the other seminarians out of a bowl. This traditional custom is for the purpose of promoting the spirit of charity. During Advent each of us makes an extra effort to pray for that person and to be extra charitable to him, as we would be to the Christ Child. Another thing we were to do (and we all thought this part was great) was to get a gift for our KK.

During the Christmas break we each purchased and wrapped our gift. When

the day came we sat down to dinner with a few very welcome guests. Father had invited our next-door neighbors, Sr. Shannon Marie and Sr. Maria Consuela, as well as Mrs. Salgado, our secretary. After dinner we went into the recreation room and started on the presents. Each seminarian was eager to open his. There were gifts for our guests, as well as each of us.

We eagerly opened our presents and thus found out who had chosen us as his KK. Also, Mrs. Salgado gave each seminarian some candy and a five dollar bill — she really knows what we like. Of course, we were all thankful for that!

We also each received a present from Father to share with everyone. Michael opened his present and found a dozen pens as well as fruit snacks, which the seminarians love. I opened my gift and found computer disks which were badly needed by the seminarians. I also found a note saying that the rest of my gift was upstairs. When I came back downstairs, I gratefully displayed two brand new pool sticks for the seminary. Matt got socks for his present from Father. Kevin also found a note telling him to go upstairs and when he came down again he was holding a case of Gatorade for our basketball games.

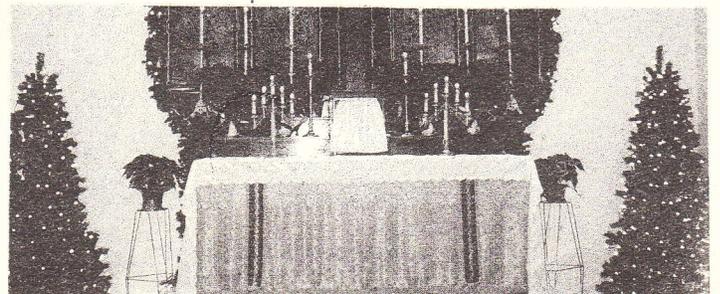
There was still one more present to be opened and Father purposely kept it for last. This gift was assigned to Phil to open. It was very small and very lightweight. In fact, we had all

## February calendar

- 1 — Basketball
- 2 — Candlemas; blessing of candles
- 8-9 — Basketball Tournament in Fernie, B.C.
- 11 — Our Lady of Lourdes; sodality reception ceremony; chanted Vespers of Our Lady
- 13 — Ash Wednesday ceremony
- 15 — Basketball game
- 22-24 — Annual Lenten Retreat
- 27 — Feast of St. Gabriel of Our Mother of Sorrows; mid-quarter; no homework

been trying to guess what it might contain. As Phil opened the present, a look of shock and excitement exploded onto his face. We all rushed to see it and all we could shout was, "YES! YES! YES!"

This was the best present ever. Inside the box were six tickets to a Gonzaga basketball game. Thank you Father and God bless you!



The altar of the parish church is set up for Benediction during the Christmas Season.

## It's that time again!

by Michael LeStage, gr. 9

It's that time again — time to mail *The Guardian*. Here at the seminary *The Guardian* is published once a month. That means we miss a class or two due to the mailing procedure.

No one is unemployed when it comes to putting out our newsletter. Someone is needed to run the folder, someone to collate, someone to stuff, and someone to seal the envelopes. Then there are the address labels to place on the envelopes. Now that we are used to the procedure, all this is done in a fast-paced movement. We work quickly because we have done this each month, but we also enjoy the work. Not only do we get out of a class, but we usually have a good time in conversation and joking as we work.

Usually, the entire process takes approximately 45 minutes to an hour. When we finish, the envelopes, folding machine, stickers and mailing trays are put away until the next month. We enjoy putting out the mailing, especially because we make *The Guardian* available for you to read.

## A rough three games

by Matthew Dunphy, gr. 10

On the very first day of school after the Christmas break we had a basketball game against a school in Spokane named Havermale. Our basketball team hadn't practiced together for about three weeks so we were rusty.

In the first quarter nothing fell in the hoop. We had the shots we wanted, but we didn't make them. Therefore, at the end of the first, we were down 16-6. In the second quarter we played better, but we were still down at half-time by seven points. During half-time our coach told us we were doing OK — we just needed to hit our shots and we needed better rebounding. In the third quarter we continued to struggle, especially in getting rebounds. We ended the third period down by 10. The fourth quarter was our time to excel. We went to a full-court press, and Havermale totally lost its grip on the lead. Our momentum carried us to a come-from-behind win, 60-50!

Our second game after Christmas vacation was against our archrival House of the Lord Christian Academy (HLCA). The first time we played them we won by 19 points. This time, we knew they would be ready for us. In the first period we had a difficult time on defense, and by the end of the quarter we found ourselves down by 10 points. The second quarter was our best quarter, as we outscored them by two points, being down by eight at half-time. Once again, however, we couldn't get rebounds, and it didn't help that our two best players each had four fouls. We didn't take care of our rebounding problem, and the team fell apart towards the end of the third. The Sentinels lost that one, 91-60. Our varsity record for the season now stands at an even 4-4.

Our third game was a JV (junior varsity) game against Lower Columbia Junior Academy (LCJA). In this game our

three best players did not participate, so as to give their younger teammates more time to play. In this game we matched up to them perfectly. In the first quarter we had good rebounding and not many turnovers. At the end of the first we were only down by a couple. In the second quarter we had too many turnovers, which hampered our offense. At half-time we were down 21-17. In the third period we set up a couple of plays inside which got us some points and also drew in the defense, thereby giving us more outside shots. We began the fourth quarter down by six, 33-27. We needed some scoring. We got lots of steals this quarter, and our defense helped us get some easy lay-ups. We worked hard in the final quarter and outscored our opponents by seven points to win in an exciting finish, 41-40. So far the Junior Varsity is undefeated, winning all three of its games.

## Go Gonzaga!!

by Philip Dunphy, gr. 11

As already mentioned, at our Epiphany party we received a gift of tickets to a Gonzaga vs. Santa Clara basketball game on January 11. All the seminarians are major basketball fans, especially Gonzaga Bulldogs fans. When we set out on Friday night for the conference opener, Gonzaga had finished 13-2 in non-conference play and was ranked No. 18 in the country. (They have recently been ranked No. 13.)

We arrived plenty early because this game had been sold out. After we got our seats and some popcorn, we were ready to watch some serious basketball. Gonzaga came right out in the first half, hitting six three-point shots. They also had two amazing dunks which were the highlight plays of the game. After the first dunk in the Kennel (the name of the arena), the whole place went wild, and so did we. At the end of the half Gonzaga led by 15.

In the second half Santa Clara made a run behind their team leader Steve Ross, who hit seven threes and finished with 38 points, but Gonzaga's team leader Dan Dickau hit two threes in a row to slow their run and brought all in the Kennel to their feet. At the end of the game, he hit some crucial free throws which secured their victory. Dan finished with 29 points and is currently ranked among the top 10 guards in the nation. The final score was 83-81.

*continued on page 4*



*The seminarians help cheer on the Gonzaga University Bulldogs to an 83-81 win over Santa Clara.*



*Here is a view of the seminary chapel decorated for Christmas.*



*The seminarians eagerly open their Epiphany gifts.*



*Charlie holds the two new cue sticks from Father.*



*Phil displays tickets for a Gonzaga basketball game.*



*Father blesses the St. Philomena cords.*



*We are still getting snow — here you see Charlie and Phil shoveling the roof of one of the buildings.*

## Gonzaga basketball

*continued from page 2*

We cannot thank Father enough for taking us and getting tickets (We were amazed that he was able to get tickets for Gonzaga in the first place, since they are so hard to get, every game being a sell-out.) All thoroughly enjoyed the game and hope to make it to another in the future.

## A spiritual gift

*by Kevin Cox, gr. 12*

As you already know from the article on our Epiphany party, we received many gifts for which we are all thankful. But one in particular was the greatest of all. This was the cord of Saint Philomena, which Father gave to each of us. St. Philomena's cord is a sacramental that is worn around the waist for the virtue of purity and the gift of courage in living our Faith. The cord consists of red and white threads interwoven, with two knots at one end.

This is a particularly good present because it has to do with our spiritual well-being. It is also a small devotion which anyone can practice — a short prayer is all that is said by the wearer of the cord. This cord is a way of honoring a great and powerful saint. The devout wearing of the cord is not only a means of preserving purity, but it also helps us to make up for time that we might otherwise have to spend in purgatory, especially with all the indulgences that we can obtain.

We are all thankful that Father thought of this gift for us, especially since it will help to pave the way for us to heaven. I strongly urge all to look into this devotion and to read about this great saint.

## Looking ahead

The coming months are very important ones here at the seminary. First, the Lenten season means additional Liturgical ceremonies to prepare for. Right now the seminarians are learning the chants for Candlemas, Ash Wednesday and Tenebrae, in addition to the chant for Sunday Vespers, which they will chant each Sunday of Lent.

We also have some important activities this month. On the second weekend we will travel to Canada for the annual Griz Tournament, which is a favorite with the boys. A couple of weeks later we have the annual retreat, which will be preached

## 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.

## 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.

this year by Fr. James McGilloway, CMRI, from Sacred Heart of Jesus Chapel in Akron, Ohio. The annual retreat is a unique opportunity of grace for the seminarians, and we ask your prayers for its spiritual success.

This time of year — the beginning of the Second Semester — is also the time to begin preparing for next year. In particular, we pray daily to St. Joseph during March for vocations. There also will be several young men visiting our seminary over the next couple of months, as they seek to ascertain their vocation. We ask that you keep the intention of more vocations in your prayers.

We have enclosed an intention card for our St. Joseph Novena and daily March prayers. If you wish to have your intentions placed on the altar and remembered in our daily devotions during March, please write them on the enclosed card and return it to us.

We again thank you for your support and pray that you will have a grace-filled and spiritually rewarding Lent.

*Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI*

*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.

**St. Joseph Seminary**  
**15384 N. Church Rd.**  
**Rathdrum, ID 83858-7650**