



# THE GUARDIAN

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Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

October 2004

We begin a new year here at the seminary with renewed energy and focus on our task of growing in the knowledge and love of God. Our numbers are small this year, with no new seminarians, but we all get along very well and have a great spirit of unity.

By now, we have once again settled into our school routine. During the first couple of weeks, we all were late on occasion for prayers in chapel or for class. But now we have once again become accustomed to the inexorable bell. (Well, all of us, that is, except Gerard. He still jumps when the bell rings!) In the coming issues we will tell you about our classes and other activities this year.

Please pray for us as we embark upon a new school year, that it will be a year of spiritual growth and blessings. We will pray for you and your intentions.

## A powerful spiritual weapon

by Gerard Odom, gr. 9

As many of you know, the month of October is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary. So it is appropriate that we have an article in *The Guardian* about the rosary.

For starters, the rosary is not just a large prayer that is meant to take twenty minutes out of our day. It is a prayer through which anything can be accomplished, provided it is the will of God. Our Lady gave the rosary to St. Dominic so that he could fight the Albigensian heresy. Upon receiving the rosary from Our Lady, St. Dominic

immediately went to preach it in the nearby town. Many of the people would not accept his preaching. As a result, Our Lady appeared and called down God's vengeance. The people obviously accepted his preaching, or else there would be no more little town!

Our Lady appeared in 1917 at Fatima and urged the recitation of the rosary. Unless the people said it, she told Lucia, a greater war would come, and that is exactly what happened. Our Lady also made several wonderful promises concerning the rosary.

The rosary is a powerful weapon against temptation. It also is a means of keeping the family together. It is a means of delivering Poor Souls from Purgatory. Without this prayer, who knows where the world would be?

## Seattle mayhem

by Peter Linder, gr. 12

The second week of school at St. Joseph Seminary was short and sweet. We had three normal schooldays and the fourth day, Thursday, ended at noon. After lunch we finished packing the van and left on our annual camping trip. This year it was different, however, since we were not going camping in the remote Idaho wilderness, which is usually the case. Instead, Father took us to Seattle, Washington, a metropolis on Puget Sound with lots of hustle and bustle and tourists who have plenty to see.

## October calendar

- 1 — Mid-quarter
- 7 — Most Holy Rosary BVM; High Mass; Vespers; no homework
- 13 — Sodality reception ceremony
- 27-29 — First Quarter tests
- 31 — Feast of Christ the King; annual renewal of seminary consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

After five hours of driving and one stop to eat we arrived in the Seattle area at about 7 p.m. We then went to Dr. Hughes' house in Bothell, a small city just northeast of Seattle, to stay the next couple nights. That evening our host made us feel comfortable by giving us some tasty snacks while we played a great game of cards. We then played several games of 'Jenga' before Father called us for night prayers.

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Mr. Onstott, one of our parishioners, replaces one of the old basketball poles with a new one on our outdoor basketball court.

## Seattle

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The next morning we went to the home of a Catholic family for Mass, as there is a young man there who is unable to go to the church for Mass. After Mass and lunch we drove to downtown Seattle. Father dropped us off at Pike Place Market and gave us some time to explore the market before we were to meet back at the same location. As I was the only one of the seminarians who had been there before, I ended up being the tour guide.

Pike Place Market is right on the Seattle waterfront. It has a number of shops with fresh seafood, but that's not all. There are literally hundreds of small shops and they are all unique. Almost all the shops on the top level, which is on a street and is open to the air, either sell seafood, flowers, produce or other food products. The indoor shops on the lower levels sell a variety of things such as coins, comics, clothes, souvenirs, wallets, belt buckles, and on and on. We didn't have enough time to spend more than five minutes in any one place since we only had an hour. When we finished touring the market, we went to a store on the waterfront called "Ye Olde Curiosity Shop," where we spent most of our time.

Later that day we went to Safeco Field to watch a baseball game. The 2004 season has been quite a disappointment for fans of the Seattle Mariners. They happened to win that night, though, because — according to Gerard — our presence gave them greater motivation and determination. Anyway, it was a real great game, and if you want to know the best place to sit in Safeco Field just ask one of us — I think we tried almost every seat that was unoccupied.

Before we left for home the next morning, Dr. Hughes gave us a tour of his science lab. We learned one thing from the whole tour — never, ever put your hand in a freezer that is 126 degrees below zero, Celsius. Oh, and don't complain about the cost of light bulbs, unless you're buying one for Dr. Hughes' lab! (A light bulb for one of his machines costs \$1,000.) As you can see, we thoroughly enjoyed our trip and hope to return to Seattle at the end of the school year.

## Here in Idaho

*by Brandon Odom, gr. 10*

I always seem to start my articles with "Here at St. Joseph Seminary," but this year I'll try something different.

Here in Idaho, at St. Joseph Seminary, life continues much the same way it did last year, with the exception of having two fewer students and having two awesome Mexican nuns cooking our meals. A fair trade I'd say! Another change is that Peter and I have taken up jogging, a sort of "New Year's resolution" that I am thoroughly regretting! We have "jogged" at least a mile each day since school started, going up and down the hills around the seminary. The soreness has finally started to go

away. Strange as it may sound, our daily jog has actually been more energizing than exhausting.

Besides our daily jog we also have P.E., in which we choose one of several activities. First, there is cross-country jogging, which I have already explained. Next there is kickball which we play mainly in the spring. Of course, there is also football which we play a lot in the fall, being joined sometimes by the junior high boys. Another sport is basketball which we play excessively every year and do enjoy. Also, there is volleyball which we are finally starting to get good at. Finally, there is the combination of baseball and kickball, which the younger children fondly call "splatterball," and in which they often enjoy participating.

We also get much exercise running up and down the stairs on our way to class. Whether we're jogging or diligently working, we should always remember to keep busy because "an idle mind is the devil's workshop."

## Change of seasons

*by Cavan O'Sullivan, gr. 12*

There is a big change of weather because it is fall. The beauty of fall is in the leaves changing colors. The wind blows the leaves off the trees, and frost covers the ground, plants and cars. Here in North Idaho we get fog, too. The fog can be really scary because it gets so thick you can barely see in front of you. It is also very hard to drive on the roads when it is really foggy.

In preparation for winter we winterize our things. We rake the leaves when they fall off the trees. We mow the lawns for the last few times; then store the summer supplies. The most strenuous thing about fall is chopping and stacking firewood.

In the fall we also have special liturgical feasts. During October we have a daily public rosary. We have the feasts of the Most Holy Rosary and of Our Lady of Fatima. In November we have All Souls' Day and All Saints' Day. On All Souls' Day, a soul can be released from purgatory each time you make a visit to church and say six times the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be for the intentions of Holy Mother Church.

Let us give thanks to God for the seasons and for all the blessings He has given us.



*Gerard checks out the 'daily catch' for sale at the market.*

## The Fifteen Promises of Mary to Christians who recite the Rosary

1. *Whoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the rosary, shall receive signal graces.*
2. *I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the rosary.*
3. *The rosary shall be a powerful armor against hell, it will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.*
4. *It will cause virtue and good works to flourish; it will obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God; it will withdraw the hearts of men from the love of the world and its vanities, and will lift them to the desire of eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means.*
5. *The soul which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the rosary, shall not perish.*
6. *Whoever shall recite the rosary devoutly, applying himself to the consideration of the sacred mysteries shall never be conquered by misfortune. God will not chastise him in His justice, he shall not perish by an unproved death; if he be just he shall remain in the grace of God, and become worthy of eternal life.*
7. *Whoever shall have a true devotion for the rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.*
8. *Those who are faithful to recite the rosary shall have during their life and at their death the light of God and the plentitude of His graces; at the moment of death they shall participate in the merits of the saints in paradise.*
9. *I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the rosary.*
10. *The faithful children of the rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in heaven.*
11. *You shall obtain all you ask of me by the recitation of the rosary.*
12. *All those who propagate the holy rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.*
13. *I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.*
14. *All who recite the rosary are my sons, and brothers of my only son Jesus Christ.*
15. *Devotion of my rosary is a great sign of predestination.*



From Pike Place Market we headed down to the Seattle Waterfront.



Dr. Hughes explains the purpose of the various machines in his chemistry research lab.



Do you mean to tell us that light bulb costs \$1,000?

## Twenty-five Years

In a few days, on September 29, I will have the great joy of celebrating my 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Some of our priests will come to join me for this happy occasion with the celebration of a Solemn High Mass. I am sure the seminarians will tell you about the events of this occasion in our next newsletter.

My thoughts at this approaching solemnity are thoughts of gratitude. How much we all have to thank God for — especially priests, who have been called to be other Christs! By a special predilection, Our Lord has called some to be His priests, just as He called the apostles, saying, “Come, follow Me.” Priests also recall those other words of Jesus to His apostles: “You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you.” On this earth a priest cannot fully understand the wonderful blessing given to him by this call of Our Divine Lord.

At the same time, we must remember always to pray for all of our priests, for their perseverance and spiritual growth. Certainly the devil works hard on priests, knowing that if he can cause them to become discouraged, then he can more easily lead astray the faithful. Priests are only human — subject to temptation and filled with weakness. So I ask for your prayers for myself, for all our priests, and for more vocations to the priesthood. Let us all do our part to pray for more vocations and to encourage those young men who are pursuing the divine call.

As usual during the month of October, we will daily pray our rosary before the Blessed Sacrament exposed. There are so many intentions for us to pray for. You, dear benefactors, have a prominent place in our daily prayers. Jesus will surely not forget what you do for His priests — and future priests.

*Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI*



*There is nothing quite like flag football at the park on a sunny fall afternoon.*

## 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.



*The seminarians rehearse the rubrics for a Solemn High Mass.*

*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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