



# THE GUARDIAN

Vol. VI, No. 3

Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

November 2004

November at the seminary is an important month. We begin the month by honoring the saints on the Feast of All Saints, and then we turn our attention to the Poor Souls in Purgatory. Each seminarian tries to make as many visits as possible to the chapel to pray for the release of the suffering souls. We sing a high Mass, visit the cemetery and perform other good works for the Poor Souls.

Most likely you have all read the book *Purgatory*, by Fr. Schoupe. Each year in November we read from this book to remind ourselves of the sufferings of the Poor Souls and the great need they have of our assistance. Especially today, when so many have abandoned their belief in purgatory, these souls are calling out to us to help them. By reflecting on purgatory we also recall the importance of living so as to avoid the cruel pains of purgatory. How foolish it would be for us to take lightly the punishments of that place of purification. Would it not be much better for us to live in such a manner as to avoid, as far as possible, the pains of purgatory?

We are fortunate to have here a Catholic cemetery that we can visit to pray for the faithful departed. As we visit the cemetery we are reminded, as a saint once said, of the message of the departed to us: "As we were once alive on this earth as you are now, so one day you will be in eternity as we are now." Let us also remember that if we help the suffering souls, we will gain friends who will intercede for us. May Jesus and Mary help us all to remember eternity

and to pray daily for the faithful departed.

## A great day at the Seminary

by Brandon Odom, gr. 10

Here in Idaho at St. Joseph's Seminary, we recently celebrated Fr. Benedict's Silver Jubilee of ordination. The occasion was very welcome, because it allowed us to take off half a day of school and assist at a Solemn High Mass.

The Mass started at 11:15 a.m. on September 29. Fr. Benedict, of course, was the celebrant. The other CMRI priests in attendance were: Fr. Brendan Hughes as the deacon, Fr. Gerard McKee as the subdeacon, Fr. Gregory Drahn as Master of Ceremonies, and Fr. Casimir Puskorius, who attended Mass and gave a very inspiring sermon on the priesthood. The seminarians served as cross bearer, thurifer and acolytes. Some of the younger servers were torchbearers, and the other grade school students helped to sing in the choir. All in all, Mass went very well, and I'm glad to say that there were no noticeable mistakes. It had been quite a while since we last attended a Solemn High Mass, and I think everyone appreciated the opportunity to assist at this Mass.

## November calendar

- 1 — All Saints' Day (Holyday of Obligation); no classes
- 2 — All Souls' Day (no homework; seminarians make visits to the church and cemetery for Poor Souls)
- 11 — Cavan's birthday
- 21 — Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary; no homework
- 24 — Thanksgiving break begins after class
- 28 — First Sunday of Advent
- 29 — Regular classes resume

Following Mass lunch was provided by the ladies of the parish, and the schoolchildren sang some songs.

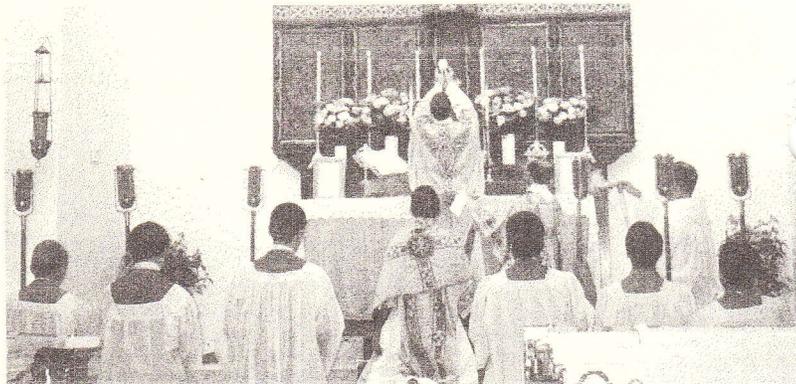
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Fr. Benedict celebrates his Silver Jubilee Mass, assisted by Fr. Gerard McKee, CMRI, and Fr. Brendan Hughes, CMRI.



*Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI, celebrated his Silver Jubilee on September 29, the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel.*



*The torchbearers kneel in the sanctuary during the Consecration to honor and adore Our Lord.*



*The seminarians and altar boys from the parish grade school assisted at Mass on the occasion of Father's Silver Jubilee.*



*The CMRI priests who attended Father's Silver Jubilee celebration (left to right): Fr. Gerard McKee, Fr. Casimir Puskorius, Fr. Benedict Hughes, Fr. Gregory Drahman, and Fr. Brendan Hughes.*

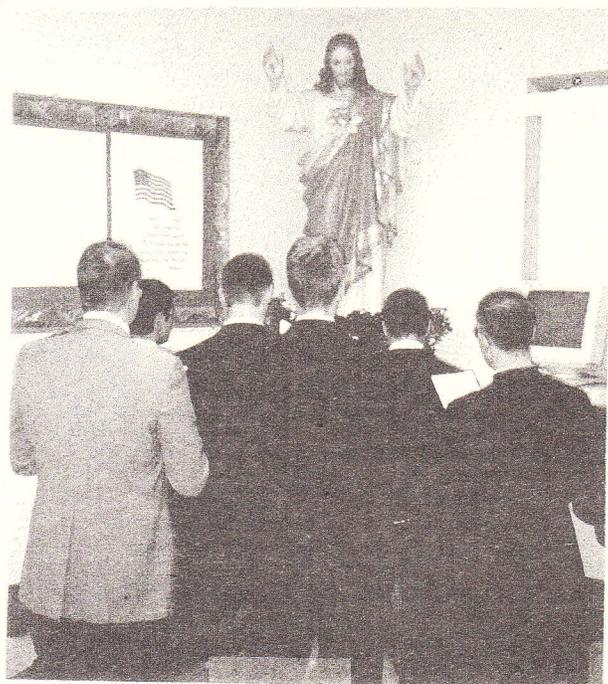


*The schoolchildren sang for the priests and other guests after Mass on September 29.*



*(Photo to left) Many of Father's relatives were able to attend his Silver Jubilee ceremonies.*

*(Photo to right) Father with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Patrick Hughes.*



*In preparation for the Feast of Christ the King, the seminarians and faculty of St. Joseph Seminary renew their Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.*



*Brandon finds a new friend.*

## Great day

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After lunch we played a game of kickball with the younger students. Later in the afternoon, we went bowling with Mrs. Salgado while Father and the other priests went out for dinner. We were soundly beaten in the first game by Mrs. Salgado, and the second game was won by Peter, with everyone else close behind. We went to dinner before returning home. The whole day was enjoyable, and we all wish Fr. Benedict a very happy and blessed Silver Jubilee!

## Remember the Poor Souls

*by Cavan O'Sullivan, gr. 12*

**W**e should prepare for All Souls' Day on November 2<sup>nd</sup> by going to Confession and Holy Communion so that we may gain the indulgences on behalf of the Poor Souls in purgatory. We can gain a plenary indulgence for the Poor Souls by making a visit to a church and praying 6 times the *Our Father*, *Hail Mary* and *Glory Be* for the intentions of Holy Mother the Church. Each time we exit the church, come back in again and repeat the prayers we gain yet another plenary indulgence. That's right! Every time we make a visit and say those prayers, we release a soul from purgatory.

We can also pray the Rosary and offer Masses for the Poor Souls, besides other prayers. November is reserved for the Poor Souls, but it is not the only time that we can pray for the Poor Souls. We should always think about them and pray for them throughout the whole year.

## Christ our King

**S**everal years ago we had the formal enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in our seminary. Each year we renew this enthronement around the feast of Christ the King, which occurs annually at the end of October. This feastday is a perfect opportunity for all families to renew their consecration to the Sacred Heart.

But what exactly is the Enthronement? This ceremony was the inspiration of Fr. Mateo, S.S.C.C., a great priest of South America, who began to spread this devotion in the early 1900s. Fr. Mateo reflected upon the promises of the Sacred Heart, especially those pertaining to the home. He also knew that the family is the building block of society, which will only be as

## 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.

strong as the individual families that compose it. Wouldn't it be wonderful, he thought, if we could get families to proclaim Christ as the King of their home — to install a picture or statue of the Sacred Heart in the main room of the house, thereby proclaiming to all who enter that it is a Catholic home?

The Enthronement of the Home to the Sacred Heart Jesus was approved by all the great popes of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, beginning with Pope St. Pius X. If you have never had your home enthroned, I suggest you speak to your pastor and ask him for more information on this important ceremony. The enthronement of the home never has to be repeated — even if the family moves to a new location — since it is the consecration of the home and family, rather than a blessing of a house. Nevertheless, it is good to annually repeat the prayers of the enthronement and even daily to make a brief renewal.

Let us rejoice that Christ is our King and that He deigns to accept us as His subjects. What a privilege to serve such a King. May we always be faithful in His service, and may He, out of the abundance of the love and mercy of His Sacred Heart, bless you and your families.

*Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI*

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