



THE GUARDIAN

We are currently enjoying the beauties of the liturgy of Holy Week, in which everyone here at the seminary participates. It is really inspiring to observe at close range the various ceremonies. Two of the seminarians even had their feet washed on Holy Thursday, because there weren't enough men volunteers this year. On Easter we will hide the eggs for the children for our annual parish Easter Egg Hunt. And we will particularly enjoy our vacation, which lasts all of Easter week!

The weather has also been cooperating, as we have enjoyed our first real taste of spring in the past couple weeks. That means that the snow is all gone (except for a couple small patches here and there) and the grass is finally growing.

As you will read in the article below, we have all taken an interest in the game of disc golf. The hilly terrain around the seminary makes for an ideal location for this sport — except when a tree happens to be in the way of your throw. Speaking of trees, last autumn we started work on clearing brush and trees from the cemetery hillside. The cemetery at the top of the hill is not visible from the church, because of the dense growth. So that is a project we will resume this month and try to finish clearing the hillside. It might sound simple, but it is actually a time-consuming project of cutting, piling and burning all the brush.

Other than that, we continue with our school work here at the seminary, as we are now only two months away from summer. It is not easy to study when the weather is nice and we want to go outside, but we are all determined to do

our best in this final quarter. Our Easter vacation will give us the chance to refresh our minds and be ready to return to our studies with renewed energy. We also hope that you will all enjoy this beautiful Easter season.

Play your way to heaven

by Jordan Hartman, gr. 10

Drat! I've lost another golfing disc in the snow! It's not fun losing anything, and it happens a lot to me. But we were so anxious to play our disc golf course that we couldn't wait for the winter snow to melt. Actually, we haven't even completed making the first nine "holes" of our course.

But perhaps you are not familiar with the sport of disc golfing. In case not, I will explain to the best of my ability. It follows basically the same rules as golf, but you use a disc instead of a club and ball — hence the name "disc golf." To play, you simply stand on a pad called a "launch" and throw your disc in the general direction of the "hole" with the idea of getting your disc in a basket — in our case, hitting an upturned bucket on top of a post.

This game recently became popular among the seminarians. But every time we wanted to play, we had to drive to a park that had a disc golf course. So, with Frater Anthony as our foreman, we undertook the job of constructing a course on the seminary grounds. Armed with the most primitive means of making our course, we set out to build. At first we thought, "This will be fun!" until we realized just how much

April calendar

- 1-7 — Easter vacation
- 3-5 — Seminary outing
- 8 — Classes resume at the normal time
- 12-14 — Annual Forty Hours' adoration
- 25 — Procession of the Major Litanies
- 26 — Rynan's birthday; Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel; chanted Vespers
- 28 — Feast of St. Louis Marie de Montfort; begin preparation for Total Consecration

work it would be. And yet we trudge along, slowly but surely piecing our course together. Our job, however, was made less toilsome thanks to an anonymous benefactor who donated money for better tools.

Now, to make us feel more official, we call ourselves the SDGA (Seminary Disc Golf Association) and meet every so often to discuss things that need to be done. Frater Anthony has also assigned

continued on page 2



We honored St. Joseph with a Solemn High Mass on his feast.

Play your way to heaven

continued from page 1

us to various tasks. All these activities are fit in around our schedule which keeps us on our toes already. And as with everything, we offer these activities to God.

It is a most profitable thing to give all the moments of the day to God. One can attain an abundance of grace by simply doing whatever he is doing for the love of God. These graces might otherwise be lost. We would become spiritually weaker when we could be made stronger. So let us remember to take advantage of gaining grace and give our day to Christ who has given so much to us. Offer to Him all your actions to make yourself a spiritual fortress, even if it is something as unimportant as Disc Golfing!

My journey towards sanctification

by Rynan Golpe, gr. 11

Born and raised in the time of modernism, I became an active youth and sacristan in St. Joseph Parish, Hinundayan, So. Leyte, Philippines, defender of the Faith against Christian sects, and a servant of . . . the wolves? That's me, Rynan Golpe, always at your service. I was very innocent at that time about the truth. I thought that the Church was in good hands, but I was wrong. I thought I was doing a very good job to make God happy, but I didn't know that I offended God for what I was doing.

In the year 2012, I was in the 4th year of high school when I started to find benefactors or sponsors for my religious education for the coming years, and fortunately I failed to find some benefactors. I didn't lose hope. Instead it made me stronger. I never gave up asking people to support my religious studies. Then, one morning news brought by my brother aroused my emotions, something that I can't explain. I didn't realize that drops of water were starting to flow from my eyes. The news was about a good, young lady named Mrs. Evan Hughes who was looking for a boy who had a vocation to be a priest. Immediately, I changed my clothes and went to her house. She told me I should come back when her husband, Dr. Marty Hughes, would arrive with Rev. Mr. Niño Molina. A week later, I came back and spoke with Dr. Hughes, and Rev. Molina explained to me everything that happened in the Church. From that time I will say that the Holy Spirit was in me because without doubts and questions I believed and I understood what Rev. Molina said. He helped me to have a communication with Fr. Benedict so that I could start my application to the seminary.

"Thank God my problem is finally solved." Oops...Wait... My story has just started. I needed to get some permission first from the government for the issuing of a passport because I was still a minor. I processed the permission letter from the government for four months, again with tears. While waiting for the permission letter from the government, I spread the knowledge of the true condition of the Church to

my family, friends, classmates, neighbors, teachers and nuns with the help of the cell phone text brigade. Most of them rejected me, and my Alma Mater banned me from going to school. It is very sad, but I had to spread the true Faith. One day the people tried to brainwash my mother to forbid me to come here, but she could not prevent me. I said to my mother that she needs to trust me, and she did. She supported me with all her strength. Sometimes, I traveled in the buses and boats by myself because my mother was very busy.

November 12, 2012, was my interview date with the US embassy. I was very confident in the interview, because I knew God is always with me. "No matter what happens, Thy Will be done," were the words that were always in my mind by that time. At 3:00 p.m. when my interview ended, I received a card from the embassy that said they will give me a visa to go to the USA. That was the happiest moment in my life, and tears of joy flowed in my eyes.

"Thy Will be done" — the pillar of my strength. Every tear from the eyes of a servant show that the graces from God are abundant.

A true slave of Our Lady

by Dominic Pulliam, gr. 9

St. Louis Marie de Monfort was a great and holy man. He loved Our Lady like no other in the world besides St. Joseph. His love for her was like an endless ocean that could never be filled to the top. He also started the practice of becoming a slave of Jesus through Mary, which meant that whoever wished would have to pray over the matter and prepare for a month before making the consecration to Mary. After this you would give your whole life and being to Mary. Unfortunately, there were not many people who wanted to join him because they didn't like giving *everything* to Mary.

After talking with the bishop, he was granted permission to go to Poitiers, France. When he got there he went straight to the poorhouse. He was disappointed at the staff and how the poorhouse looked, and so he made a few changes to the place. He raised money by begging and with his own hands he fixed up the poorhouse. He also made a church there for all the people to enjoy. After this was complete he started having Mass at Our Lady's new church and preached to the people. He was excellent in preaching and brought many sinners to repent and non-Catholics to become Catholics.

After a period of time he was blessed by God with seven lay brothers and one priest to help him in his missions. After a while of doing his work, traveling and preaching the Faith, he was poisoned by other priests who were jealous because he had so many people attend his Masses instead of theirs. After recuperating from this poisoning he felt better but was not completely well. While meeting with a bishop he collapsed and was taken to a hospital. With his seven lay brothers and the one priest at his side, with a Rosary and crucifix in his hands, he died and entered into paradise where he will remain for all eternity.



We had a sodality ceremony on the feast of St. Joseph.



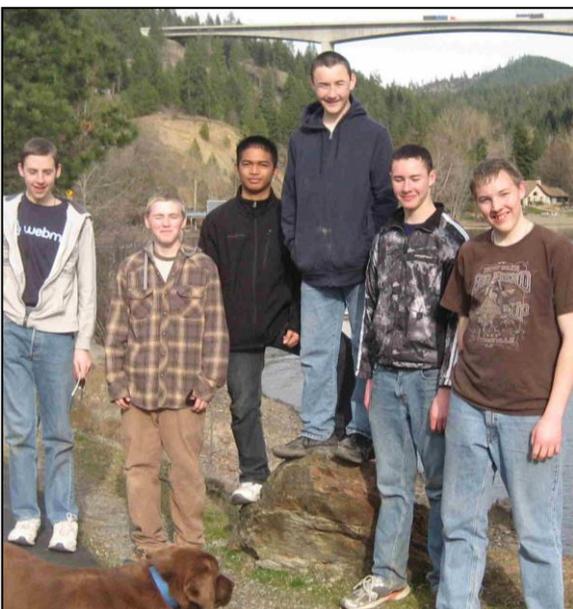
Two more seminarians entered the sodality of Our Lady on the feast of St. Joseph.



Everyone was Irish for a day as the seminarians prepared and served a breakfast to the parishioners on March 17.



The seminarians helped Frater Anthony build a workbench in the basement.



This group photo was taken along Lake Coeur d'Alene during a hike on St. Joseph's Day.



We checked out another Frisbee golf course in Coeur d'Alene.



Victor joined us in the van for a recent outing.

Well done, good and faithful servant

by Thomas Pulliam, gr. 9

As you know, we have just observed the season of Lent and the feastday of St. Patrick. Though it is past his feast, we can still imitate him in our lives. It is unlikely that we will be able to drive away snakes from an entire country, but we can still imitate his holiness and his penances. St. Patrick would wake up at about 1:00 in the morning and stand in a river in reparation for sins. He was able to do this with the help of God, but we can still fast and deny ourselves something that we like or make an extra visit if we are able, provided we do not neglect our daily duty.

St. Patrick is a fantastic saint to pray to if we want to know if we have a vocation because he became the Bishop of Ireland after being a beggar and a slave to pirates. He achieved this by constant prayer, mortification, a profound love for the Blessed Sacrament and constant meditation on Our Lord's love for us. If we imitate him, we can be sure that we are also going to be great saints in Heaven. Without penance and devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, we might not make it to Heaven.

If we reflect on his holy life, we should be inspired to do much good and to try to make reparation for sins and to resolve to avoid the sins we have previously committed. For if we do so, even the most wretched and abandoned sinners can become great saints. We should also try to follow his example in converting people, for if we do, God will say to us, "Come to My home, for you have done well on earth."

Personally, I would like God to say that to me. Wouldn't you? I am sure we want to enter into the happiest place ever made by God. St. Patrick, pray for us!

The joys of the priesthood

Every now and then our good God gives us a consolation to strengthen us in our labors for Him. At the same time, as St. Francis de Sales aptly observes: we must never seek the consolations of God, but rather the God of consolations. Still, when these little joys come our way, they serve to strengthen our faith and resolve to continue to serve God and work for the salvation of souls.

One such incident occurred two weeks ago. A parishioner in western Montana had been asking me to travel to Salem, Oregon, to anoint his aunt who was dying. This devout woman, who prayed 15 decades of the Rosary daily, was



Rynan helped the mother goats give birth to their kids this past month.

wasting away. Having never married, Josephine had only one sister and her nieces and nephews as the closest relatives, and they were concerned that she not die without the sacraments.

It was the feast of St. Joseph when I drove the seven hours to Salem in a driving rainstorm. The next morning I visited the nursing home to find Josephine in good spirits and fully attentive. She was most happy to see me, and we enjoyed a wonderful visit, speaking of heaven. My heart was full of joy as I drove back, in much nicer weather, after having anointed her.

What was my surprise the next morning to receive the news that Josephine had died the previous evening, within hours after receiving the sacraments! She did not appear to be near death when I visited her. But perhaps she really was only waiting to receive Extreme Unction. As one of the priests observed when I related this story, Our Lady was keeping her promise. It would be good for all of us to review the 15 promises of Our Lady for those who recite the Rosary devoutly. Perhaps this story and the reading of the promises will prompt us all to be more faithful in reciting the Rosary with devotion every day.

Be assured, dear friends and benefactors, of a remembrance in our daily prayers at the seminary. We are most grateful for your support, especially during last month's Lenten Alms Drive. I wish that I had the time to write each of you to thank you for your support! May God reward you, and may He bless your loved ones.

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.

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