



# THE GUARDIAN

The month of December has gone by quickly. After one week of Advent, it was already time to leave for Omaha. The drive was long, but we were happy to be there to witness the stupendous ceremony of the ordination of three priests. We enjoyed meeting so many people, and especially seeing our families again.

At last, the Christmas vacation is here. We will certainly make the most of our leisure time, especially to relax and prepare for a new semester. But we won't be idle, as everyone took a couple books home to brush up on that pesky Latin vocabulary. And, of course, we have our spiritual reading as well.

As soon as we return to the seminary in January we will get right back to the studies and look forward to new adventures (especially skiing). We hope that you are all enjoying this blessed season, and we wish you many blessings from Jesus and Mary in the New Year that is upon us.

## The Critical Necessity of Holy Orders

by Gabriel Davis, gr. 9

Never in the long history of the Church have priests and religious been needed more than they are needed in the troubled world we live in today. Since the heresies and reformation that the devil so cleverly manipulated through the Vatican II

council, our Holy Mother Church has suffered an immense loss of her faithful priests and religious. After the death of Pope Pius XII, the devil took immediate action to set to work the foundations of the new "Catholic Church" and placed in the seat of St. Peter apostate popes who tore down the true Church from the inside out. How very true the words of the Gospel of Saint Matthew: "When the shepherd is struck the sheep will scatter."

What a great honor I have to be a seminarian in one of the only traditional Catholic minor seminaries in the entire world. How unbelievable



What a privilege was ours—to witness the ordination of three new priests.

it is that in the entirety of the traditional Catholic Church, only four of us minor seminarians have come here to test our vocations, and to equip ourselves with lasting good habits that will benefit us throughout the rest of our lives. What a great

### January Calendar

- 5 – Blessing of Epiphany water
- 6 – Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord
- 7 – Classes resume
- 18 – Begin Church Unity Octave
- 21 – Third Quarter begins
- 23 – Priests' visit to the seminary
- 25 – Ski Day

blessing we seminarians had in December, when three deacons were ordained to the holy Priesthood. What an absolutely beautiful ceremony the Church has given us to ordain her priests.

For a priest to be validly ordained to the priesthood three essential parts are needed: matter, form and intention. The matter of an ordination is the imposition of the bishop's hands on the priest. The externals and prayers that make up the majority of the ceremony are rites that the church has given us to make the ordination of a priest so beautiful. The form is the essential prayers that are prayed. Last but not least, the intention of the bishop is to ordain a priest to be another Christ.

In such a world of impurity and worldliness it is no wonder that so

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## The Critical Necessity of Holy Orders

many young men and woman have refused their vocations and have rather chosen to deny their high calling. Every day, pray that more and more men and woman will listen to their calling and become religious brothers, sisters and, most importantly, priests to administer the sacraments. For the harvest is great and the laborers are few.

## Serving for God

by Gabriel Riley, gr. 9

Men, women and children can serve God. You can serve God by being good and following His commandments. Well, I am going to talk about something entirely different. That is serving before the altar of God. Today, some of you probably wonder why women or little girls can't serve Mass. If you think about it, Jesus chose only men as His apostles. That is the reason why women are forbidden to be priests. So it was made a Church law that only boys could serve Mass.

Serving is an opportunity to gain graces. I was taught how to serve by Father Molina when I was 9 or 10, and now I am 14. When I was new at serving I never knew the purpose of serving. After a few years someone finally told me that you serve for God! I was shocked that I never knew that during my years of serving. So when I started striving to serve for that one purpose, I became one of the best servers in Wisconsin where my parish is.

I would like to give a couple of facts on what a server should do before serving. A server should have his hair combed neatly, shoes shined, neat black pants, and a white dress shirt.

Now I would like to talk about serving before the altar of God. When serving, a server should be reverent and genuflect smoothly and should have learned his responses well. If a server has done all of those things, he will gain so many graces. When a young man serves it is not just an honor but a privilege.

Saint John Bosco is one of my favorite saints and if I am having difficulty serving, I ask him for help. The

same goes for you altar boys, if you are having difficulty serving. You can depend on him to help you. "Saint John Bosco, pray for us!"

## The Holy Land and Its Occupants

by William Davis, gr. 8

Israel is one of the most important countries in the world, being the land of the first people to worship the one true God. More importantly, Israel, or Palestine, was the home of Jesus Christ Our Savior and of the Apostles. In about the 14<sup>th</sup> century B.C. Abraham came and settled in Palestine, and from him sprang the Israelites.

The twelve tribes of Hebrews (or Israelites) led by Moses came several hundred years later into Palestine after fleeing from the Egyptians. Several centuries later the high priest Samuel anointed a man named Saul, and

Saul became the first king of the Israelites. After his death he was succeeded by King David, the psalmist. David was succeeded by other kings until, hundreds of years later, the people were taken captive into Babylon. In turn, Babylon was conquered by the Persians, and then two hundred years after that Alexander conquered both the Persians and the Israelites. In 142 B.C. the Jews finally had some freedom until being once again conquered, this time by the Romans.

Christianity was started in this land of Israel by our Blessed Redeemer. As everyone knows, Palestine was the home of Our Lord. He blessed this land with His Divine Presence. After the death of Jesus, Catholicism spread rapidly throughout the world. In Israel, however,

pain once again struck in the form of persecution from a foreign nation. In 70 A.D. the Jews revolted against their Roman overlords. The revolt was quickly put down by the Romans, but most of the Jews fled from Palestine.

The Jews became wanderers for two thousand years until, after WWII, the United Nations decided that it would be better to move the Jews back to their native home. That is much of the most important facts of the land that was the home of Jesus Christ our King.



*This skeleton has been used for many science classes here over the years.*



*Serving at the altar of God—a frequent privilege for our young men.*



*Time for one last inspection of the hogs before they head to the butcher shop.*



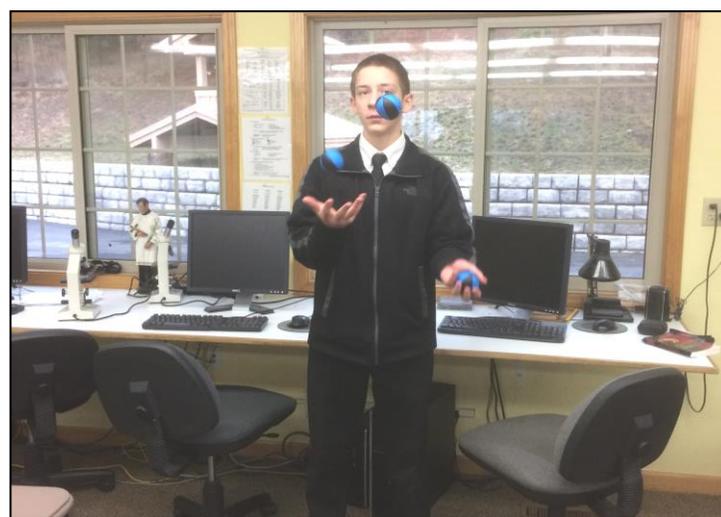
*The seminarians were able to attend the dress rehearsal for the children's Christmas play.*



*The holy Rosary is prayed daily before supper at the seminary.*



*In Omaha we were able to visit Mark Vincent, one of our former minor seminarians.*



*Gabriel practices his new hobby of juggling.*

## A Grace-filled Year

by Thiet Vincent Nguyen, gr. 9

A new year has come, an old year has passed.  
A new spring to become, an old winter to be cast.

Two thousand eighteen ended here  
Many blessings for a year,  
Lots of memories to hold dear.

\*

Winter started out quickly,  
That means it's time to go ski!  
Lots of fun snowballing, with seminarians we,  
but the deadly cold is killing me!

\*

Spring comes with much breeze,  
That makes a lot of people sneeze.  
Many beautiful High Masses and liturgies,  
Thanks to Father Benedict, we'd served it with ease.

\*

Ended the school year the seventh of June,  
Summer was, to us, a sweet tune.  
We know it's going to end soon,  
So, we'd better prepare to opportune.

\*

It's always that time of the year,  
When you think about school year.  
All seminarians, old and new, far and near,  
Once again gather together here.  
Pretty dear friends, now we're.

\*

Finally came the end of the year,  
Yikes! The cold again to appear.  
But it's Christmas time, full of cheer!  
Gladly we come home, such a joyful atmosphere.

\*

Here we are again, for another semester,  
May God aid and help us with His rigor  
For those who are reading this, dear,  
I wish you a happy New Year.

## In the Company of Priests

As I look back on my early years as a boy and a seminarian, I recall several times witnessing a gathering of priests. There is something particularly impressive for a boy who is called to the priesthood, to observe such a gathering and even to be able to join in and meet with so many priests. And that is precisely the opportunity the minor seminarians will have this month.

Every year our priests gather from around the country in mid-January for a semi-annual meeting. We gather every year for the winter meeting at Mount Saint Michael, which is only 45 minutes from our seminary. Since the meeting is so close, His Excellency usually schedules an evening at the seminary for the priests. We begin with Rosary and Vespers, followed by some recreation and a delicious dinner. Throughout the evening the boys try to meet and get acquainted with as many priests as they can.

Later, they will compare notes, to see if they can name all the priests and where they are stationed. This gathering is an important event each year for our young men—something that has become a valued tradition at the seminary. After all, these boys aspire to join the company of the priests, whom they now look up to with admiration. Please continue to pray for these seminarians and that many more will come to join their company. Be assured that we also pray for all of you and your needs and intentions, especially that God will bless you and your loved ones in this New Year of 2019.

*Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI*



*Two of the seminarians served as torchbearers at the first solemn Mass of Father Thien Le.*