



# THE GUARDIAN

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Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

July 2023

## From the Rector:

Dear Friends of St. Joseph Seminary,

The first few days of the month of June were quite busy, as we concluded the school year and cleaned the seminary. The boys packed their things and said their good-byes. On June 3<sup>rd</sup> our two graduates received their diplomas and afterward shared their reflections on their high school career here. Soon, all the seminarians were on their way home, with the one exception of Jorge Cruz, who elected to stay here an extra month.

The following week found us getting ready for the annual Corpus Christi procession, which was held on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Fortunately, the weather was perfect and the procession was splendid. It is a great help to have clerics here, as well as the servers from our parish.

During the following week I took a few days off to relax a bit on the Washington coast. There is something about the gentle washing of waves on the shore that soothes body and mind. We all need a break once in a while!

The following week was our annual retreat at the seminary. Altogether, we had seven priests, two clerics and three lay brothers on retreat. Jorge was our cook. With the minor seminarians gone, there were plenty of rooms for the dozen retreatants. Father Dominic Radecki, CMRI, was the retreat master for this year's religious retreat. It is always helpful, after the busy school year, to review the age-old principles of the religious

life and renew our commitment and our vows.

This week we will attend the Sisters' vows ceremony at Mount Saint Michael. We will also have a private ceremony for two of our brothers professing vows: Frater Martin Sentman, CMRI, will renew his vows for three years; Brother Fidelis Ebeyer, CMRI, from our novitiate in Olathe, Colorado, will profess his first vows.

After this week our attention will be on preparations for the annual Boys Camp, which is only three weeks away. We will also continue enjoying the more relaxed schedule of summer, as we begin to prepare for the next school year, now less than two months away.

Finally, I recommend that you pray the prayers in honor of the Precious Blood of Jesus, which we have printed in this newsletter. July is the month of the Precious Blood. Special indulgences are available to the faithful during this month for devotions in honor of the Precious Blood.

As always, we thank you for your support and prayers. Please continue to pray for our young men and for more vocations. May God bless you and your families, and may you have a most enjoyable summer.

In the service of Jesus, Mary and Saint Joseph,

*Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI*

## **Prayer in Honor of the Precious Blood of Jesus** (Raccolta #218)

O Precious Blood of Jesus, infinite price of sinful man's redemption, both drink, and laver of our souls, Thou who dost plead continually the cause of man before the throne of infinite mercy; from the depths of my heart, I adore Thee, and so far as I am able, I would requite Thee for the insults and outrages which Thou dost continually receive from human beings, and especially from those who rashly dare to blaspheme Thee. Who would not bless this Blood of infinite value? Who doth not feel within himself the fire of the love of Jesus who shed it all for us? What would be my fate, had I not been redeemed by this divine Blood? Who hath drawn it from the veins of my Savior, even to the last drop? Ah, this surely was the work of love. O infinite love, which has given us this saving balm! O balm beyond all prince, welling up from the fountain of infinite love, grant that every heart and every tongue may be enabled to praise Thee, magnify Thee and give Thee thanks both now and for evermore. Amen.

## **Offering of the Precious Blood** (Raccolta #219)

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ in atonement for my sins, and in supplication for the holy souls in purgatory and for the needs of holy Church.





*Our dog Victor joined the seminarians and staff of Saint Joseph Seminary for a group photo in late May.*



*Frater Alphonsus M. Vincent, CMRI, was ordained to the subdiaconate at Mary Immaculate Queen Church on Ember Saturday.*



*William says farewell to his classmates at the end of the school year.*



*After receiving his diploma from the bishop, Joseph returns to his place.*



*Three graduates from our parish high school joined our two graduating seminarians for their commencement ceremony.*



*Children dressed in white precede the Blessed Sacrament, scattering flower petals on the path.*





*During the final weeks of school the students and teachers from our parish school posed for a group photo.*



*For our annual camping trip we once again chose a campground in the National Forest near Lake Pend Oreille.*



*Laymen carry the canopy that shelters the Blessed Sacrament.*



*Father gives Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at the outdoor altar of the Sacred Heart of Jesus*



*Anthony is helping us with milking the cow during the summer months.*



## 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 Latin, theology, 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.

## Prayer to Know One's Vocation

O my God, Thou art the God of wisdom and good counsel, Thou who readest in my heart a sincere desire to please Thee alone and to direct myself in regard to my choice of a state of life, in conformity with Thy holy will in all things; by the intercession of the most holy Virgin, my Mother, and of my Patron Saints, grant me the grace to know that state of life which I ought to choose, and to embrace it when known, in order that thus I may seek Thy glory and increase it, work out my own salvation and deserve the heavenly reward which Thou has promised to those who do Thy holy will. Amen. (indulgence of 300 days, once a day).



*Frater Alphonsus Maria graduated from our minor seminary before going on to the major seminary. Here he poses with his mother and younger sister after receiving the subdiaconate.*



*A seminary custom: on the last day of school each seminarian stands before his peers to share his reminiscences of the past year.*