



THE GUARDIAN

Vol. XXV No. 2 Issue #290

Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

October 2023

During the past month we have made the most of the good weather. In addition to trips to the lake for swimming and other water sports, we have gone regularly to the park for football and soccer. There is also plenty to do in the seminary during the breaks between classes and after school.

So far we all get along well with one another. Our seminary group has become like a second family. We not only pray, recreate, and attend classes together, but we also work together, especially on Saturdays. There is always a big list of projects on the white board Saturday morning. After breakfast Father Benedict and Mr. Keaveney assign us our tasks. By working together we are usually able to get everything done in good time, so that we can spend the rest of the afternoon free.

We have also harvested the grapes from our vineyard and vegetables from the garden. The apple harvest has been mediocre this year, because the trees were pruned last winter. The harvest should be much better next year.

Of course, the most important part of the seminary is our spiritual life. We all have the opportunity to serve Mass each week. In addition to daily Mass, Rosary and other prayers, we have a weekly spiritual conference. With three priests in residence there is ample opportunity for confession, and we have been encouraged to go to confession weekly. During the spiritual conferences the importance of the seminary Rule has been explained to us. By fidelity to our Rule we are able to grow spiritually and earn all the graces we need. Please pray for us.

Thank you for reading our newsletter. We will remember you in our prayers.

King of Kings

by David Stone, gr. 12

Our Lord is the King of kings and Lord of lords. If by show of respect we genuflect for an earthly king how much more respect should we show for the heavenly king. The royalty of Christ is on a twofold basis. He is King by right of birth and

October Calendar	
11	Sodality reception ceremony
12-13	Attend the Fatima Conference
12	Bishop's Pontifical Mass
13	Candlelight procession in honor of Our Lady of Fatima
16	Mr. Gerard Keaveney's feastday
27	Final day of the First Quarter
28	Henry's 16 th birthday
29	Feast of Christ the King; renewal of seminary enthronement

right of conquest. He is King by right of birth by His divine nature as God and by virtue of the hypostatic union. That is the union of His divine and human natures, which union makes Him King of kings. The second basis is in what He did for us by lowering Himself to the form of a man in order to teach us how to live, by His suffering, death and resurrection.

He is our King, and the chapel is His throne room. For this reason, we should show respect by devoutly genuflecting in the middle aisle. We must also make sure we don't just do it nonchalantly. What helps me is to say a small prayer of adoration every time I genuflect. This helps because it keeps your mind on what you're doing because the mind likes to wander, and by praying a small prayer

Continued on Page 2



This year's group of seminarians gets ready for class.

Continued from Page 1

King of Kings

of adoration it keeps your mind on how to give respect to our King. It should be a prayer of adoration, because just as genuflection by itself is a sign respect, prayer is conversation with God. It makes it all the better when you add something to that genuflection.

Another way to show respect is in what you wear. You wouldn't present yourself before a king in casual clothes you wear every day, so why should you do it to the King of kings? And the last topic is on attitude while in chapel. We must pay attention to our Lord and King, not in talking with others or looking around, but our full and entire concentration should be on Him who deserves all of it. He is our King and by Him as our King we ought to do our best to be His loyal subjects, doing our best not to displease him.

"My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my followers would have fought that I might not be delivered to the Jews." Pilate answered, "Thou art then a king?" And Jesus replied: "Thou sayest it." He is our King.

A Long-Expected Outing

by Louis Albin, gr. 9

I have only been here at St. Joseph's Minor Seminary for nearly a month, but I have already learned that life here is an interesting mix of school and breaks. I would like to tell you about one of the latter, our outing for the feast of the Seven Sorrows of Mary. We planned that after a half day of school, we would leave for Round Lake. Studies dragged by, and finally, after lunch, the seminarians packed into the two vans and we started on our way.

We prayed the rosary, and after about an hour we pulled into Round Lake State Park. Round Lake is small enough to walk around, but large enough to have fun swimming and with boats. After unpacking our canoes, oars, and life-jackets from the vans, we ran down to the beach. Fr. Benedict took Victor, the hyper dog, on a walk, and Fr. Gabriel went canoeing with some of us down a small stream connected to the lake.

When we got back, the other seminarians were playing "King of the Dock," a classic seminary game, where one person or team tries to push all opposing players off the dock while remaining in possession of it. I quickly changed into my swim suit and joined them. After that, we played capture the flag between two docks, using life-jackets as the coveted banners. Teammates could run over the beach or paddle through the water to reach the other dock. After several games of this, we showered, packed the vans and drove back to the seminary.

Here at St. Joseph's we are always busy with something, whether prayer, school, or chores, but our vacations here

are well spent. Our companions whom we toil with throughout the week join us in fun recreation. If you come here, among the things you can expect are fun outings, such as ours on the feast of the Seven Sorrows.



A game of Risk or other board games are good diversions on the weekends.

The Eagle

by Jorge Cruz, gr. 12

The summer sun hid on the Spanish mountains, leaving behind a blushing sky. The wind slowly danced on the olive branch and in the tall grass of the field. The lilies, the summer rose, and the lavender were kissed by the amber light, while the wild sage and rosemary gave their sweet scent. Earth was still. No clouds were near, yet tears still fell from Teresa's eyes. "Mother, why are you crying," a voice interrupted the silence. "Because I think of how ungrateful I have been towards God."

In her early years as a nun, she let herself be amused by the world. Conversation with men and women of high nobility withdrew her from seeking the highest perfection. She lived her religious life in mediocrity, one foot in the world and the other in the convent. Many thought highly of her and even called her a saint, yet she knew perfectly who she really was. Prayer was insuperable and penance nonexistent. It was said that she used to count how many bricks were in the chapel during prayer and she could not wait for the moment the bell rang to leave each exercise. But God had other plans in mind.

It all changed when an image of Our Lord so wounded was placed in her cell without her notice. It struck her deeply. "My God, who has done this to you?" she exclaimed, and it seemed as though the image answered back: "Your conversation in the parlor."

For more than twenty years she didn't correspond to God's love and now she was resolved to leave it all. Like an eagle, she flew to God by means of prayer. He in return wounded her with the arrow of love. She went on her way to reform her order which became one of the most austere.

Continued on Page 4



Soccer action at the park.



The Rosary is prayed at 5:00 every evening in the seminary chapel and is livestreamed.



Father Gabriel conducted our first High Mass on the feast of Our Lady's Nativity.



The seminarians enjoyed taking their meals outside during nice weather.



Liam cleans the kitchen floor, which gets a lot of wear.

Continued from Page 2

The Eagle

She spread her reform, in union with the short John of the cross, throughout *Castilla* and *Andalusia*. Calamities, persecution, disapproval from men of power, and even the Inquisition followed Teresa. "It's like they are afraid of this poor old woman," she once commented.

An eagle is not bothered by the tumult of the earth when its only occupation is to fly. Teresa's soul wasn't shaken by uneasiness, and God doesn't give us more than we can handle. We can talk about her mystical experiences all day long, but that's not the only thing that made her special. She was known to be witty and driven. One day she complained to God of her maladies. "This is how I treat my friends," He replied. She of course had to have the last laugh: "Well, no wonder you have so few!"

She was known for being a great cook, singer, flute player, and chess player, yet all was perfumed by her love of God. God was her ultimate goal, the goal to her reform, her writing, her foundation, and her suffering. I cannot do justice to this saint in any way, for her life is one of pain, love and adventure. After all "loving God is the greatest



Choir class with Father Gabriel.

adventure". But I owe this Saint so much. She has taught me how to love God and how to seek Him, for we are made to love the eternal being. God dwells within us and it only takes us to look within to find Him.

Saint Teresa wept for her past, yet she satisfied for that past with her suffering and her love—a love so great, that it could be said she died of love. "Oh my Lord and my Spouse, now the desired hour has come. Now it is time for us to go... Now the hour has come for me to leave this exile, and my soul rejoices at one with you for what I have so desired... I am a daughter of the Church; in her I die." The eagle then flew to meet her eternal love.

An Apple a Day...

Each day at the seminary we pray the Rosary at 5:00 pm. Since we live-stream daily Mass here on our parish website, we decided to stream the daily Rosary as well. Many have told us how much they enjoy praying the Rosary with us.



Father Aloysius is the seminary barber this year.

During October we open the tabernacle, in order to pray the Rosary before the Blessed Sacrament exposed. This practice was first prescribed by Pope Leo XIII, the great Pope of the Rosary, in 1883. Many priests are unable to hold this October devotion in their parishes, due to small numbers and faithful who live far from the church. But if you would like to do so, you can employ modern technology to join us at 5:00 pm Pacific Time. (Use the website www.miqparish.org and scroll down to "live-streaming.")

We especially encourage all Catholic families to pray together the daily Rosary. During October we should add the prayer to Saint Joseph composed by Pope Leo XIII. Let us especially remember that the Rosary is a powerful weapon against the devil and his deceits. You have all heard the axiom "an apple a day keeps the doctor away." I like to apply that wise saying to the Rosary: "A Rosary a day keeps the devil away."

We thank you for your support of our seminary and pray that God will bless your families with His grace. May we all persevere in living our precious Catholic Faith!

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.

St. Joseph Seminary 15384 N. Church Rd. Rathdrum, ID 83858-7650