



# THE GUARDIAN

Vol. III, No. 11

Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

July 2002

On Sunday, June 2, Bishop Pivarunas came here for a high mass and to preside over our first graduation ceremony. Since the seminary began three years ago with freshmen and sophomores, this year has been our first with students in all four levels of high school, and thus our first with a senior. Although we had only one student graduate this year, this graduation represents a milestone for our seminary. We offer our congratulations to Kevin Cox and his family.

The seminary is certainly much more quiet during the summer without the seminarians, but there is still work to be done. We are having our first men's retreat and are already preparing for the next school year. Of course, summer is also a vacation time. Both Fr. Benedict and the secretary will be gone for a good part of July. With August we will resume in earnest our preparations for a new school year. We hope that all of you enjoy a restful and peaceful summer.

## Et tu, Brute?

by Philip Dunphy, gr. 11

During the fourth quarter in literature class we covered Shakespeare's play Julius Caesar. After reading and studying the play, Father thought it would be good for us to see the play performed. Ashland, Oregon, is known for its Shakespeare productions, so Father decided to take the older seminarians there to see this play.

Our trip started on Wednesday, May 23. We left after half a day of school and mass. To go straight to Ashland from the seminary would be a

13-hour trip, so we decided to cover the distance in two days en route and in one day on the return. We had three drivers so it wasn't a difficult trip.

On the first day we traveled for about six hours and stopped for overnight in The Dalles, which is just over an hour away from Portland. Here we had dinner and then went swimming in the pool at the hotel. In the morning we had mass, and then continued our journey. In Portland we stopped first at the beautiful grotto of Our Lady of Sorrows to pray and then we visited the Portland Zoo. After lunch we were back on the road. After five more hours of driving, a few card games and some reading, we arrived in a town right outside of Ashland. We had dinner here, checked into our hotel and then left for the play.

We arrived early, which allowed some leisure time to walk around the area before we entered the theater. The play itself was very well done. Although it was long, it was well worth the trip. I think we all gained a greater appreciation of Shakespeare than we had before. The best part was to see how the actors put emotion into their lines. We were well familiar with the lines, since we had read over them many times; the performance of the actors made them come alive.

After the play we headed back to the hotel and went right to bed. The next day we had an early mass and then headed straight for home. All enjoyed the play very much and are very grateful to Father for taking us.



Bishop Pivarunas administered the Sacrament of Confirmation at Mary Immaculate Queen Church on June 1st.



## Farewell to St. Joseph's

*(excerpts from Kevin Cox's valedictory address)*

Your Excellency, Bishop Mark Pivarunas, Fr. Benedict, Sisters, friends and fellow parishioners, I come before you today as the first graduate of St. Joseph Seminary — as one who has come a long way in the Faith, academics and in my personal life. This school, which I am now about to leave, has given me new goals. The time that I have spent in northern Idaho has changed my life for the better in many ways.

The first graduate of the minor seminary — when the thought crosses my mind it makes me proud and honored to be allowed by God to be given such a great gift. By graduating from this school I hope that by my example and efforts more will come and, hopefully, some day, the Church could have once again the name that was so wrongfully taken from it through the changes of Vatican II. This might be a lot for one to hope for, for himself, but it is not by myself that this should happen, but by all that will come out of this school.

In order to be a good example to others I first had to learn what a good example was, right? Well, what better place to learn such a thing and many other lessons than the school which I am now leaving.

During the last three years of my life I have lived here at the seminary, and through this experience I have acquired a lot of good habits. These habits will be with me for life and I will never forget where it is that they came from. Some of them are the praying of the rosary and other prayers that I have said on a regular basis since I have been here, and study habits which, as Father could tell you, were very poor when I first came to this school. During my stay here, for instance, as a result of such fine schooling, my grades have increasingly improved and continue to do so. And I will never forget the fact that this school and the faculty involved, in every year, have helped me through my high school years, because without them, who knows, I may not be graduating at all this year. So thank you to those who helped me through my schooling. I know that it wasn't easy.

As of now I start another part of my life which is so foreign to me. I need the prayers of all of you more than ever. I will go out into the world, and whatever I end up facing, no matter the trial, I will need the grace of God to get me through it all. So as a closing remark, I ask that all of you pray for me, and in return I will remember all of you in my prayers.

## A splendid week

*by Matthew Dunphy, gr. 10*

During the last few weeks of school there were a lot of feast days on which we had

## Cook needed

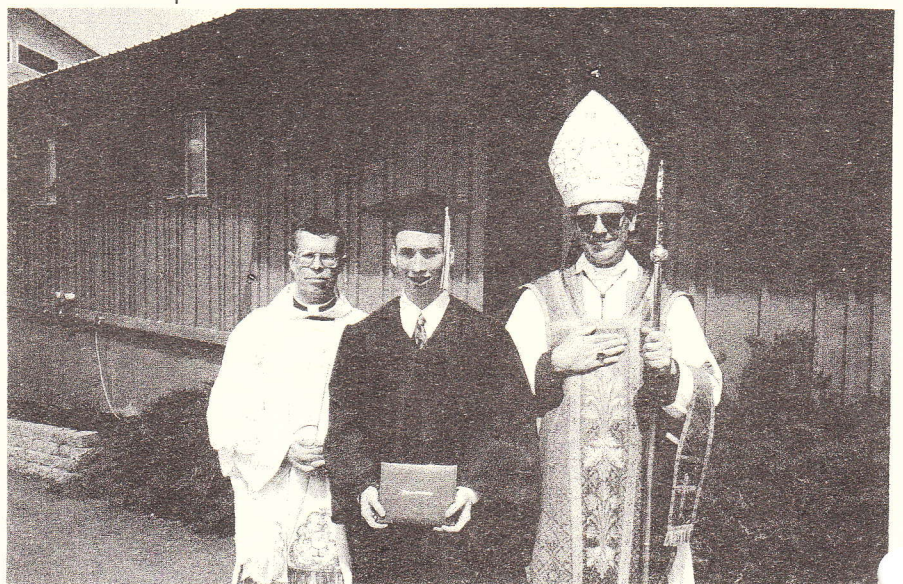
St. Joseph Seminary is in need of a cook for the coming school year. If interested, please contact the seminary at 208-687-0290.

important liturgical ceremonies. On the last Sunday of May we had our annual procession in honor of Mary's Queenship. At the outdoor shrine, everyone presented flowers to Our Lady as we recited prayers in her honor. The procession concluded on our return to the church with the May crowning and closing prayers.

A few days later was the Feast of Corpus Christi. On that feast we had a high mass in honor of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. After mass we had an outdoor procession, with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at an outdoor altar along the way. Then we continued to process back to the church with the Holy Eucharist. We had another Benediction in the church which ended the beautiful feast day of Our Lord.

Another ceremony was the administering of the Sacrament of Confirmation. There were ten students and one adult who had prepared to receive this sacrament. Before the Bishop gave the sacrament, he gave a sermon to all the confirmandi and their sponsors. The seminarians served this ceremony, as well.

The very next day was the graduation of the first graduate from St. Joseph Seminary, Kevin Cox. The ceremony of graduation was held before mass. After a short address by Fr. Benedict, His Excellency presented the diploma, and then Kevin recited a pledge to be always faithful to Christ and His Church. This was followed by the Bishop's high mass. During the reception held in the parish hall after mass, Kevin gave a speech on his three years at St. Joseph Seminary. May God bless our first graduate.

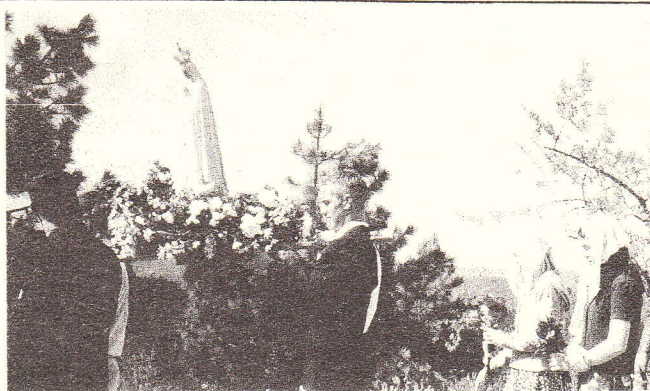


*Kevin Cox, our first graduate, poses with Bishop Pivarunas and Fr. Benedict after the graduation ceremony.*

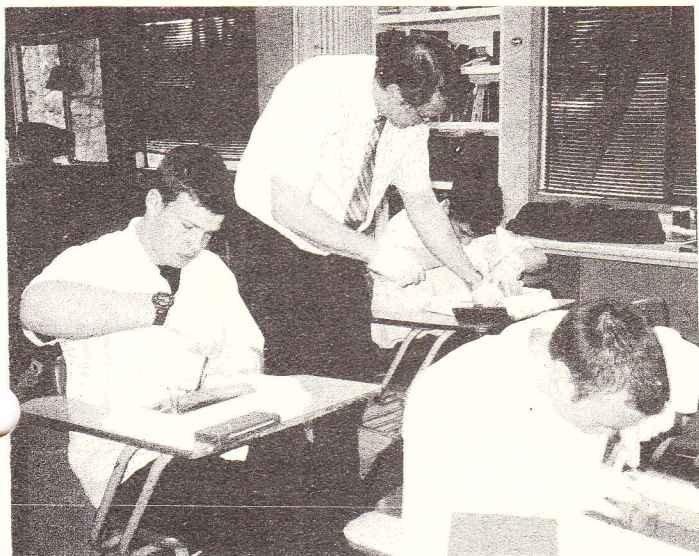




*Our annual Queenship procession was held on Sunday, May 26.*



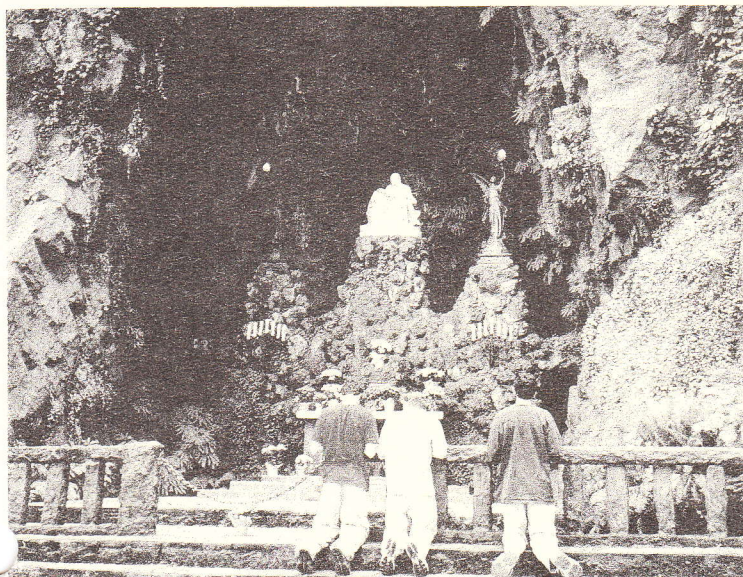
*The statue of Our Lady of Fatima is carried in procession by the young men of the parish.*



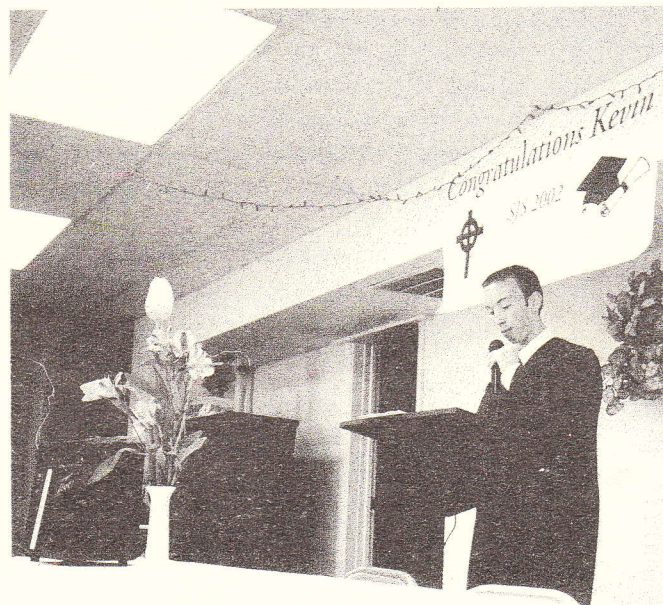
*The seminarians work on their final dissection project — the fetal pig.*



*The seminarians went to nearby Eastern Washington University to use the microscopes in one of the science labs.*



*En route to Ashland, Oregon, to see a Shakespeare play, we stopped to visit the shrine of Our Sorrowful Mother in Portland.*



*Kevin Cox delivers his valedictorian address.*



## Why must we stay busy?

by Michael LeStage, gr. 9

When school gets out we are left with time on our hands and often aren't occupied. When the summer months roll around there can be many occasions of sin. The best way to avoid falling into sin of any kind is to avoid idleness.

It has been said that idleness is the devil's workshop, meaning the devil can too easily work on those who are idle. When one is idle or has nothing to do, the devil has time to work on him, and often that person becomes a victim of the devil's traps. It is important for everyone to be occupied with something useful. Work hard at what you do and the devil will have less influence over you.

Those who never work hard in life will not get anywhere, and if we don't work hard in our spiritual life, we won't get to heaven.

## Value of a retreat

We read in the Gospel that, after the raising of Lazarus, Jesus "withdrew to the district near the desert, to a town called Ephrem; and there he stayed with his disciples" (John 11:54). It would seem that Jesus wanted to prepare Himself (and the apostles) for His approaching Passion by a retreat. According to the scriptures, Our Lord remained in that retreat for six days.

We have here a wonderful example of the value and importance of a retreat. Many of the saints refer to a retreat as one of the greatest graces we can receive. Accordingly, our priests and religious make an annual retreat of at least three days, where everything else is set aside to concentrate on one's spiritual life. For those of us who are teachers, the summer is the ideal time to make our annual retreat.

This year for the first time I have invited men to come to the seminary to join me in making a retreat. We are entering into our retreat as we send off this issue to be printed, so I will have to wait until next month to tell you about it. I hope that all of you will be able to make a retreat some time in your life. For a retreat reminds us of what is really important in our life — the salvation of our souls.

We are grateful for your support. May God bless you and your loved ones. Please continue to pray for our seminary and for vocations.

Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI

## Do we have your current address?

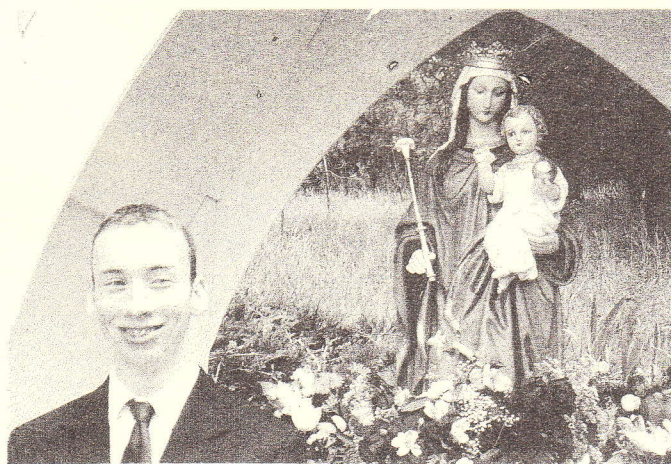
Please inform us if you have moved or plan to move to a new address so that we can get each issue of *The Guardian* to your mailbox without delay.

## 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.



Kevin Cox poses before the shrine of Our Lady.

*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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