



THE GUARDIAN

At last the end of the school year is at hand. In a few days we will leave for the summer. Somehow, the school year has gone by so quickly, that we wonder where all the time went. Our final few days are filled with activities, and then we will say our farewells. Although we all eagerly await the end of the school year, it will, in one sense, be bittersweet as we part company to return to our homes.

The past month of May has been packed with outings and other activities. But of all these events, undoubtedly the ordination ceremony in Omaha was the highlight. The trip there and back was lengthy, but Father had the help of Bro. Sebastian for driving the van. Each day we prayed all our prayers, as well as all 15 decades of the Rosary. For most of us, this was our first visit to the major seminary. The ceremony of ordination left a deep impression on us, and we consider it a great privilege to have attended. God-willing, some of us will one day be there receiving ordination.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your prayers and support during this past year. Please continue to pray that we always accomplish God's holy will in our lives, and pray also for more vocations to our seminary. May you all enjoy a restful summer.

Tu es Sacerdos

by Brandon Odom, gr. 10

As you know, we traveled to Omaha for the ordination of Rev. Fr. Christopher Gronenthal to the priesthood and Rev. Mr. Johannes Heyne to the diaconate. The Mass was

spectacular and I had the great privilege of assisting in it. Fr. Gronenthal later said, "I could feel the devil tempting me, making one last effort to pull me down," which is probably very true. The devil had good reason to be tempting him, because we now have added another holy priest to our proud ranks of religious.

As I said, the Mass was awesome. The ceremony was lengthy but very impressive because there were over a dozen priests present on the altar. We did have to be cautious to observe the various rubrics of the ceremony, but a highlight for me was the procession out of the church, with our newly ordained priest and deacon. After the ceremony there was a delicious potluck in honor of those ordained.

The next day we attended Fr. Gronenthal's first Mass on Pentecost Sunday. That was something to remember. The Mass was perfect; the choir was perfect; even the weather was

June calendar

- 2 — Awards Ceremony
- 3 — Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus; last day of school
- 4 — Senior Graduation
- 22-25 — Retreat
- 27 — Sisters' Vows Ceremony

perfect. It all went very smoothly and Fr. Gronenthal gave a very inspiring and uplifting sermon. We will always remember the recessional following Mass as Father and the servers processed out while the choir sang *Tu es Sacerdos* (you are a priest forever). And Fr. Gronenthal held his head high in triumph as he walked out of the church.

My stay in Omaha was very enjoyable, and the hospitality was first rate. I am already looking forward to ordinations next year and hope that we can attend.



Group photo taken before we left Omaha on our return trip to Idaho.

A couple of great years

by Peter Linder, gr. 12

As I write this, we students at St. Joseph Seminary are only two weeks away from the last day of school. We are all looking forward to the end of the school year with great anticipation — especially Cavan and I because we are both graduating from high school. Neither of us is quite sure how it will feel to be out of high school, but we are certain that we will be very happy. At the same time, though, I am also sure that I will very much miss the life that I have right now.

The reason that I am going to miss it, is because the two years that I have spent here were among the best of my life. During the last two school years I have been able to receive Holy Communion almost every day; I have had the good influence of a priest; I have been able to meet and become friends with many great Catholics; and I have had a lot of fun times.

It would be hard for me to explain all the fun stuff I did up here for the last two years one-by-one, but I can give some of the highlights. Among these were paintballing, skiing, riding the 4-wheeler, snowmobiling, the trips we went on, and getting to watch the Gonzaga Bulldogs play. The things that we did more commonly like play basketball, pool, chess, and cards, although we did them a lot, never got old and always were refreshing breaks from homework.

Overall, I had a great couple of years here, and I will always remember them. The main benefit is that I have been well prepared for adult life — I have learned everything I could have wanted to, and more, from a group of great teachers.

En route to Omaha

by Gerard Odom, gr. 9

Recently, we took a trip to Omaha to attend Fr. Christopher Gronenthal's ordination to the priesthood. We also attended Rev. Mr. Johannes Heyne's ordination to the diaconate. What's important is that we made it to the ordinations. What's more important is that people understand what we went through to get to those ordinations. Everyone needs to know that we nearly braved terrifying journeys, came close to going completely mad, and faced almost certain death . . . if Father had not rented a minivan with a DVD player! Without that DVD, we certainly would've gone mad, and none of us would've come back alive, or at least we would not have come back without needing the aid of life support!

On Thursday, May 12, we left St. Joseph Seminary with a smile on our face and bloodshot eyes. We were happy that school was out for the next week, but not happy that we had to get up at 5:00 a.m. for Mass at 5:30 a.m.! What lay ahead of us was a thirteen-hour road trip, which we spent watching pointless movies, drinking soda, eating junk food, having an occasional apple, and choking down some unappetizing soy

protein bars. We made numerous rest stops along the way, stopping in Montana and Wyoming.

We also stopped at the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument. In Wyoming, we stopped at the Golden Corral for dinner. We ate enough food to keep us covered until breakfast the next day. Afterwards, we drove to Sundance, Wyoming, where we stayed the night at a hotel. During that time, we had a blast. We went swimming and dared one of the seminarians to run down to the gas station in his swimming shorts, in thirty-degree weather, and wave to the clerk. He did it, giving the rest of us the best laugh we had had in a long time. During the first leg of the trip, we had also lost an hour of time. Because of that, we were deprived of an extra hour of precious sleep. So at 4:45 a.m. Idaho time, we were up and getting ready for Mass. After Mass and breakfast we left the hotel and finished the last leg of the trip.

During this final leg of the trip, we again watched pointless movies, ate more junk food and did everything we did on the first leg of the trip, except stop at historical sights where arrogant American generals got themselves killed by a bunch of Indians! We lost another hour of time, so at approximately 3:30 p.m., Idaho time, we arrived in Omaha. While we were there for two days, besides the ordination, we did the most boring things that the human mind could think of, like play intense basketball games, go bow-shooting, drink milkshakes, and, worst of all, sleep in! On the day we left, we finally got to do all the fun stuff that we missed, like get up at 3:30 a.m. Idaho time, take cold showers, and say "goodbye" to everyone. All in all, it was a great trip.

The return trip from Omaha

by Cavan O'Sullivan, gr. 12

Our trip back from Omaha was successful. We slept, stopped at a few places, watched the scenery, played cards in the van and watched a few DVDs. We also stopped at a shrine of the Sacred Heart near Denver founded by Mother Cabrini. While we were in the car we were squished, but we made it the whole way there and back.

We stopped for the night at a family's home in Colorado and slept in their RV. Father had Mass in the morning. After Mass and morning prayers we had breakfast and visited with the families. These families were very nice and prepared really good food. Finally, we ended our visit and headed out of Colorado.

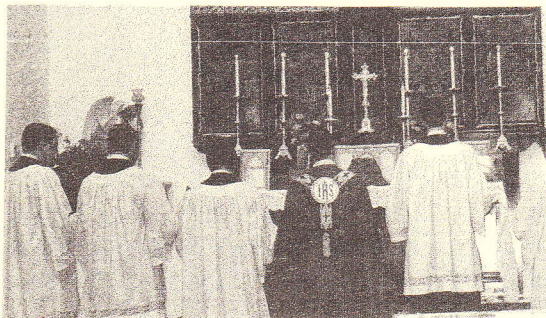
As we entered Utah and then Idaho, we saw beautiful mountain scenery. Throughout the day we slept and watched a few movies. When we arrived in Montana we stopped and ate pizza and then got back on the road. By the time we finally arrived back at the seminary it was close to 1:30 in the morning. We were exhausted and ready to go to bed. Everybody had a really good time on the trip, and we wouldn't mind doing it again.

Twelve Promises of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary

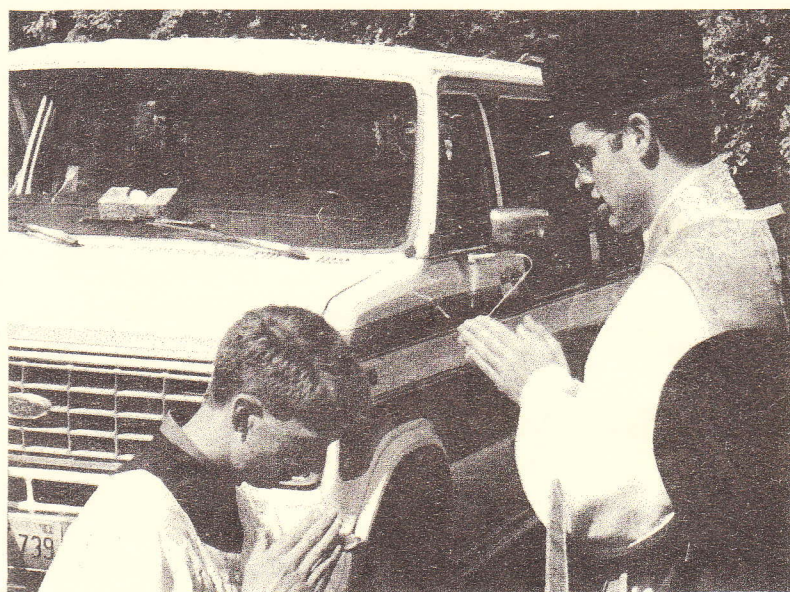
1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state in life.
2. I will give peace to their families.
3. I will console them in all their troubles.
4. They shall find in My Heart an assured refuge during life, and especially at the hour of death.
5. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
6. Sinners shall find in My Heart the source and an infinite ocean of mercy.
7. I will bless the homes in which the image of My Heart shall be exposed and honored.
8. Fervent souls shall speedily rise to great perfection.
9. I will give to priests the power to touch the most hardened hearts.
10. Those who propagate this devotion shall have their names written on My Heart, never to be effaced.
11. I will pour abundant blessings on all their undertakings.
12. I promise thee, in the excess of the mercy of My Heart, that its all-powerful love will grant to all who receive Holy Communion on the First Friday of every month, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance; and that they shall not die under My displeasure, nor without receiving the Sacraments; My Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.



On our return trip from Omaha, we stopped for a visit at the shrine of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, founded by Mother Cabrini.



The rogation procession always begins with chanting before the main altar.



After the ordination Mass, we each knelt to receive the first blessing and kiss the consecrated hands of the new priest.



Mr. Duff conducts the seminarians in another High Mass.

Do you believe?

This year our last day of school will be the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We will conclude our school year with Mass, benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and devotions to the Sacred Heart. Usually, the Feast of the Sacred Heart comes later in June, but with an early Easter this year, we will be able to celebrate this important feastday before the seminarians leave for vacation.

The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus reminds us of many things. It reminds us of the great love of Jesus for us. Where would we be without the mercy and goodness of Jesus? We recall the wonderful promises of the Sacred Heart to Saint Margaret Mary. Jesus gives so much, for so little that we do for Him.

In order to receive the fulfillment of Our Lord's promises, however, we must not only pray, but we must pray with confidence. This important quality is too often lacking in our prayers. Do we adequately trust the Sacred Heart? Our Lord once said to St. Margaret Mary: "Do you believe I can do this? If you believe, you will see the power of My Heart in the magnificence of My love."

Think about it. When we fail to trust Our Lord, do we not offend His goodness? It is as though we were saying, "I don't really believe Our Lord loves me enough to grant my petition." How much this attitude offends Him! And yet, how common it is among Catholics. So devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus means that we love Our Lord, we call to mind His love and mercy toward us, and we trust in the goodness of Jesus to give us all that we need.

During this month let us all renew the enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in our homes. Let us call to mind the wonderful love and mercy of Our Divine Lord. And let us, above all, pray for an increase of confidence in His Sacred Heart. Let us not be deserving of the reprimand addressed by our Lord to His apostles: "Oh, you of little faith!"

We again thank all of you for your prayers and support for this work. We entrust you and your needs and intentions to the loving Heart of Jesus. May He grant each of us all the graces we need to fulfill His holy will.

Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI Day at St. Joseph Seminary.

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.



On a very cold day en route to Omaha, we stopped at the battlefield where General Custer and his troops were all killed by the Sioux.



In early May a group of 7th and 8th grade boys attended our Vocations

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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