



THE GUARDIAN

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Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

August 2009

Although our summer has been restful, there also have been various summer projects in full swing. Nino and Juan have been working on garden and yard work, while Bryan has been spending quite a bit of time keeping down the weeds and tall grass. We have all managed to go canoeing and swimming, as well as preparing for the annual Boys' Camp, which begins in a few days. Soon the seminary will once again be filled with activity as we prepare for another school year. We ask that you continue to pray for our seminary, especially for vocations. May God bless and reward you.

A time for labor

Suddenly, I am wondering where the summer has gone! Already, only one month remains before our seminary will be bustling again with the advent of a new academic year. That list of projects I had hoped to accomplish still has many items left unfulfilled. Well, at least the summer has provided a spiritual boost with our annual retreat, as well as time to relax. If nothing else is accomplished, then the summer has fulfilled its purpose.

When I think of all that must be accomplished in this role of seminary rector — not to mention parish work, missionary travels, correspondence, writing, and so forth — I am reminded of what an older priest once told me. He said that he had always wondered why, in our prayers for the faithful departed, we ask that they attain eternal rest. Why not eternal happiness, or eternal peace? Then he concluded that the life of a good Christian must be one of work and prayer. We must work out our salvation

in this life, rather than seek rest and comfort.

The next time you pray, "Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord . . ." remember that you must live in such a manner as to deserve that God will give you rest in heaven! Such thoughts help me to avoid becoming discouraged when I recall so much that should be done, and so little time in which to do it. We must put the most important things first and leave the rest to God.

This reminds me of the words of Pope Leo XIII to Mother Cabrini. Each time he spoke to her about her work, he would conclude with the words, "We must work, Mother Cabrini, we must work!" May we all remember that this life is a time for labor, so that when we meet Our Lord at the judgment, our hands will not be empty.

We again thank you for your support of our seminary. Our support club is an essential element to our work here at the

| August calendar | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 | — Final day of the Boys' Camp |
| 4-6 | — Seminarians' camping trip to Glacier Park |
| 13 | — Requiem High Mass |
| 15 | — Feast of the Assumption; holyday of obligation |
| 19 | — Juan's 18 th birthday |
| 22 | — Vows ceremony for Sr. Mary Fatima |
| 23-24 | — Seminarians return |
| 25 | — First day of classes |

seminary, and we pray daily that God will richly reward you.

— Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI



The seminarians joined in on the public Rosary in Spokane on July 13th.



Our annual parish picnic brings the parishioners together for an enjoyable afternoon.



One of the seminarians prepares a flower bed at the seminary.



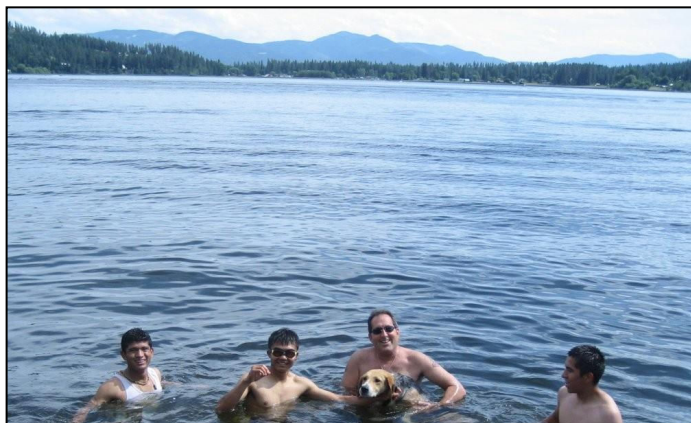
Juan and Nino show off their handiwork after butchering our chickens.



The slaughtered pigs have been sent to the butcher to be cut and packaged for our freezer.



Canoeing down the Coeur d'Alene River is one of our favorite activities.



It's nice to have a lake just a short drive away to cool off on a summer afternoon.

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