



THE GUARDIAN

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Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

July 2017

Dear friends of Saint Joseph Seminary,

Praised be Jesus and Mary. It has been a quiet and enjoyable month at the seminary. On June 7 the seminarians departed for home for their summer vacation. Here we settled into our summer routine of quiet work, prayer and, of course, a more relaxed schedule with extra personal time. There are currently four of us at the seminary: the 2 priests, Mr. Tien Le (a major seminarian in minor orders), and Christopher Peck (a religious postulant Brother).

Although there are a number of summer projects going on here, the primary focus is a restful summer, to rebuild our spiritual and physical reserves. Typically, I find myself—after the long school year has finally concluded and the students have left for home—quite exhausted and in need of extra sleep. The school year certainly takes a physical toll on teachers, which only extra rest and quiet time can rebuild.

The primary goal, however, is the spiritual refreshment which comes from extra time at prayer and especially from a retreat. All religious are required by Canon Law to make an annual

retreat of at least 3 full days. This is certainly not a chore for a good religious but rather is eagerly anticipated. In the past month I was able to participate in two such retreats. The first was in Omaha, conducted by His Excellency, Bishop Pivarunas, and was for priests and older seminarians. That retreat was held on June 13-15, concluding with a Solemn High Mass for the feast of Corpus Christi, followed by a beautiful procession of the Blessed Sacrament.

The second was for the religious Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen, and I was assigned this year to preach for their annual retreat. This year the Sisters' retreat was held in a former Dominican convent named Mary Mount, in Tacoma,

Washington. What a magnificent facility! Built in 1922, this beautiful building was used as a convent and school until the devastating changes that caused the loss of so many vocations. The chapel still has the beautiful altars and murals of pre-Vatican II days, but sadly, the building is now empty. There are numerous statues and pictures, just as in the days when Dominican Sisters lived their lives of consecration before the disastrous effects of Vatican II, which depopulated the convents, monasteries and seminaries. If one needs a proof that this council of the 1960s was heretical, one only needs to observe the tragic results.

Nevertheless, for a period of 5 days, we enjoyed a quiet retreat. Once again the chapel and grounds

witnessed some 40 Sisters praying, reading and meditating, as in the days gone by. May we all (Priests and religious Brothers and Sisters) be faithful to our vocations, in order to earn graces for souls in this age of apostasy!

Now that I have fulfilled the most important duty of the summer—the retreat—it is possible to have a

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The Corpus Christi procession approaches one of the outdoor altars.



His Excellency came to distribute the diplomas at our commencement ceremonies on June 3.



Our graduation ceremony begins with the invocation to the Holy Ghost.



Mark Vincent, our only senior this past year, graduated with honors.



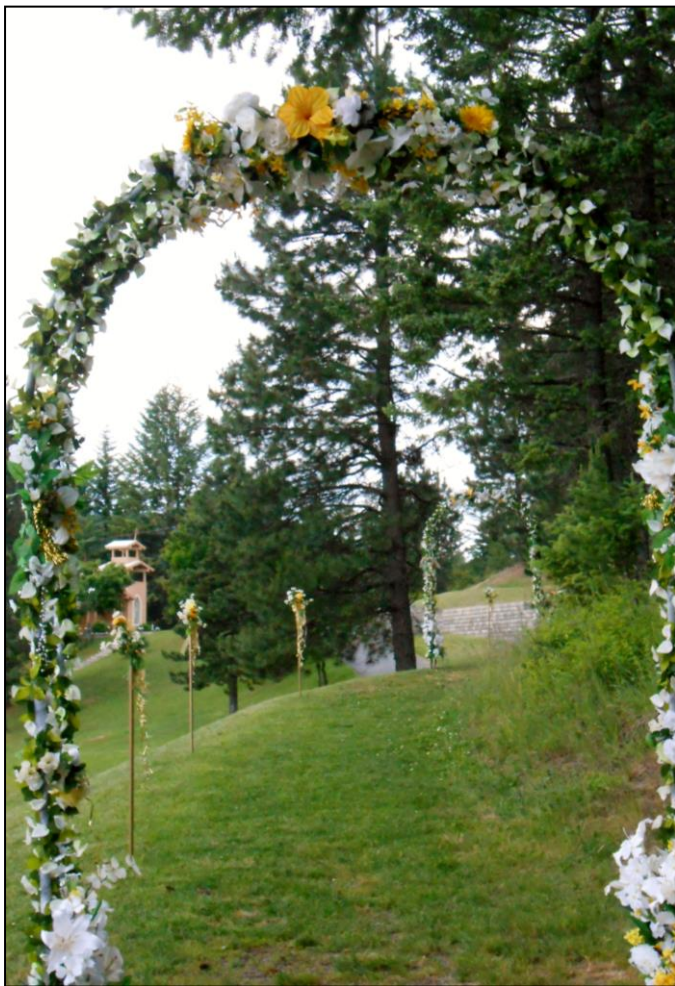
Father Anthony gives Benediction at Our Lady's outdoor altar.



A scenic view in northern Idaho.



Children dressed in white and servers precede the canopy with the Blessed Sacrament.



Our processional route for the annual Corpus Christi procession, as seen early in the morning.



Father Anthony carried the Blessed Sacrament in procession this year.



Father prepares to incense the Blessed Sacrament at an outdoor altar.



Mark gives his valedictorian speech at the graduation ceremony.



A view of the outdoor shrine of Our Lady, prepared for the Blessed Sacrament.

vacation. Next week I will leave on a vacation to visit various European shrines for about 10 days. I will tell you all about it in the next issue of *The Guardian*.

Here at the seminary there are a number of projects in full force. The kitchen hallway and downstairs bathrooms are being refinished at the seminary, while at the church we are in the process of extending the basement, which entails a lot of hand-digging with shovels for now. Meanwhile, Father Anthony is busy preparing the Boys Camp and finishing various projects that need to be completed before he departs for his new assignment.

In August Father Anthony Marie will be moving to Omaha, to assist at the seminary and help cover the extensive Mass circuit that is served by the priests in residence there. Father Anthony, you will recall, was once a seminarian here. After completing his studies in the major seminary, he was assigned as my assistant while yet a deacon. After his ordination several years ago, he continued to assist at the seminary. He will be replaced by another deacon, Frater Augustine Marie, CMRI, who will make his final profession of vows in our religious congregation later this month, before coming to join us.

Please remember in your prayers our religious clerics and Brothers who are preparing for vows. Two will make their final profession on July 26, Brother M. Aloysius (who was a seminarian here for 4 years) will make profession of First Vows, and Christopher Peck, who has been assisting with various tasks here over the past year, will enter the novitiate. It is always encouraging to see young men (and women) dedicate their lives to God as religious. Please pray for them and for more vocations.

May you have a most enjoyable summer, and may God bless and reward you for your support of our seminary!

In the service of Jesus and Mary,
Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI
Rector

PRAYERS 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 Saviour, 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 price, 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

✦ *An indulgence of 500 days.*

Raccolta #217

The faithful, who during the month of July devoutly take part in the public exercise which is held in honor of the most Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, may gain:

- ✦ *An indulgence of 10 years on any day of the month;*
- ✦ *A plenary indulgence upon the addition of sacramental confession, Holy Communion, and prayer for the intentions of Holy Mother the Church, if they are present at ten of the exercises at least.*