



THE GUARDIAN

From the Rector:

Following the conclusion of the school year, we priests have been busy with our annual retreat and a chapter meeting at Mount Saint Michael. In a couple weeks we will also have a priests' meeting in Omaha. We have also had our annual Corpus Christi procession, which is a beautiful tribute of veneration to our Eucharistic Lord.

Here at the minor seminary during the summer we have five

who are stationed alone at a parish. We find this quiet time of the summer a great boost for our religious life.

But we are still busy here, despite the more relaxed schedule. In a few weeks there will be the annual Camp Saint Joseph for boys, and that entails many preparations. We are also beginning to prepare (already!) for the next school year.

In this issue of *The Guardian*, in addition to the many pictures we

July Calendar

9-11 – Priests' meetings in Omaha
28 – Annual Boys' Camp begins

send laborers into His harvest." Prayer for vocations is something that every Catholic should practice every day.

In addition to prayers for vocations, which all Catholics should offer, there are a couple of prayers for parents of seminarians. Long after I was ordained, my parents showed these prayers to me—on prayer cards worn by use. I was not aware that they had been praying for me daily when I was in the seminary. We print these especially for parents of seminarians, but everyone can benefit by reading through these prayers.

So please continue to pray for our seminary and for more vocations. We are most grateful for your prayers and support. May God bless your families, and may He deign to call more boys and girls to leave all and follow Him.

In the service of Jesus, Mary and Saint Joseph,

Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI



The seminarians and staff pose (with Victor) for our traditional group picture at the end of the school year

persons in residence: the two priests, Frater Aloysius, Brother Louis and Mr. Gerard Keaveney. It is wonderful that we can maintain our common life, with common prayer and table readings — something those priests cannot do

have, I would like to share with you a few prayers. We all know that the first and most important means of obtaining vocations is prayer. In fact, Our Lord has indicated no other means: "Pray the Lord of the harvest that He



The priests and seminarians prepare for the Rogation procession in late May.



The weather was perfect for our Rogation procession.



The students and teachers of Mary Immaculate Queen School for 2018-2019.



His Excellency celebrated a Pontifical High Mass for our church dedication ceremony.



After his confirmation, Thiet was joined by Mark Vincent, his sponsor, for a photo with the Bishop.



Our annual Corpus Christi procession took place on a chilly morning in June.



The path was beautifully decorated with arches for the Blessed Sacrament.



Benediction is given at the outdoor shrine of Our Lady during the Corpus Christi procession.



Benediction at the outdoor shrine of the Sacred Heart during the Corpus Christi procession.



The seminarians joined the students of our parish school for their annual outing to Farragut State Park.



The children compete in the "egg toss" contest during the school outing.



His Excellency and the priests pose with the laity after the ceremony of dedication of our church on May 31.

A Father's Prayer for His Seminarian Son

My Lord Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer, I adore Thee and I thank Thee for having saved me and all mankind by Thy death on the cross. I thank Thee for the life-saving Sacraments which Thou dost administer to me through the hands of the priests, Thy representatives.

Jesus, Eternal Priest, I respect and esteem Thy representatives, the priests of the Catholic Church. I see them as I see Thee. They are ministers of grace and salvation, dispensers of the Mysteries of God.

I see my son as one who is possibly called by Thee as were the first apostles, as one to carry on Thy ministry among men. I am deeply humble, realizing that such a dignity is above all that any man can earn or deserve. I am fearful that I may not have given to my son all those things which should make him a worthy candidate for the sublime dignity of the priesthood.

With deep humility I pray that such qualities as will make him a worthy candidate will be nourished in him. I promise to do my best in serving Thee to give an example that will inspire him to continue toward his goal if that is Thy Will.

My Jesus, protect my son against all the dangers that may destroy a vocation during the years of preparation. Grant him the gift of good health; let him progress satisfactorily in his studies. Inspire him with a priestly spirit, a will filled with the desire to make Thee known and loved by all men. Fill him with a thirst for souls.

St. Joseph, my holy patron, pray for my son that he may cultivate the virtues of obedience, unselfishness, and self-denial. Let him know true purity, the virtue so necessary in every priest. Guard him against bad companions, and the bad example of others. Let me be an inspiration to him in this holy virtue in my speech and manner.

My Jesus, I pray for myself that I may be worthy to be the father of a priest. Keep from our home and family anything that might be a hindrance to a vocation for my son.

Bless likewise, O Lord, all those who are helping my son to attain the goal of the priesthood. Reward their efforts with Thy grace. Bless the Bishop and superiors with Thy Divine Counsel that their efforts may find a fruitful response.

Finally, O Lord, help my son to accept and do the work Thou hast assigned to him in life. Amen

Parent's Prayer for a Seminarian

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest Who has entrusted to priests the important work of saving souls, and Who has deigned to inspire my child, my own flesh and blood, to strive after the high office of priesthood, I pray Thee most fervently to bless and assist him, and to make him more worthy day by day.

Give him success and perseverance in his studies and constant growth in virtue and holiness. Help him, O Jesus, to overcome all temptations arising from the world, the flesh, and the devil which seek to frustrate his holy vocation. Fill his heart with burning love for God and for souls redeemed by Thy Most Precious Blood.

Grant me, O Lord, the unmerited grace one day to behold my own child in priestly garb ascending the holy altar of God, and to receive from his consecrated hands the priestly blessing and the Bread of Eternal Life.

As long as I live, O Jesus, I shall every day offer Thee, through the hands of Mary, the Mother of priests, all my prayers, works and sacrifices, to call down God's blessing upon the work of priests, and especially upon my son. Amen

A Prayer For Choosing a State Of Life

O my God, Thou who art the God of wisdom and good counsel, Thou who readest in my heart a sincere desire to please Thee alone and to direct myself in regard to my choice of a state of life, in conformity with Thy holy will in all things; by the intercession of the most holy Virgin, my Mother, and of my Patron Saints, grant me the grace to know that state of life which I ought to choose, and to embrace it when known, in order that thus I may seek Thy glory and increase it, work out my own salvation and deserve the heavenly reward which Thou hast promised to those who do Thy holy will. Amen.

O Mary, Queen of the clergy, pray for us; obtain for us many and holy priests.

Send forth, O Lord, laborers into Thy harvest.

O Lord, grant unto Thy Church saintly priests and fervent religious.