



# THE GUARDIAN

## From the Rector:

As I write this note we are in the midst of the annual Camp Saint Joseph, so the grounds of our seminary are dotted with tents and humming with activity. The weather this week is perfect for a summer camp and is especially ideal for their coming trip to Lake Pend Oreille for water sports. There are many other activities of the annual Boys' Camp, but we will wait until next month's

another year, our 21<sup>st</sup> at Saint Joseph Seminary. There are many tasks to complete before then, so we will be very busy here getting ready for the new school year. Fortunately, we have the help of Frater Aloysius and Brother Louis Marie, so with their help we should be able to get everything ready.

This year we are expecting a half dozen new boys to join the returning seminarians from last year. We also have a change in staff, as Father Philip Marie

## August Calendar

- 2 – Final day of the summer Boy's Camp
- 9 – Feast of Saint John Vianney, patron of priests
- 15 – Holyday of Obligation
- 24-25 – Seminarians arrive; orientation
- 26 – First day of classes for the new school year
- 29-31 – Annual outing to Lake Coeur d'Alene



*A group photo after the cross has been erected.*

newsletter to tell you more about them.

After the camp concludes on Friday, August 2, there will remain only a few short weeks before the seminarians arrive and we start

(Davis) has joined us, replacing Father Augustine Marie, who will be moving to Mount Saint Michael after the summer camp. The staff may change, but the seminary continues its identity as the only

traditional Catholic seminary educating teenage boys of high-school age who believe they have a vocation. Early training is so essential to a future priest. Our awareness of its importance makes all the sacrifices and labors here worthwhile, as we continue the daily task of teaching and molding these young souls who have come to our seminary.

You also have an important role in this work. Your prayers and support of this work are most beneficial, and we appreciate your cooperation in our efforts. May God deign to bless our seminary and lead many fine young men to join our ranks! And may He bless you and your families.

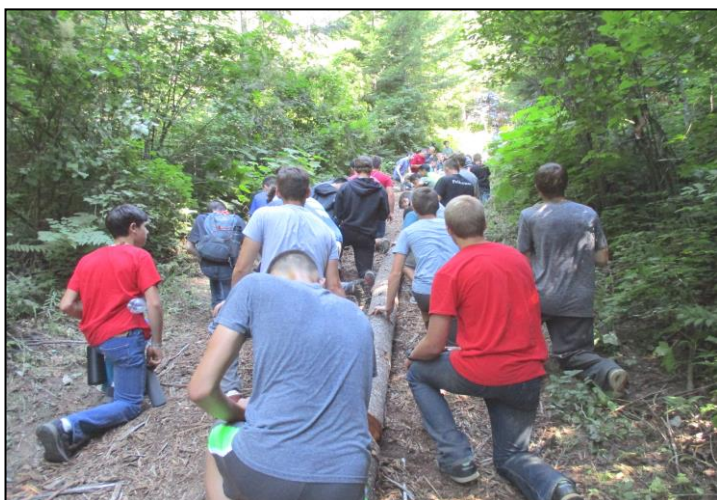
In the service of Jesus, Mary and Saint Joseph  
*Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI*



*Here the boys begin the task of carrying the two beams for the outdoor cross.*



*We pray the Stations as the beams are carried up the hill.*



*We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praised Thee!*



*These logs are heavier than you think!*



*The cooks have been busy preparing meals in the newly remodeled parish hall kitchen.*



*There are lots of hungry boys to be fed at the Boys' Camp.*



*Kickball is always a popular sport.*



*The older boys preferred to play basketball.*



*Daily Mass is an essential part of a successful Boy's Camp.*



*Morning prayers and Mass are held in the church at the Boys' Camp.*



*Frater Aloysius harvests the cherries from one of our trees.*



*This photo was taken at the site of the camp, as preparations were ongoing.*

## The Holy Patron of Priests

The month of August brings us the feastdays of many wonderful saints, but for those of us who are involved in preparing young men for the ranks of the priesthood, the most significant is that of Saint John Marie Vianney on August 9. In 1929 this great saint was proclaimed by Pope Pius XI as the patron saint of all parish priests.

Baptized Jean-Baptiste-Marie, after Saint John the Baptist, young Jean-Marie was born just three years before the infamous French revolution broke out. As a result, churches were closed but he eventually was able to make his First Holy Communion at a Mass offered in a barn. But the faith lived on in France, despite the difficult years following the revolution.

As a young man Jean-Marie was conscripted into the army. Under unique circumstances he deserted the army and went into hiding. Later, he was able to pursue his studies for the priesthood. The academic struggles of the young Vianney are well-known, but the fact is that after a pilgrimage to the shrine of Saint John Francis Regis, he was able to acquire all the necessary learning to become a priest. His bishop ordained him, despite the objections of some, after observing: "He prays well." The subsequent life of the saint showed the bishop's wisdom. If anything, his words were a great understatement.

The first assignment of the 29-year old Father Vianney was as assistant to the holy Fr. Balley, pastor of the small town of Ecully. Each vied with the other in practicing works of austerity. After a short stint of two years under the tutelage of this holy pastor, Father Jean Marie Vianney received the assignment of pastor at Ars, a village where the inhabitants were largely remiss in the practice of their faith. The young priest entered the village which would be his home for the next 42 years of his life.

The success of the new pastor in this forlorn village in southern France was phenomenal, although the resuscitation of Catholic faith and practice occurred only gradually. The conversion of his parish was earned more by the prayers and penances of the saint, than by his fiery sermons. He waged a relentless battle against dancing and drunkenness, and eventually achieved a complete reform of his parish. Soon crowds came from near and far to confess to the holy priest, a work that kept him occupied for as many as 16 hours a day in the confessional.

Saint John Marie Vianney is an extraordinary saint. His piety and devotion, especially to Our Lady and Saint Philomena, were exceptional. But above all, his persistence in teaching and admonishing his flock eventually brought about a complete reform, to the point that visitors marveled at the fidelity and piety of the simple country folk at Ars. Saint John Marie Vianney, whose mortal remains now lie incorrupt in his parish church, will always remain an inspiration and model for all Catholic priests. May God grant that our priests become like this holy pastor!

### Prayer for Priests

O my God, who hast appointed Thine only begotten Son to be the eternal High Priest for the glory of Thy Majesty and the salvation of mankind; grant that they whom He hath chosen to be His ministers and the stewards of His mysteries, may be found faithful in the fulfilment of the ministry which they have received. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen. (indulgence of 3 years).



*Recreation at the park on the first day of the camp.*