



THE GUARDIAN

Vol. XXII No. 11 Issue #263

Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

July 2021

From the Rector:

After the graduation ceremony on June 5, our seminarians finished packing their suitcases and left for the summer. So you can imagine how quiet the seminary has been since their departure. Our dog Victor is wondering where everyone went, but the absence of the boys means I am taking more walks with him.

Our Queenship procession on May 31, and our Corpus Christi procession on June 6, were beautiful. Since the Sunday after Corpus Christi fell this year on the day after graduation (which is always the first Saturday in June), I was able to count on the assistance of all the seminarians to help with the serving. It certainly was a beautiful way to end the school year.

Since then, there has been time for rest and to get caught up on various tasks. There was also a priests' meeting in Omaha and a religious retreat in the past few weeks. Also, on June 27, the CMRI Sisters had their beautiful annual vows ceremony. Now our

attention turns to the coming Boys Camp, which opens on July 25. Fortunately, I can count on Father Philip, with the assistance of several of the younger priests, to take care of it. We expect to have a good turnout this year, especially since everyone is weary of the

price" (I Corinthians, 6:20). Let us be ever grateful for this great love and appreciate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, where Our Lord renews in an unbloody manner the sacrifice of His life to His Father. And let us pray daily for more priests to appease God's wrath by

offering daily this perfect sacrifice. Once again, thank you for your support of our seminary!

Daily Chores

by Joseph Strain,
gr. 11

Many of you probably already know that we seminarians have assigned chores every quarter of the school year. Each quarter we are assigned to do a specific job in

addition to our other chores. The chores assigned to you will help you pay attention to whatever you are doing and will help you to be responsible as well. If you forget to do that job, you will sometimes be put on dishes for that night so you do not forget in the future. Let me write about some of the main ones that I think help us to practice this

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Near the end of the school year we posed for a group picture of all seminarians and staff of Saint Joseph Seminary.

COVID lockdowns which reduced attendance last year.

During the month of July we recite daily devotions in honor of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus after Mass. Let us especially remember that Our Lord shed His Blood for our salvation. How precious, then, are the souls which He purchased at such a price: "For you have been bought at a great

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Daily Chores

virtue.

First, one of the most important jobs for any seminarian is the job of Sacristan. After night prayers the head Sacristan and his assistant Sacristans set up the vestments for the morning Mass and set up the altar before morning prayers the next morning. They keep the Sanctuary organized and make sure that the holy water fonts do not run out of holy water. They might also help



Our two seminary graduates were joined by two graduates from our parish high school for the graduation ceremony.

out at the main church to set up for a special feast. As you can see, this is one of the most important jobs that we have in addition to our other chores for the day.

The second, in my mind, of the important jobs is that of Porter. As you may have guessed, he locks up at night, closes windows and locks them, and then unlocks all of the doors the next morning so that we can have easy access to the seminary when we are outside and for visitors to enter. Without this job, we might forget to check all of the doors and windows at night.

Those are some of the main jobs that have helped me to be more responsible at night and early in the

morning. I am sure that it has also helped the other seminarians here as well. As we finish the school year we look forward to enjoying time with our family and friends. God bless you and have a good summer.

Three Seminarians Amiss

by Andrew Wertish, gr. 10

On the weekend of May 14-16, three seminarians went to Bonners Ferry. These three seminarians, Gabriel, Joe and myself, went to the house of Mr. and Mrs. Drewsen to split wood with a wood splitter. The ride was a scenic but long one. Their place is roughly a two-hour drive from the seminary. The Drewsens have a beautiful log cabin with a babbling creek running next to it. The house's sole supply of heat is a wood stove. It is cool in summer and warm in winter.

There were a lot of logs to cut and it kept us busy. We split the logs and stacked them in a shed. It was tedious work, but fun. We finished most all of the wood pile in a day, staying there for two nights.

At the seminary, while we were gone, the seminarians worked in the vineyard most of the day and the seniors prepared for their breakfast. The breakfast consisted of biscuits and gravy and eggs. The food tasted delicious and there was enough for everyone. It took place after the first and second Masses in order to

raise money for the senior trip.

Back at the Drewsens, we worked hard and enjoyed the delicious meals. We three seminarians went on rosary walks, awed by the scenery. We skipped rocks at the stream and Gabriel got stuck on the wrong side of the stream. He tried crossing by swinging on a rope but got wet. He also had to get wet crossing back to our side, leaving poor Gabe with wet feet. We all had a great time and had fun working. Thank you for reading my article. I hope you enjoyed it!



The seminarians had the privilege of carrying the statue of Our Lady for our annual Queenship procession.



We celebrated Thiet's 17th birthday at the beginning of June.



Joseph takes his turn at milking our cow.



Among the other liturgical ceremonies, the seminarians have frequent opportunities to serve for Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.



Our May shrine in the church was adorned with many bouquets of flowers throughout the month of May.



Mr. LeStage supervised the seminarians in digging holes for the posts for our new fence.

There and Back Again

by William Davis, gr. 11

At the end of the school year, it is customary for us Seminarians to go on a camping trip that can last several days. This year, we (that being Father Philip and other level headed people), decided to camp at Priest Lake, which is to the north of us. We set up our tents in a little dell next to a stream that fed into a thoroughfare, which in turn led to the Upper Priest Lake. The weather while we were there was nearly perfect, being cool and calm mostly, even though the weather forecast had predicted rain all week. We unpacked the first night and settled ourselves into the ruggedness of the ground.

On our first full day we took a hike to the 4,800 ft. Plowboy Mountain, which was quite a struggle. While we were crossing from our camp to the mountain, we passed through a large area that was filled with a plethora of fallen trees, many of them being very large. We, I believe very aptly, named this area the tree park, and this was because we could cross from one side to the other while barely having to touch the ground, scuttling from tree to tree. This part of the hike was rather enjoyable, with only a few of us getting scraped and bruised from falling off trees to the ground several feet below.

After the tree park we had to climb the mountain. That was no easy feat, considering that the slope of the mountainside was steep and strewn with fallen logs. We toiled and strove to make it over hills and through ravines, ever winding our way closer to the summit. A few of us, one being myself, nearly didn't make it to the top, and in the end, our traveling group had to settle on reaching a smaller peak at 3,600 ft. This was a very memorable camping trip, and I am only sad that I could not do it more justice in this brief article.



His Excellency poses with the newly confirmed after Mass on June 5th.

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.

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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