



THE GUARDIAN

As the summer months come to an end, the minor seminarians are always excited and eager to see what the new season has in store. Throughout this past month, we attended the long-awaited Fatima Conference, which did not disappoint. The talks were incredible as well as inspiring, and most of the older seminarians agreed that they were the

from the Conference, the month of October also brought the Sodality reception ceremony, in which four new members were admitted.

Another point of great significance in October is the reciting of the daily Rosary before the exposed Blessed Sacrament. Having been prescribed by Pope Leo XIII, and in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary, exposition of the

November Calendar

- 1 – All Saints Day; no classes; seminary outing
- 2 – All Souls Day; special observances for the Poor Souls
- 21 – Presentation of Our Lady; chanted Vespers
- 27 – Miraculous Medal BVM; chanted Vespers; mid-quarter
- 28-29 – Thanksgiving Vacation

prayers. But let us strive by our prayers and sacrifices to relieve them of their sufferings, so that they may also intercede for us before the throne of God. We thank you for all your support, and we hope that you enjoy reading our articles. May God bless you.

The Unity of our Faith

by Anthony Strain, gr. 12

During His public life, Jesus spoke of “one fold and one shepherd.” The Novus Ordo shows no sign of this one fold. “Pope” Francis has said that all religions are paths to God and that they are like different languages that express the divine. However, the Catholic Church has explicitly condemned the idea that all religions are equal and all lead to God.

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The seminarians carried the statue of Our Lady of Fatima for the procession on the feast of the Most Holy Rosary.

best of the past couple of years. Fortunately, some of us were also able to serve at the bishop’s pontifical high mass, which is always an edifying experience.

One of the highlights that made the Conference particularly enjoyable was recreating between the longer breaks with some of the visiting priests. We were even privileged to play hockey and indoor soccer with Father Heyne, who was visiting from Germany. Apart

Blessed Sacrament was done every day at Rosary throughout the past month.

As the leaves begin to fall and the air starts to get piercing cold, new events and activities are sure to present themselves in this upcoming month. In the next couple weeks we will be making frequent visits to the cemetery as well as preparing for the fundraising breakfast. In this month of the Holy Souls, let us not forget the faithful departed that are in need of our

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The Unity of our Faith

Because of this, there is no unity of teaching or of faith in the Novus Ordo. It is almost as if Francis is saying that all past Popes and Ecumenical Councils were wrong when they condemned Protestantism and heresy. As Pope Leo XIII wrote in the longer version of the Saint Michael prayer, “In the Holy Place itself, where has been set up the See of the most holy Peter and the Chair of Truth for the light of the world, they have raised the throne of their abominable impiety, with the iniquitous design that when the Pastor has been struck, the sheep may be scattered.”

If you were to go to a Novus Ordo service, then later go to a different one in some other place, you would notice significant differences in the former compared to the latter. Back during the reign of Pope Pius XII, you would not have noticed much of a difference—maybe a slightly different Latin pronunciation, but that would be about it. In our sedevacantist churches today, you cannot notice a difference in the way that the priest celebrates Mass. This is because we follow the teaching of the true Church of Christ. If someone who had gone to a Catholic Mass in the early 1950’s went to a Mass in our church, he would not notice much difference.

In 1951, Father Leo Trese wrote, “There may come in our time, as there came in the fifth century, a barbarian invasion to inundate the Christian world. If that happens, the light of Faith may flicker again, as it flickered fifteen hundred years ago, a feeble flame marking the hot embers that lie beneath the new fuel that God is heaping upon His Church.” We are living in this barbarian invasion, under the guise of a religion that calls itself Christian. We should strive to maintain our unity of faith and doctrine as it has come down to us from Christ Himself.

It's Just Beautiful

by Leo Mansfield, gr. 9

It has only been three months into my first school year and already so much has happened. Doing schoolwork, joining the sodality, and preparing for the All Saints Day party are some of the more exciting things that I have



The seminarians take notes as they listen to the Fatima Conference lectures.

experienced so far. The most interesting thing that happened, however, was the Fatima Conference. The Fatima Conference is where many priests from all over America come to Mount St. Michael’s and get together for a Conference. There were even priests from both Russia and Germany. The latter gave a talk on cathedrals.

Overall, The Mount was amazing. It has a nice grotto, a good gym, and an upstairs chapel with captivating stained-glass windows. It was in this chapel that I attended my first solemn high Mass, which was very beautiful. Personally, the best parts of it were talking to new people at the Conference and banquet and listening to all of the priests’ lectures. They were all very good (although, I did fall asleep in one of them).

My favorite talk of all, however, was called “Spiritual Warfare.” This lecture was about pride. It showed how pride is the worst sin of all, for it makes you turn away from God. It also shows how the devil tries to use this against you. A prayer to Mary is the best way to get away from it. It was very good and easy to understand, but it was also intense at the same time.

The banquet was very fancy, and every table was nicely set. We were served food and drink, which were both delicious. My favorite thing that they served was a pomegranate cider, of which I had five cups! As we were chugging this delicious cider, the servers kept on refilling the pitchers. Overall, we had great service and a wonderful meal.

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Some of the seminarians have helped in building the new convent.



Anthony lends a hand in the process of preparing the grapes for altar wine.



The Brothers and seminarians sang a few songs for our Conference guests.



Several of our apple trees are in a ravine, which makes harvesting them a challenge.

Seminary Support Club

If you are not yet a member of the Seminary Support Club and would like to become a member, you may write to the seminary at the address below. Members pledge to pray for the success of the seminary and, if able, to send a regular financial contribution for its support.



Four seminarians were received into the Sodality in October.



During October our daily Rosary included Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

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It's Just Beautiful

There were lots of people at the Conference, especially at the Rosary procession. In the Rosary procession the guests were all holding candles; meanwhile, the seminarians were carrying the statue of Our Lady. The statue was very beautiful, but it was also heavy. I think my back still hurts from carrying it. After the rosary procession we went upstairs to the chapel and sang many beautiful hymns. There was also an all-night adoration, which we were not able to attend because we had to return to the seminary.

I had a great first experience at the Fatima Conference and enjoyed visiting the Mount, which is a beautiful and holy place. I highly recommend going, and I can't wait to go to next year's Conference.

The Newest "Seminarian"

by Henry Harris, gr. 11

In all my previous years as a minor seminarian we had a dog named Victor. This dog adored Fr. Benedict and could not live without him. When we went to the lake, if Father jumped in, Victor would always jump in after him to "save" him.

By far Victor's favorite thing was his food. When we would wake him up in the morning, he would come down the stairs so fast that, after knocking over anyone who was in his way, he would drift around the corner, sometimes slipping, to his dog bowl and inhale his food. Then, he would act very mellow for the rest of the day.

Sadly, just this past summer he passed away at the age of 12 while most of the seminarians were gone. Everyone misses Victor in one way or another; we miss taking him on walks in the morning with a nice cup of coffee or petting him before every class and then having to ask all the teachers if you can go and wash your hands. He is now buried, alone, in his own little doggy cemetery.

But all our sadness turned into joy when we received a new puppy from one of our parishioners, whom we named Felix, appropriately meaning "Happy" in Latin. Felix is one of the most playful dogs that I have ever known. His favorite toy is a little baseball cap that was once Brother Anthony Marie's and is now destroyed. He is a very social dog and loves to be around people. Felix loves tight spaces and will curl up under the table at your feet during dinner. On Sundays, he always follows us over to the church for Mass. He waits by the door until Mass is over so that he can play with the little children. Felix is so playful, and everybody loves him, but we will always miss Victor with his happy and calm self.

Extracurricular Activities

Everyone knows that, by order of importance, the seminarians concentrate on their spiritual lives and their studies. But they are also teenage boys who need and enjoy diversion. Living at the seminary full time can be taxing on boys their age, and so extracurricular activities are helpful. Although our opportunities for such activities here are limited, we do provide outlets for them.

Among these would be the recreational trips to the park for soccer, football, disc golf and other games. The winter time provides its own weather-related fun. Right now, however, the seminarians are busy preparing for the children's all-saints party on October 31st. There will be a pumpkin-carving contest, so the boys are participating in that. They also will build and run carnival-type booths for the children. These are a lot of fun for the young children but also give the seminarians a nice activity to fill in their free time.

As with everything in life, such activities must be kept in perspective. They cannot become an end in themselves by cutting into the all-important time for prayer and studies. With proper moderation, however, they are an excellent means of adding joy to the lives of our young men, allowing them to refresh their energies for the more important tasks of the spiritual life.

As you can see, we strive to keep the boys busy, always doing something wholesome and avoiding idleness. Perhaps this is why seminarians of each passing year make the comment that the time here just flies by. Indeed, we all must use well the time that God in His goodness gives us on this earth to work out our salvation. Extracurricular activities can be helpful, as long as we always keep things in perspective.

May God bless you and your families. For it is devout Catholic families that produce the vocations the Church so desperately needs today. We are grateful for your support and prayers for us, and we promise to continue to remember you, our benefactors, in our daily prayers.

Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI



Brother Anthony Marie has been training our new dog Felix.

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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