



THE GUARDIAN

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Monthly newsletter of Saint Joseph Seminary

October, 2026

We are only one full month into the school year, and already so much has happened. In early September we were excited to receive the sports tiles for our new gym floor. Father Martin was able to arrange for the transportation of the flooring from Michigan by his brother. Everyone agrees that the new surface enhances our recreational activities.

was the ordination ceremony of three new priests at Mount Saint Michael this week. The magnificent ceremony with some 30 priests in the sanctuary participating, is an unforgettable sight. We also had four of the visiting priests staying here at our seminary. That meant that there were extra Masses to serve, so we each had the opportunity to serve Mass every day.

October Calendar

- 3 – Father Martin's feastday
- 7 – Rosary procession & High Mass
- 16 – Mr. Gerard Keaveney's feastday
- 25 – Feast Christ the King; renewal of seminary enthronement
- 28 – End of the First Quarter
- 30 – Children's All Saints Party



The seminarians were blessed to be able to attend the ordination ceremony at the Mount.

There has also been the harvesting of fruit: plums, pears and grapes. Soon we will turn our attention to the apples, which will provide apple sauce, apple jam and apple cider, among other uses. We are fortunate that a previous owner of this property planted so many fruit trees.

The biggest event, however,

Now we turn our attention to the annual Fatima Conference next week. We will also welcome the Conference guests here to the City of Mary for an open house at our church and seminary. As you can see, there is never a dull moment at the seminary. Please continue to pray for us and a successful school year.

Tu Es Sacerdos

by Louis Albin, gr. 12

At the end of this past month of September, I was fortunate to be able to witness the wonderful ceremony of priestly ordinations for my second time. The three men ordained at Mount St. Michael's were Fr. Kyle St. Aubin from Canada and Fr. Richard Lauricella and Fr. Thomas Netzel from Mount Saint Michael. It was a wonderful ceremony, involving many priests, complex liturgical ceremonies, and a well-prepared choir. And of course, what is most important is what is signified by these external solemnities—that is, the actual powers and graces conferred by Christ through the sacrament to the ones being ordained.

The ceremonies taking place after the Gradual of the Mass began with preliminary questions and an exhortation – in Latin – read by the Bishop to the deacons. Next followed the imposition of the

them and for all the priests, since they sacrifice their lives to confer God's graces upon us.

Saint Francis of Assisi

by Jonathan Kinley, gr. 10

As we move on from the great feasts of September, we get the great feasts of October. Now you might be wondering what are these great feasts? Well, there are two great feasts: the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary and St. Francis of Assisi. Now we all know a good deal on Our Lady, but many of us probably do not know as much as we should about St. Francis and the Franciscan Order.

Born of noble parents in Assisi, Italy, Francis had the perfect life and also was to be a soldier in the Crusades. During this time, although he was a Catholic, he left God out of his life for the most part. While on his way to fight in the Crusades he fell sick and could not go on. While he was sick God spoke to him and told him to become a Brother. So he went back home to give up everything for the glory of God.

Once his father heard this news he renounced his son and would not support him any longer. With nowhere to live St. Francis had to beg for everything. Also, God told him to fix up an old church by the name of San Damiano, so now he had to beg for

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The ordination of three new priests at Mount Saint Michael was a stupendous occasion for Holy Mother the Church.

hands, where the Bishop and priests present lay their hands on the heads of each candidate, and then stand together with their right palms facing the ordinands, after which, the Bishop sings the Preface containing the form of the sacrament of Holy Orders.

Then each candidate was vested in his ordination vestments by the Bishop. The hands of each were then consecrated and each received the chalice and paten. After Communion, the Bishop placed his hands on the head of each of the ordained, saying the words of Christ, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven; whose sins you shall retain, they are retained."

Each of these exterior ceremonies represents a certain grace or power conferred on the new priests. For example, the imposition of hands symbolizes the special graces received by the priests through the sacrament of Holy Orders. The vestments represent the yoke of Christ, as well as the virtues with which the life of the priest should be adorned. The anointing of the hands and the receiving of the chalice give the priests the power to consecrate and handle the Holy Eucharist. Finally, the blessing after Communion gives the priests the power to forgive sins.

The ceremonies and Mass were very beautiful, and, of course, they were accompanied by an amazing choir that I was lucky enough to be part of. It was truly a wonderful way to welcome the three men into the gift of the priesthood. Let us make sure to continue to pray for



All the priests in attendance followed the Bishop in imposing hands on the ordinands.



Two of the deacons made their retreat at our seminary, in preparation for ordination to the priesthood.



Father Martin Marie offers Mass once a month at our mission in Calgary, Alberta.



Even our smallest plum tree was loaded with fruit this year.



The seminarians really like the new floor in the gym.



The seminarians helped with the annual grape harvest.



The seminarians helped with the harvesting of our fruit trees.



Our dog Felix enjoys all the attention he receives from the seminarians.

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materials as well. Although the work was hard, he did not despair and soon had a few more Brothers to help him with his work. Eventually, with the pope's permission, he started the order of the Friars Minor, now known as the order of the Franciscans. During his life he preached and had many conversions. He was one of the Church's most humble saints and was the first to receive the holy stigmata.

Now this is just a short account of his life, and for those who wish to learn more I highly recommend the book The Perfect Joy of St. Francis, which goes into detail on his happiness and how he found it. Also, in a few of the CMRI parishes there are Third Order Franciscans, including my parents. Now a Third Order member is someone who wears the brown scapular and cord and prays the office of St. Francis. He is also a good patron for pets.

Formal Blessing of our Major Seminary

You are likely aware of the fact that we have two separate seminaries here in north Idaho, housed in one large building. The minor seminary (St. Joseph Seminary) has been located here for the past 28 years. Our major seminary for religious was relocated here (from Colorado) four years ago. Our building is ideal for this arrangement—the minor seminary is on one side of the building, and the major seminary

is on the other end, with the chapel in between.

Since June we have been able to occupy the entire space (both floors) on the east end of the seminary building, since the Sisters (who had been in residence in the upstairs portion) were finally able to move into their new convent. This new arrangement was the opportunity, earlier this month, to formally bless our St. Louis Marie de Montfort Seminary.

Benedictio Novi Seminarii (the blessing of a new seminary) was inserted into the Roman Ritual in 1953, during the reign of Pope Pius XII. The ceremony begins in the chapel with the chanting of the *Veni Creator Spiritus*. After the prayers to the Holy Ghost, the priest goes through all the rooms, sprinkling them with holy water, as the seminarians remain in the chapel and chant psalm 50 (the *Miserere*).

Then there is a

procession from the chapel to the main room of the seminary. The celebrant carries the large crucifix and all chant the *Vexilla Regis* during the procession. Upon arrival at the designated location, the priest fixes the cross to its assigned place. The ceremony then concludes with the final prayers and blessing.

The major seminarians have their own course of classes, with the three priests moving between the two sections of the building, as needed, to teach all the seminarians.

— *Father Benedict Hughes, CMRI*

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, Pray for Us!

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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