



THE GUARDIAN

The winter season has whisked by with hardly a word about sixty or more inches of snow, and seems to have left us here in the northwest. It seemed we were going to be getting well over the acquired thirty inches, but God's plan for this part of the country was a little different than what we had in mind. This has left everything quite open for various activities that we are able to begin here shortly. I will give a brief synopsis of the activities that have been made possible by the fifty to sixty degree weather.

We have recently begun our annual ping pong tournament, and are looking towards the coming pool tournament. With the weather warmed up considerably, we can resort to the hospitality of the great outdoors, and enjoy fun experiences such as archery and disk golf. We are having our private archery tournament this month and the competitors vary from the seminary, parish high school and grade school. Who wins will depend on how much practice and stability each person has put into it. We will be having a disk golf tournament in the surrounding forest using our own course.

We will also be having our annual St. Patrick's Day contest in which each of the participants will make up a limerick, song, or other Irish creation. This being the month of St. Joseph, we will be having a high mass with incense on the 19th. We will then hold our annual seminary-support breakfast in honor of St. Joseph and St. Patrick. With special emphasis on St Patrick, we create blarney stones and have other Irish delicacies available. Despite all this fun and celebration, we strive to renew our Lenten resolutions and prepare with a

clean heart and penitent spirit for the feast of Our Lord's glorious Resurrection, which is merely a few weeks away. Let us all resolve to spend the remainder of this season well, as we look forward to Easter. – a seminarian

Our Great Seminary Patron

by Robert Kolinsky, gr. 10

Why is Saint Joseph greatly honored? He is a very renowned Saint. But what is he patron of? This month of March is dedicated to Saint Joseph, the foster father of Our Lord, and Spouse of the Mother of God. His feast is on March 19th. On this day we will have a High Mass in which the St. Aloysius choir (the seminary and high school boys) will have the privilege of singing. Saint Joseph is one of the greatest of Saints. He is the patron Saint of the Universal Church. So this is a very important feast. In some countries it is even a holyday of obligation.

Now why have I chosen this topic? Of course, all that was mentioned earlier are numerous major points of why he is deserving of recognition. But I would also like to explain the relationship the seminary has with St. Joseph. He's been a part of the seminary since it began 17 years ago. He is our patron Saint, and it was a wise decision to name the seminary after him. He has been an important saint to the Church, to families, and to me personally. I have had a great devotion to him for many years.

In conclusion to this article, I will mention certain devotions to this great Saint. There are novenas, a litany and prayers to him. There is a certain

March Calendar

- 1-2 – Annual achievement testing
- 17– Saint Patrick's Day talent show and contest
- 19 – Feast of Saint Joseph, Seminary patron; special observances
- 20– Palm Sunday; seminary-sponsored parish breakfast
- 21-22 – Third Quarter Exams
- 23 – Chanting of the Passion; end of Third Quarter
- 24-25– Holy Thursday and Good Friday ceremonies
- 26 – Easter Vigil ceremonies
- 27 – Easter Sunday; Easter egg hunt for children; vacation begins.

ejaculation which I love, that includes Jesus and Mary. It is "Jesus, Mary, and Joseph I love you save souls." I have reached the end of this article, and since we're still in the season, I hope you have a good remainder of Lent.



The seminarians have ample opportunity during Lent to serve for the Stations of the Cross.

A Captured Saint

by Clayton Wright, gr. 12

Imagine being kidnapped from your English home, made a slave in another country (Ireland), and then eventually becoming patron saint of said country. You may wonder how a foreigner could become the patron saint of Ireland, with the countries in dispute. I will tell you how this came about.

Known as the “Apostle of Ireland,” St. Patrick was born in Britannia around the fourth century, where he grew up in a pious home. One night the town, where our saint lived, was attacked by pirates from Ireland, and St. Patrick was captured and sold into slavery, where he was forced to care for the animals that his master owned. After many years as a slave, God told St. Patrick, through a dream that he was to leave his masters and return home. He started out but returned, due to hardships. Again, God told him to go and so he did. On his second try he found a ship headed back to Britannia. Once the ship docked he had to walk many miles to get back to his town. When he arrived St. Patrick devoted his life to the service of God.

The Saint's life went on as he prepared to become a priest. After spending time in the priesthood he was consecrated a bishop and went back to Ireland to save the souls of that country and bring the flock together. St. Patrick's time as Bishop of Ireland went on with many labors, as he converted many to the faith including two princesses and the king of Cashel, baptizing all. He performed many miracles including driving the snakes out of Ireland. I recently read an interesting fact that has occurred 1500 years after this amazing wonder. After the Novus Ordo appeared, snakes began returning to Ireland. This should cause a great deal of disturbance among the faithful, and we should pray for the nation that this great Saint worked so hard to convert.

Time for Recreation!

by Benedict Pulliam, gr. 9

Being seminarians, we benefit most immensely from the prayer life here, attending daily the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, morning, evening, and night prayers together as a group, and regular spiritual conferences. Of course, we have our studies, but being human, we can surely get tired of being inside most of the time, studying, working, or playing pool or ping-pong. This is when we decide to get out and have some fun in the fresh mountain air.

Our outdoor activities include shooting, archery, hockey, basketball, disk golf and whatever else we can think of at that moment. Unfortunately, our basketball season ended, due to player injuries, but we can still play a fun pickup game in the gym. There is always time for a little recreation, especially when not just the students, but also our superiors aren't busy at that moment.

Archery is one activity that we all can enjoy, whether

beginner or pro. It doesn't matter how good you are, or aren't, we all make sure that we each get enough practice and time to shoot. It's always fun to know when you or someone else gets a bulls-eye.

Shooting is what every boy can really take pleasure in. Here, we have little targets for our .22 rifle. We all enjoy having something to shoot at. Of course, we all practice gun safety, and that is the number one thing we always start off with, making sure the range is safe to shoot at and no one is in any possible danger. It's always fun to know that there's someone here for competition. Our competition here is Fr. Anthony. Although he's very good at shooting, we still like to give him a challenge, and he's always up to accepting it. So this is always an exciting activity we all look forward to.

I failed to mention one thing, and that is something we all dread from time to time, which is Saturday chores. Now that the snowy season is over, we are kept busy with collecting all the gravel that was pushed off the roads by the snowplow. This is a tough task because there are many piles of gravel. It is one duty we all can agree is very tiring and not much fun to do. But with the help of St. Joseph, we can surely get all our chores done quickly, and maybe have enough time for recreation!

The Reason for Lent

by Mark Vincent, gr. 11

Besides mortification, Lent is a time to conquer temptation and to form new resolutions. The history of the Forty Holy Martyrs of Sebaste fittingly represents this channel. It was the command of emperor Licinius, in the year 320, that the entire conquering twelfth legion should offer sacrifice to the gods. The order being given, forty soldiers went forth to the general and proclaimed their Christianity and their determination to die rather than renounce the Faith. These were the men whose prayers had won many stunning victories. The general, acting as their judge in conjunction with the governor, at first was disposed to give them rich rewards if they would renounce their faith then and there. Seeing however, that they would not be persuaded, their sides were torn open with iron hooks, and they were cast into prison, loaded with chains.

Lesser Armenia, as the province was called, was constantly thronged with a deep frost which froze a pond in the center of the city, so that it was solid enough to walk on safely. Seeing this, the governor went to the prisoners a few days later and gave them the option of lying naked upon that freezing sheet of ice – a slow torture followed by certain death – or to renounce their faith and thus be placed in a refreshing, warm bath nearby. All forty happily and resolutely stripped themselves and went forth to the cold embrace, which was to be their trial for the aim of eternity. Unfortunately, one of the

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Clayton celebrated his birthday in early February.



Father Anthony distributes candles to the servers



High Mass for the feast of the Purification of Our Lady.



Seminarians, get ready and take aim...archery fun!



The outdoor procession returns to the church on Candlemas Day.



The ping pong tournament is in full swing.

The Reason for Lent

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seemingly resolute forty embraced the temptations pressed upon him, and withdrew from the ice to the warm bath. No sooner had he stepped into it, due to the pretenses of the devil, than God's vengeance overtook him and he expired. In this, we see God's rejection of those who choose to decline His saving cross.

The guard who oversaw those who should become apostates and go into the bath, was favored with a vision of the martyrs receiving their crowns. He was converted on the spot and joined the number of those dying. We can see here that God blesses all present with the grace of conversion when the blood of martyrs is shed. Sadly, some do not follow the beckon of the kind heart of God, and remain hardened by the taunting of Satan. The blood of the faithful, being previously spilled and now frozen, they had no reason or desire to turn back, but to continue on toward eternity. God was pleased with their sacrifices, and gave them the necessary strength to conquer temptation. We, in our turn, should offer our sacrifices up to God in reparation, and to conquer all temptations of the devil. It worked for the Forty Martyrs. Will it not work also for us?



Science class is a demanding computer-based course.

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.

Practice, Practice, Practice!

Of all the liturgical ceremonies of the year, those of Holy Week are the most elaborate and inspiring. They also are the most difficult and require plenty of rehearsal. Having been a priest now for many years, I am thoroughly acquainted with the rubrics and the order of the ceremonies. The seminarians, on the other hand, need to spend plenty of time in practice, in order to perform their part worthily.

Having the seminarians here at Mary Immaculate Queen Parish is a great blessing for our parishioners. They do a lot of work to maintain the property, they teach the younger boys how to serve, and they are a reliable corps of servers for the major ceremonies. Yet as trustworthy as they are, they nevertheless require plenty of practice for Holy Week.

At the seminary, the entire week revolves around the liturgy. There is Palm Sunday, the chanting of the Passion on either Tuesday or Wednesday, the beautiful Holy Thursday ceremonies with the Washing of the Feet and procession of the Blessed Sacrament, the somber yet beautiful Good Friday liturgy, and finally the lengthy Easter Vigil. Each ceremony is unique and inspiring, and it is a joy for a priest – or a young man called to the priesthood – to have a part in their performance.

While the liturgy of Holy Mother Church is cherished by priests and seminarians, the laity should also devoutly follow the liturgical ceremonies as best they can. Be sure to attend whatever functions your duties will allow, uniting yourself with our Mother, the Catholic Church, as we call to mind the sacred mysteries of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Redeemer. Please also pray for your priests and seminarians, that we worthily acquit ourselves of these sacred duties and grow closer to our Divine Lord.

At this holy season let us recall the treasures we have as Catholics. May we be always thankful. Be assured that we at Saint Joseph Seminary are most grateful for your support and remember you daily in our prayers. Thank you for supporting the work of our minor seminary.

— *Fr. Benedict Hughes*

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