



THE GUARDIAN

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Monthly Newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

June 2016

As I write this introduction for our June issue, we have just returned from our camping trip and are preparing for our most important annual outdoor processions – those of Corpus Christi and the Queenship of Mary. We all have a hand in helping to prepare for these wonderful events and, of course, in serving. We will write more about the camping trip and the processions in our next issue.

Lately, it has been raining a lot, and that means that the grass is lush and abundant. This means plenty of work in mowing and weed-whacking! Everyone has had a hand in keeping the grounds in good shape, especially in preparation for the Corpus Christi procession. We wish you could be here to join us for these ceremonies!

In just a few days we will leave the seminary and return to our homes for the summer. It will be great to be with our families again, but we know that we must also maintain our prayer life during the summer. Please remember us in your prayers, that we persevere in God's grace and that there will be many more to join us here in the seminary next school year.

The Most Important Devotion

by Mark Vincent, gr. 11

What do we mean when we say the word 'devotion'? It simply means an especial love for something. A husband has a devotion to his wife which enables him to do everything in his power to provide for her and love her. But there is another type of

devotion which is not ordinary, but the devotion of devotions. I am speaking of the devotion to the Sacred Heart.

We have learned in our religion courses that God is the Supreme and Infinite Being. All His qualities reach no bounds. He is infinitely perfect and wise and therefore is also infinitely loving. He deserves the greatest respect any human being can give Him and more. This is the reason why devotion to the Sacred Heart is so distinct; as He loves us so much, we should do our best to love and honor Him in return.

But where did this devotion originate? It has been alive since the Middle Ages when Catholicism was reaching its height. In 1673 to about 1690, the Sacred Heart visited the humble nun St. Margaret Mary Alacoque many times. During His apparitions, Jesus made known to her that He wished devotion to His Sacred Heart to be in every heart. Furthermore, he gave her twelve promises applying to any who should practice the devotion. These promises are an infinite benefit for the little love we give to the Sacred Heart.

This devotion consists only in the acknowledgment that Jesus is God who is infinite love, and therefore deserves our love in return. Since this devotion is so essential, we should strive to increase

June Calendar

- 3 – Feast of the Sacred Heart; Final day of school
- 4 – Graduation, awards, closing ceremonies of the school year.

and thrive in it. There are five means of increasing our love and devotion. The first is fervent prayer which the Sacred Heart will not refuse. He also dearly appreciates our assistance at Holy Mass. It is the best way we can show our love for Him. Frequent reception of Holy Communion is a very good way to start off the day, which shows Our Lord that we put Him first. Holy hours and visits to the Blessed Sacrament are great ways to use up extra time.

All of these acts are great ways to increase our piety in the service of God. Experience is the key to intensifying our devotion. It has been proven that those who make Holy Hours at home or in the Church inevitably increase in their love of the

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Father Anthony leads the litanies during the Rogation procession.

The Most Important Devotion

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Sacred Heart. It makes praying in general much easier. From now on, make an effort to use up that couch time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, or even in spiritual reading. It will all aid the cause of increasing a devotion of which we all need a very great quantity.

We All Saw it Coming!

by Benedict Pulliam, gr. 9

This past month has been one of great joy and splendor. School is almost out, and we also got to have our first-ever disc golf tournament. The starting point is always at the top of the hill behind the seminary, then it continues down the hill and wraps around the property. Although it's only a nine-hole course, we still have a fun time playing it. Less holes means there's more time to play multiple games.

We had multiple teams, having the seminarians and High School boys mixed with other Grade School boys. The first round was scored individually. Of course, I think we all knew who would most likely come out in first place: Nicholas. He is very good at what he does. There were a couple of other people who might have had a chance of beating him, but I guess God just wanted him to come in first! I admire his sportsmanship – he is helpful to others, giving them tips on how to throw and aim. He and the other High School boys were fun to have at P.E. and choir classes. I think everyone had a fantastic time, and we especially were happy to get out of some classes for the tournament. We all owe a special thanks to Mrs. Gallagher for providing prizes and to Fr. Anthony for getting everything ready!

There has been a lot of work put into this course, not only to make it easier to get around, but also to make things a bit more challenging! It's nice to see that the course is being used. Not only do we use it, the High School and Grade School students also use it for P.E. I can't wait to see all of our work be put to use at the Seminary Boys' Camp this year – seeing all of those smaller boys having fun, trying to do their best to beat their fellow campers!

We also made another course, starting over by the back of the Church. This course is also intended to help out with the activities during this year's Camp, so we can do more things at once and not be too crowded. The first hole goes down the hill, across the road, and then it all goes on from there; winding around trees, cutting through brush and other things. We have done a great amount of work, but there's always more to be done.

I'm very glad I came here this school year! Hopefully, there's more fun in the future. God bless you all.

The Journey Doesn't End Here!

by Clayton Wright, gr. 12

Sadly, my time here at St. Joseph Seminary is coming to an end. But on the contrary, I will be leaving here with a massive amount of spiritual growth. I shall dearly miss everyone here: teachers, friends and fellow seminarians, whom I have become attached to as brothers.

My arrival here at the airport was met with Mrs. Gallagher wearing a wide-brimmed hat with a piece of paper with my name written on it. The drive from the airport to the seminary was uneventful – until we got to the bottom of the hill. We raced up the hill, with its hair-pin curves, so as not to be late for Holy Mass. We arrived just in time, and I was met by Joseph who sat with me during Mass. Directly after, Mrs. Gallagher drove me to the seminary because of how tired I was. Transiting from Ohio time to Idaho time takes a lot out of you (three hour time difference).

After Mass I grabbed my luggage and waited by the front door to meet Fr. Benedict. After I met him, he assigned Mark as my “Guardian Angel.” He then showed me to my room where I collapsed on the floor and slept for a couple of hours. When they came to get me they feared that I had fainted and they became very worried. I was aroused by the worried noises but I still didn't get up, until I was asked if I wanted lunch. After lunch I put my things away and got ready for the last period of school, where I had a chance to meet and talk with my fellow seminarians and the teachers.

As it was Friday when I arrived, I awoke the following day to find myself working with Mark and Andrew in putting the metal around the pig pen, then on to raking pine

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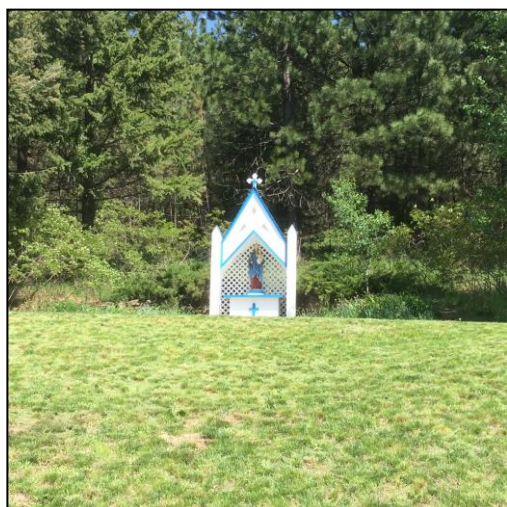
Every day at the seminary begins with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.



The seminary disc golf course starts by the seminary and winds through the woods.



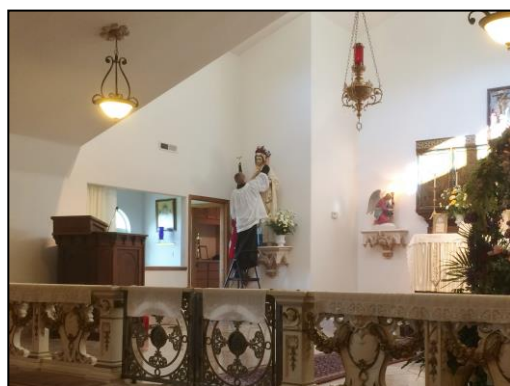
Sister Mary Veronica helps to keep the lawns mowed.



Our outdoor shrine of Our Lady was repaired and repainted this spring.



The staff and seminarians pose for a group photo at the end of the year.



During May we have a daily crowning of Our Lady's statue during May.



The seminarians carried the statue of Our Lady of Fatima during our May 13th Rosary procession.



The Rogation procession proceeds along the path in front of our Sacred Heart shrine.

Do You Have a Vocation?

If you are a young man of high school age who has a vocation, then St. Joseph Seminary may be the place for you. Our four-year course of studies offers the regular high school curriculum, with an emphasis on Latin, theology, choir and foreign language. A well-rounded program of daily Mass, prayer and sports complements our academic schedule. For more information, write to the rector of St. Joseph Seminary at the address below.

The Journey Doesn't End Here!

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needles with Benedict and Robert. Since then, things have gone very well with school activities, work around the seminary, and fun outings. Outings with Fr. Anthony are especially fun, even if it's just going down to the gas station to put gas in the Suburban. It's the little things like

that that made my time here memorable.

To end the year I will be making the Act of Holy Slavery and I shall also be confirmed. Overall, I will dearly miss everyone here. I am truly grateful to God for allowing me to be here, to meet all of the wonderful people, and to make friendships that I hope will last a life time! My journey will not end here; it will keep going to Mater Dei Seminary, where I will hopefully obtain the priesthood.

Laboring in His Vineyard

As we conclude another school year, I look back with gratitude for all the helping hands who make this seminary what it is. There are teachers, cooks, a secretary, benefactors, and helpful parishioners. Without any of these dedicated souls, the seminary would not be what it is.

Just as a beautiful church is incomplete without the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass being offered there, and without pious faithful praying in the edifice, so a seminary is only as successful as the students and staff make it. For truly, it is the people, not the buildings, that matter. So I am grateful to God and Our Blessed Mother for bringing all these good souls together to help in this work.

And we must not forget the good Catholic families that foster vocations. Although the call comes from God, it needs (like a seed) fertile soil in which to germinate and grow. Let us pray for more devout Catholic families, who will merit to receive this great blessing from God – that one of their own will be called to His service.

May God grant us the grace and fortitude to persevere in this work, and may He deign to send us many more devout young men to be trained for the work of laboring in His vineyard! Let us all pray for this intention. Be assured of a remembrance in our daily prayers at the seminary. May God reward you for your support of this important work.

— Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI

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