



THE GUARDIAN

After Holy Week and Easter we enjoyed a brief vacation trip to Tacoma. Father Anaya, the pastor there, was graciously hospitable in allowing us to stay in a classroom of the school there. Father Benedict drove us over in the van (about a 5-hour trip). We had Mass both mornings there in Saint Mary's Church and then saw some of the sites, including the Museum of Flight, an auto museum, Pike's Place Market and the Seattle Center. It was also a chance to catch up on rest, as some of us slept a good part of the way while riding in the van.

Right now we are preparing for the month of May by decorating a "May altar" in our classroom. We will provide a bouquet of flowers there for Our Lady each day of the month. There will also be a public Rosary in the church each evening, which we will attend.

Of course, this is the final month of the school year, which ends in early

June. There will be many things going on, but we will try to remain focused on our studies so that we will get good grades in this final Quarter of the school year. Please pray for us and for many more seminarians to join us next school year.

The Last Three Days of Our Lord

by Gabriel Riley, gr. 9

What are the three last days of Our Lord's life? Spy Wednesday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday. I would like to explain what happened on each day, starting with Spy Wednesday. Spy Wednesday is the day when Judas, who was one of Our Lord's disciples, made the deal to sell Jesus Christ to the Pharisees for thirty silver pieces. The day when Judas chose money over Our Lord. But he had not yet betrayed Jesus until Holy Thursday. It is a shame because nowadays a lot of people choose money over their Faith.

Holy Thursday is when Jesus and his disciples assembled in the house of Saint Mark's father in Jerusalem to have the Last Supper. This last supper of Our Lord was special because this is the day the Mass was instituted. We are still blessed today to have priests offering the great sacrifice of the Mass all over the world.

May Calendar

- 1 – Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker; special schedule
- 6-10 – Annual chess tournament
- 24-26 – Seminary camping trip
- 27 – Queenship Procession
- 28 – Rogation procession
- 30 – Ascension Thursday
- 31 – Parish feastday; dedication of our church

The Mass is the most important sacrament on earth; why would we dare miss this great and most important sacrifice?

Good Friday is the day when Jesus died on the cross to save us. He was arrested and was condemned to death, that is when the Passion of Our Lord began. You readers are probably familiar with the fourteen stations which show the passion of our Lord. My favorite is when Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus carry His cross. The reason I like this station in particular is because it reminds me of how Simon helped Jesus and how he got the once in a lifetime opportunity to actually help Our Lord in person. What a great honor he had. If it were not that Our Lord had died we would go to hell. So what we could do is thank Jesus Christ for taking up such a burdensome passion and death to save us. Thank you and may the Lord be with you.



The procession of the Blessed Sacrament follows the Mass on Holy Thursday.

The Guardian's Guardian

by Thiet Vincent Nguyen, gr. 9

Every month, a *Guardian* newsletter is published for the entertainment of our seminary's benefactors, our families and many traditional Catholics throughout the world. Many of them are about spiritual or historical events that happened in our seminary, and many other topics. But have you readers of our newsletter ever wondered why our articles are written in perfect sense and grammar? What was our inspiration or who gives it to us? Who is the big helper behind our writings?

Mrs. Nancy Gallagher, one of our wonderful cooks and our very wise English teacher, has been dedicating her faithful service to our seminary for at least ten years. Everyday, when the second class ends in excitement by the signal of the bell, the first thought that usually comes to mind (well, at least to my mind) would be, "Oh boy, here comes another hour of grammar and vocabulary." After all, her excellent method of teaching always beats the indolence of youth, turning us from a bunch of lazy sloths into leopards hunting for knowledge.

Outside English class, we're still being exercised regarding our dreadful grammar issues by this wise and experienced lady. It is obvious that it is through her that our grammar knowledge, both literally and figuratively, has improved a thousand-fold ever since our first steps to the seminary's door. On an occasion, I walked out of the seminary's building to walk the dog. She greeted me, "Hey dear, how are you doing?" "I'm doing good! How 'bout you?" She said, "I'm sorry, say that again, please." I repeated it at least three more times. Then she shook her head and smiled at me, "Dear, you're not doing good at all, especially with your grammar, but you are doing *well*." Then, realizing my error, both shyly and sanguinely, I apologized to her, and we both had a good laugh out of it.

Beside being our teacher, Mrs. Gallagher is also one of our superb cooks. Along with Miss Mary Antonia, who cooks for us the majority of the days in the week, Mrs. Gallagher cooks for us every Saturday. To describe the dinner that she prepares for us every Saturday, I don't think that it is possible to tell you readers about it. It is absolutely amazing. Since the beginning of the school year, I was given an important mission by Fr. Benedict—taking back all the pans and leftovers after dinner and making sure they are returned to her. As always, when I arrive at her door, I make sure that she

receives our appreciation after all the hard work to make our dinner. She responds, "Oh dear, don't be bluffing, I know you're just saying this to make me happy."

Dear Mrs. Gallagher, please forgive me, for this surprise for you. Representing all seminarians and religious of our seminary, I would like to give a very hearty thank-you for all the wonderful work for us, especially for dealing with us impetuous young seminarians. May God always bless you.

Relief for the Seminary Staff

by William Davis, gr. 8

I can only imagine the relief that the seminary staff got when we set out on the morning of Easter Monday, because for Easter vacation we went to Seattle. We left on Easter Monday for Tacoma, where we would stay for the night. It was a five hour trip from the minor seminary to our destination, which was Saint Mary's Church.

When we arrived there we unpacked our stuff. After a good dinner at a Mexican restaurant we watched a movie about Doctor Giuseppe Moscati. It is a good movie, but it has its cheesy moments. After the movie we went to bed. I personally had a wonderful night, as I had my earbuds on and was listening to Father Philip's first solemn high Mass until I fell asleep.

The next morning I woke up to the sound of Thiet's alarm clock going off. We then attended Mass, ate breakfast, and then set out for the day's excitement. First, we went to an automobile museum, and then we went to the museum of flight. After that we drove to the Seattle Pike's Place Market. We didn't buy anything but it was still a cool place. To top off the day we went to the space needle in Seattle center and ate dinner at McDonald's.

We then returned to Saint Mary's and watched a movie and played cards. After the movie we went to bed. In the middle of the night we all woke up to a noise. None of us could figure what it was, that is until 1:00 am when I discovered that it was just the heater turning on and off. The rest of the night was uneventful. We woke up the next morning 15 minutes before Mass started. That happened because Thiet's alarm clock didn't go off. So after a panicked but fun morning we set off for our return journey. On our arrival we were met by Brother Louis, who was cooking us dinner. After a hardy dinner we had a free evening and then went to bed. The rest of Easter vacation is going to be spent in freedom and relaxation. Boy, I love Easter.



Group shot of the seminarians at a recent birthday celebration.



Brother Louis Marie made profession of First Vows on the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.



Stations of the Cross are recited on Good Friday.



The veneration of the cross on Good Friday.



The Mass of the Easter Vigil.



Chanting the Litany of the Saints in procession for the Greater Litanies.



Father inscribes the Paschal Candle at the Easter Vigil.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

by Gabriel Davis, gr. 9

The clergy is silent. All remain still in expectation for what momentarily the priest is about to say: *Gloria in Excelsis Deo*. At that moment every Christian heart resounds with joy breathing in the smell of incense with hearts overflowing with joy as the bells are being rung while the choir sings the Gloria, ending the penitential season of Lent, sending the church into a season of rejoicing. For forty days we have fasted; for two months we have been preparing for the coming of Christ into our souls. The utterance of the *Alleluia* has been silenced, reminding us of our mortality.

The entire Liturgical year revolves around this feast of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is the peak of the entire year, signifying our redemption and Christ's triumph over Satan and the powers of darkness. Saint Paul assures us: If it had not been for Our Lord's glorious resurrection, then his death would have been in vain. Now let us give thanks to God, who for our sins died in order to secure our salvation.

For the past several weeks nature has returned to life around the seminary. I find it most fitting that spring almost always comes with Easter, signifying that Christ is the life of the world. After spending four months in winter you begin to grow anxious to feel the touch of grass and the warmth of the sun. Up until this point I always assumed that Idaho was a barren wasteland that never turned green. How wrong I was. The lushness of the grass is almost comparable to the grass in Iowa. Thank God now that the weather is permitting us seminarians to enjoy the luxuries of outdoor activities such as basketball, baseball, volleyball and, my personal favorite, football. I can't describe how nice it would be to have enough boys next year to play real five-on-five games. There only being four of us seminarians this year we are restricted in playing some games, due to the lack of more players.

As we are coming to the close of this school year we are

setting our hope high for a full seminary next year. I have learned that the seminary gives more than it takes. Granted it is hard to leave family and home, and the routine of thing takes a bit of getting used to. But there is nothing comparable to the amount of graces and spiritual growth that the seminary has to offer. I wish you a happy Easter and I beg you to keep us and hopefully many more future seminarians in your prayers.

Let Your Light Shine

People always observe us. Wherever we go, we must give a good example to lead others closer to God. Well, the seminarians received this lesson on our recent trip. On the first night I wanted to take the seminarians to a nice restaurant—something we are rarely able to do. So we went to a good Mexican restaurant close by the church.

After we had ordered and were eating our meal, the owner came out to greet us and ask how everything was. He noticed that I am a priest and began asking where we were from, etc. I informed him that these young men are seminarians from our minor seminary. His eyes lit up and he told us that he was a seminarian for a while in the state of Jalisco (Mexico). He then

went on to speak about Our Lady, and it was obvious that he has a great devotion to Our Blessed Mother.

We visited for a while and then off he went to his other responsibilities. When I went to pay the bill, I was informed that he had given us a 50% discount on our meal! But more than anything this brief encounter taught the seminarians that there are souls in this world who are searching for the truth. Consequently, we must always be an example for others, to lead them closer to God and Our Lady. Above all, we must never be ashamed of our Faith or try to hide it. "Let your light shine before men," Jesus tells us, "that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven" (Matthew, 5:16).

May you all enjoy a most blessed Easter season. We pray daily for all our benefactors and ask a remembrance in your prayers. May God bless you and your families.

Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI



Father and seminarians watch the final match of the ping-pong tournament.