



THE GUARDIAN

Vol. XXIV No. 12 Issue #288

Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

August 2023

From the Rector:

Dear Friends of St. Joseph Seminary,

We have just concluded our annual Saint Joseph Boys Camp, which was well-attended, as usual. In addition to the four priests, there were a number of seminarians and former seminarians, as well as several fathers in attendance. Altogether, we had around 80 persons. Despite the excessively hot temperatures of the previous week, there was a slight cool down for the week of Boys Camp. Everything worked out quite well, including a High Mass for the feast of Saint Anne, sung by the boys and the counselors. I am most grateful for the dedication of Father Philip Marie,

teaching classes in the major seminary, as well as helping with our missionary travels to Alberta, Utah and Montana.

In just a few weeks we will be back in session. There will be several new seminarians, joining the returning students. Once again, we expect a full house. Before then, however, there is a lot to do to prepare for the new school year.

Finally, during this month of August we celebrate the feast of Saint John Marie Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests. The heroic life of this saint reminds us what one holy priest can accomplish. His feast is also a reminder of the need to pray for priests. For that purpose, we have included in this issue a prayer from the Raccolta for priests, which we encourage you to pray for the sanctification of the clergy.

As usual, we will begin a novena at the end of this month in honor of Our Lady's nativity, the first major feast of Our Blessed Mother in the course of the school year. Our primary intention will be for the success of the new school year, but we are happy to add your intentions, which is why we have enclosed an intention card. Be assured that we daily remember our benefactors. May God reward you for your support of the work of formation of future priests!

In the service of Jesus, Mary and Saint Joseph,

Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI

August Calendar

- 9 – Feast of Saint John Vianney, patron of priests
- 13 – Rosary procession, reciting the 15 decades
- 15 – Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady
- 26 – Seminarians arrive by 3:00 pm; orientation
- 27-30 – Annual outing at Lake Coeur d'Alene
- 31 – Formal classes begin

Why Attend a Minor Seminary?

by Frater Alphonsus M. Vincent, CMRI

St. Joseph Minor Seminary was founded for the purpose of fostering priestly and religious vocations, using the motto: *the hope of the harvest is in the seed*. Young men who are in any way interested in this vocation would do well to join this school. While here, they enjoy daily Mass and the reception of the sacraments together with the ordinary Catholic exercises, which are the normal means of obtaining the graces of God. They live with priests and seminarians who serve as an inspiration to them and help to form their characters and spiritual goals. They are in no way poked or prodded to enter the major seminary once they graduate, but are completely free to follow the path of their choosing.



Father Philip and the other cooks did a great job of feeding many hungry boys.

who was in charge of the camp again this year—a big undertaking.

Here at the seminary we will have a slight change in staff for the coming year. Fr. Gregory M. Drahman, CMRI, who has been here over the past year, will be moving to Akron, Ohio, to take over as pastor there, replacing Fr. Gabriel M. Lavery, CMRI, who will move here to join our staff. Father Gabriel will primarily be

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Why Attend a Minor Seminary?

Minor seminarians are also exposed to a life very similar to what they can expect to live in the major seminary or religious house. They have scheduled times for prayer, silence, periods of labor and recreation, and spiritual reading during certain meals. Because they live in community with others, the seminarians develop a family spirit and feel at home among their peers. This exposure ensures a smooth transition for them if they choose to enter the major seminary.

They also receive special instruction on subjects such as Latin, Dogmatic Theology and Ecclesiastical Chant, which further paves the way for future studies. If one spends all four years of high school here, he can expect to be able to competently translate the Ordinary of the Mass, passages of the breviary and some other Latin texts. Those who enter a major seminary with no previous knowledge of Latin often struggle in its acquisition and cannot understand what they are reading, nor properly enunciate the words as they pray sections of the Divine Office, unless they have otherwise had some practice in it already.

Lastly, the seminarians will graduate from high school with abundant experience in serving or singing in liturgical ceremonies throughout the year, which are the heart and soul of the Catholic priesthood. In short, this seminary provides the best possible environment for anyone who considers it a possibility that God is calling him. Please continue to pray for many and worthy vocations to the priesthood and religious state.

“Arise My Love”

by Jorge Cruz, gr. 12

We know by tradition that Mary, the mother of the Divine Word, was assumed into heaven by the power of God. Mary, having died by the wound of love, was buried in the tomb, yet God decided to preserve her from the corruption of the body. God took her up from this valley of tears into the delight of paradise both body and soul. But why? Why would God take her from the grave, and join her immaculate body to her soul?

First, to give men the consolation and certainty of a happy death. Mary being always in the state of grace was certain to enter paradise without the fear of damnation or even purgation, yet we poor creatures are never certain of what will happen to us after death. God has given us Our Lady to be the hope of our soul in that moment of anguish, to be our source of life and certainty. Some saints were tempted to despair at the moment of their death, yet they conquered through Mary. It could be said that Mary had to be assumed into heaven to be the hope of man, for she gives testimony of the joy of eternity and the resurrection

of the body. Through Mary's assumption, we can be certain that we will share in Christ's resurrection.

Second, the Assumption of Mary complements her Immaculate Conception. Her Immaculate Conception was a privileged given to her by God. Mary conquered Satan through her conception; Mary conquered death through her assumption. Mary, who wasn't corrupted by sin or defiled by men, could not be spoiled by death. The decaying of the body is a punishment for sin. Mary being stainless was preserved from any tie to sin, so she couldn't be a slave to death and its consequences.

“And there were given to the woman two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the desert unto her



Richard Lauricella, a tonsured cleric, was one of the main cooks during camp.

place,” says the Apocalypse. It is said that the Ark of the Covenant was taken up into the desert to preserve it from the enemies of Israel, Mary, the ark of the New Covenant, was taken to the heavenly oasis to be preserved from corruption. Through the merits of her divine Son, Mary

was preserved from the corruption of the body and freed from the grasp of the decaying earth.

Mary mirrors the life and death of Christ. Shouldn't she also partake of His resurrection and ascension? Christ's heart was pierced by a spear; Mary's soul was pierced by a sword. Love consumed them unto death. Both shared the same blood and flesh. Shouldn't the mother of the divine Being also share in the glory of her Son's resurrection? That body was His temple and resting place. How many times did He lean upon her breast and caress that face with His blessed hands? Should that face that was His delight and which He showered with kisses be decayed or left upon the wilderness?

No, instead He calls her to Himself. He joins her soul to her body and through His grace He takes her up to the eternal city. He called her with the same words as the bridegroom in Solomon's poem: “Arise, make haste, my love, my dove, my beautiful one, and come. For winter is now past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers have appeared in our land, the time of pruning comes: the voice of the turtle is heard in our land: the fig tree hath put forth her green figs: the vines in flower yield their sweet smell. Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come.”



Frater Martin Marie (3-year vows) and Brother Mary Fidelis (first vows), hold lighted candles as all join in a group photo after the vows ceremony on June 28.



Meal Time at Farragut State Park.



On June 29 we celebrated the 30th anniversary of ordination of Father Gregory Marie, CMRI



The statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was prominently displayed throughout the month of June in our church.



A swim in the lake is a great way to cool off on a hot day.



Boys line up to obtain their equipment for a game of "Air Soft."



The volleyball court at Farragut State Park.



There were many different games and recreational activities throughout the week of Boys Camp.



The campers attend Mass at the start of every day during the camp.



Some of the boys and men joined the priests and seminarians in singing a High Mass on the feast of Saint Anne.

A Prayer for Priests

Raccolta #659

O Jesus, eternal High Priest, divine Sacrificer, Thou who in an unspeakable burst of love for men, Thy brethren, didst cause the Christian priesthood to spring forth from Thy Sacred Heart, vouchsafe to pour forth upon Thy priests continual living streams of infinite love.

Live in them, transform them into Thee; make them, by Thy grace, fit instruments of Thy mercy; do Thou act in them and through them, and grant, that they may become wholly one with Thee by the faithful imitation of Thy virtues; and, in Thy Name and by the strength of Thy spirit, may they do the works which Thou didst accomplish for the salvation of the world.

Diving Redeemer of souls behold how great is the multitude of those who still sleep in the darkness of error; reckon up the number of those unfaithful sheep who stray to the edge of the precipice; consider the throngs of the poor, the hungry, the ignorant and the feeble, who groan in their abandoned condition

Return to us in the person of Thy priests; truly live again in them; act through them and pass once more through the world, teaching, forgiving, comforting, sacrificing and renewing the sacred bonds of love between the Heart of God and the heart of man. Amen.

An indulgence of 300 days once a day and a plenary indulgence if recited daily for a month.