



THE GUARDIAN

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Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

June 2018

These final few weeks of school have been a flurry of activity. There have been beautiful liturgical feastdays, ceremonies and processions. We also recently had a nice camping trip to the area around Bonners Ferry (in northern Idaho). Of course, there have been the final tests and papers due. And there is the excitement of the coming summer vacation, with just a few days left of school.

So you can imagine how happy we are to be soon heading home to be with our families for the summer. But we are also looking forward to next year and praying and hoping for more vocations to share with us the life of the seminary. We hope that you will all have a nice summer, and we pray that God will bless you. Thank you for sharing this year with us, through *The Guardian*, and keep praying for our seminary.

A Senior Looks Back

by Robrt Kolinsky, gr. 12

This is it. I have finished high school and now will be moving on for a new chapter in my life. It has been three years for me at the minor seminary. Three years that are full of abundant and overwhelming amount of memories that I will remember for the rest of my life.

I remember it just like it was yesterday when I first came back in 2015. Much has changed since then. In all my years here I can look back at the times when we had PE with the other guys in doing basketball and other sports. Times where we worked as a team to get stuff done and just

getting to know each other really well. I have been with several different groups here over the years, and I also got to know well the teachers and staff. These are all amazing people. It makes you feel great knowing that we all are on the same page in life.

And so, yes, the seminary provided a good atmosphere in learning, and just growing to becoming a better Catholic. Now there will be something different for the rest of my life, and of course there is always work to be done. But when I look back at the three years of being here, the importance of the spiritual life really stands out. After all, it is God and His Most Blessed Mother and the saints who help us during times of trial and sorrow. God comes above all else, and this is something that those who are moving on from school should remember: that a life of prayer and keeping the Rosary and going to the Holy Mass is the life we should

June Calendar

- 1 – Feast of the Queenship BVM; renewal of Total Consecration; Thiet's 14th Birthday
- 2 – Senior graduation; bishop's visit
- 3 – Annual Corpus Christi procession
- 5 – School outing to Farragut State Park
- 6 – Last day of school; awards Ceremony
- 12 – Robert's 18th birthday
- 17 – Fathers' Day
- 24 – Sisters' Vows Ceremony at Mount Saint Michael

remember to live, that we may one day see each other in the eternal happiness of Heaven.



The seminarians and students chanted the litanies during the Rogation procession.

Mary's Children

by Dominic Scherling, gr. 10

This past month being the month of May and the month of Our Lady, I decided to write about the lives of the three Fatima children and their crusade.

Located in the very center of Portugal, about 70 miles away from Lisbon, is the little village of Fatima. Here in Fatima, in the hamlet of Aljustrel, there lived a family of nine, of which Lucia was the seventh. Lucia was the eldest of the three Fatima children, and her parents' names were Senhor Antonio dos Santos and his wife, Maria Rosa. Born on March 22, 1907, Lucia was healthy and strong, with plain facial features and a lively personality. While Lucia was in her youth, she always made the effort to do the right thing and would never lead someone astray.

Francisco and Jacinta, the other two "peas in a pod," were the eighth and ninth siblings in the Senhor Manuel Marto and Senhora Olimpia Jesus de Santos family and were the first cousins to Lucia. Born on June 11, 1908, Francisco, the youngest boy in his family, was a fine looking lad, and an energetic one too! Though Francisco loved to play games, it mattered very little to him whether he won or lost, for he always tried his best. Although Francisco enjoyed teasing Jacinta, at the end of the day, they were best of friends.

Jacinta was born on March 11, 1910, and was nearly two years younger than her brother Francisco, making her the youngest in her family. Jacinta, full of cheer almost all the time, loved tending to her father's sheep, as all of these three did. If Jacinta wasn't playing with Francisco, she was either helping her mom with chores or interacting with her siblings.

Though these children were the soul of Fatima, they certainly had their fair share of trials. As you know, when word of the apparitions of Fatima got out, these three children were looked down upon with shame and disappointment, and it was not until after the miracle of the sun, that they regained their respect, love, and honor. Let us try to be like these three Fatima children and always draw near to the Blessed Virgin Mary when we are in need.

Dedication to My Dad

by Thiet Nguyen, gr. 8

This month of June is the last month of the school year, which is a very exciting month for most of us seminarians, for it's the month that we get to go home to see our beloved families again and we get to goof off for three months before another school year starts. However,

there is a very important day that most of us must keep in our mind this month, Father's Day. In this article I want to write in honor of my beloved father.

My father, Vincent Binh has now been living on this earth 34 years. Like most fathers, he has always been a friend and a guardian to me and a protector and the head of our family.

Ever since I came to this planet, he has always cared for me. For the first two years since a baby named Thiet was born, there was a man who had to get up at night to watch and feed the little infant every single day. The man who raised the baby is the happiest person as he witnesses the boy grow and learn more by time, thanks to the hands of Divine Providence. However, the boy wasn't a strong and healthy kid as the man expected.

The man realized that the boy grew up but wasn't spiritually in the grace of God, because the child wasn't baptized, for his guardian didn't take him to be baptized. So, the man took his child to be baptized and he thanks God with deepest humility and indescribable happiness as he watches the boy get stronger by time. The man also sends the boy to school for he hopes that when the boy grows up, he will be a helpful, honest citizen and a devout and holy Catholic.

When the boy happened to be a teenager, the man moved the family to the United States with the hope that the boy and his brother and sisters would get a better education and live in a better society. For according to the man, it is very important to raise his family with a Catholic atmosphere and to have his children live in a better society as they grow up, which he knows is difficult to do in his lovely homeland, the land that is marked in the pain and wretchedness of Communism and Socialism.

The man has always been happy to know his child, Thiet, who is now a young man, wants to find out if he has a vocation to become a priest, so the man applied for him to attend a minor seminary called St. Joseph Seminary to study to become a holy priest, or a helpful and devout citizen of his countries.

To conclude this article, I want to thank God, for He has given me a father, who always follows the model of St. Joseph, humbly and diligently guiding and raising our family in the spirit of a traditional Vietnamese Catholic family, who is to me my guardian. I also want to tell those who still have a father, to love and obey him for this life is very short, and later it might be too late for you to give thanks to him, who has patiently raised you since the moment of your birth.



Robert Kolinsky is our sole graduate from Saint Joseph Seminary this year.



The High School boys joined the seminarians for a field trip to Grand Coulee Dam.



Our seminarians and young men enjoy a game of soccer at the park.



The Sisters from Mount Saint Michael joined us for this year's Queenship procession.



Our annual jog-a-thon is a fundraiser for the support of our parish school.



Father Augustine crowns Our Lady during the ceremonies in honor of Our Lady's Queenship.



After the jog-a-thon the students and seminarians take a break for a group photo.



Thiet pays a visit to Our Lady's shrine on the seminary grounds.

When Jesus Walks Among Us

As I have mentioned before, one of the most important aspects to our seminary formation is the liturgy, with its various feasts and ceremonies. Young men in a minor seminary have daily Mass, common prayer and classes, but they also receive a formation that places an emphasis on the liturgical year. For as future priests, they must develop an appreciation for the sacred liturgy and a knowledge of the various ceremonies.

One of these ceremonies—very important to us at Saint Joseph Seminary—is the annual Corpus Christi procession, held on the Sunday following the feast of Corpus Christi. Often, this procession occurs after the conclusion of the school year, so seminarians who do not live in the area would have already left for the summer and are not able to participate. But this year, with the early Easter, we observe that procession on the final weekend of the school year.

Many parishes are simply unable to have a Corpus Christi procession. For it to be properly observed, there must be a dedicated group of parishioners to decorate the path and set up the outdoor altars. There is also needed a group of trained altar boys to assist with the various functions of the servers, that Our Blessed Lord might be fittingly honored in the procession.

What is unique about this procession is that Our Lord Himself is carried out of the church and along the decorated path. In other processions, we carry a statue of Our Lady or some other statue or pictures. But of the



Frs. Benedict and Augustine, the seminarians, and the Staff for St. Joseph Seminary, 2017-2018 school year.

support their proper formation. One of the greatest things we can do is to help bring priests to the altar of God so that they might offer Mass and dispense the sacraments—in short, so that they will lead souls to heaven. May God bless and reward you!

Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI

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.