



THE GUARDIAN

Vol. II, No. 9

Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

May 2001

As this issue goes to press, we will all be enjoying our Spring Break. Mother Nature is cooperating by providing us with wonderful weather, at least for the first part of Easter Week.

At the end of April several 8th grade students will be visiting us to determine if the seminary is the right place for them. We do ask you to continue to pray for a fine incoming class of freshmen for next school year. The end of April will also bring us Forty Hours, an excellent opportunity for us to grow in our devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.

May, month of Mary, is a welcome time at the seminary. The flowers are beginning to bloom, we have our various devotions to Our Lady, and, of course, the end of the school year quickly approaches. Let us all honor Our heavenly Mother in a special way during this month.

Please note that the seminary has a new address. You will find it at the bottom of the back page. No, we haven't moved, but we have been assigned a new street address by the county.

A week of grace

by Kevin Cox, gr. 11

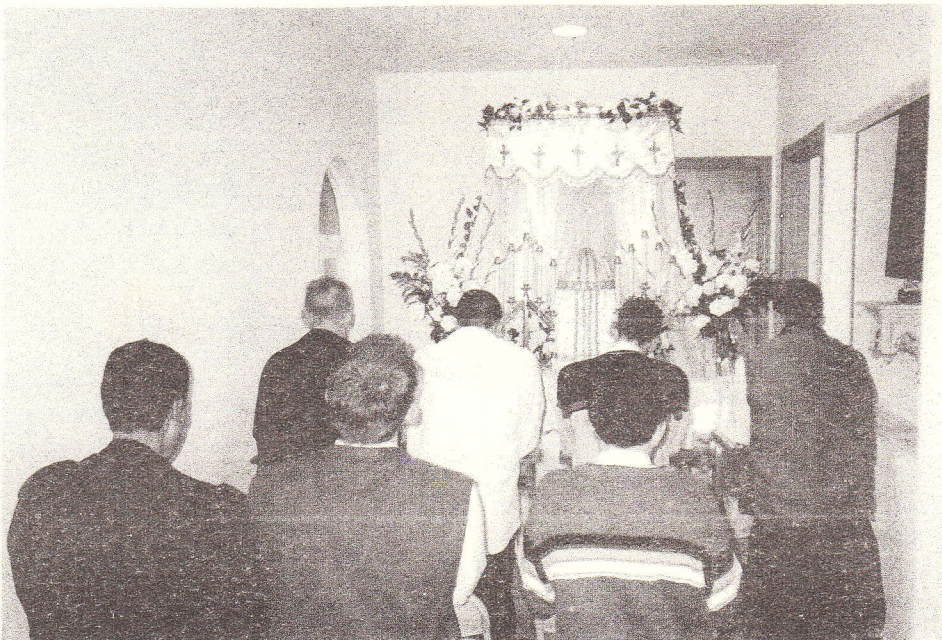
Many of the events of Holy Week served as a reminder of various truths of our Catholic Faith. It was in this week that Jesus allowed the people to acknowledge publicly that He is the Messiah. This was also the week in which Our Lord instituted the Holy Eucharist on Maundy Thursday, and the first Mass was celebrated. On the

following day Jesus sacrificed Himself for us on the hill of Calvary on that first sorrowful Good Friday. Finally, on the third day after His death, Jesus instituted the sacrament of penance, on Easter Sunday, when he appeared to the Apostles in the Upper Room.

Because of these important events, the liturgy of Holy Week is so much different from that of the rest of the year. With all of its chants and ceremonies it would have to have the name Holy Week. This year during Holy Week the seminarians participated in the liturgy in many ways. We helped by chanting and serving in the ceremonies and also by preparing the church for the different events. It was truly a week of graces for us all.

May calendar

- 1 — St. Joseph's feastday; no homework
- 9 — Mid-Quarter
- 11 — Overnight at Slater residence
- 20 — Louis's birthday
- 24 — Ascension Thursday; no school
- 25 — End-of-year camping trip
- 28 — Memorial Day; no classes
- 30 — Charlie's birthday
- 31 — Queenship feastday; dedication of our church



"Could you not watch one hour with Me?" The seminarians keep company with Our Lord during Holy Thursday night.

Buon giorno

by Charlie Rodriguez, gr. 10

Ciao, readers! The seminarians this year are learning a foreign language. Last year we were visited by Mr. Glenn, who is fluent in several languages: Italian, Spanish, and French. On that occasion he introduced us to these neat languages, as he was to be our foreign language teacher. When he asked us which language we would like to learn, it was unanimously decided that Italian would be the foreign language for this year. Every seminarian has this course, except the freshmen who are taking physical science. After all, another foreign language would be difficult for students who are just learning Latin.

Italian is taught during the third period of the day. Every day during class the seminarians practice *esercizi*, exercises. Mr. Glenn has each student take a turn. He asks a question in Italian and the pupil answers back—in Italian. The seminarians learn the grammar of the language, and at the same time we also learn conversational Italian. We also have exercises called *traduzione* or translations. These are short paragraphs or stories which the seminarians translate into English. We then answer the questions that follow in *Italiano*.

Every two weeks the students begin a new chapter. Since Mr. Glenn has the only original copy of the book that we learn from, he takes the time to make copies of the lessons for us. We are hoping soon to get adequate books for all the students so Mr. Glenn will not have to take any more time than is needed. After all, he not only teaches us Italian and other subjects, but he also teaches history to the younger students of Mary Immaculate Queen School. So gaining these new books would greatly help Mr. Glenn time-wise. Also, by obtaining our own books, it would be easier to study for the cumulative tests which occur every quarter.

Every seminarian who is taking this class likes it. I for one like it because I have some Italian heritage, and learning a language that my forefathers spoke is exciting. It will open new doors of communication when I speak to my relatives who are native to this particular tongue. And since Spanish is similar to Italian, I can also understand more of the conversation of my Mexican relatives.

Arrivederci for now, dear readers. *Spero scrivere presto!* (I will write soon!)

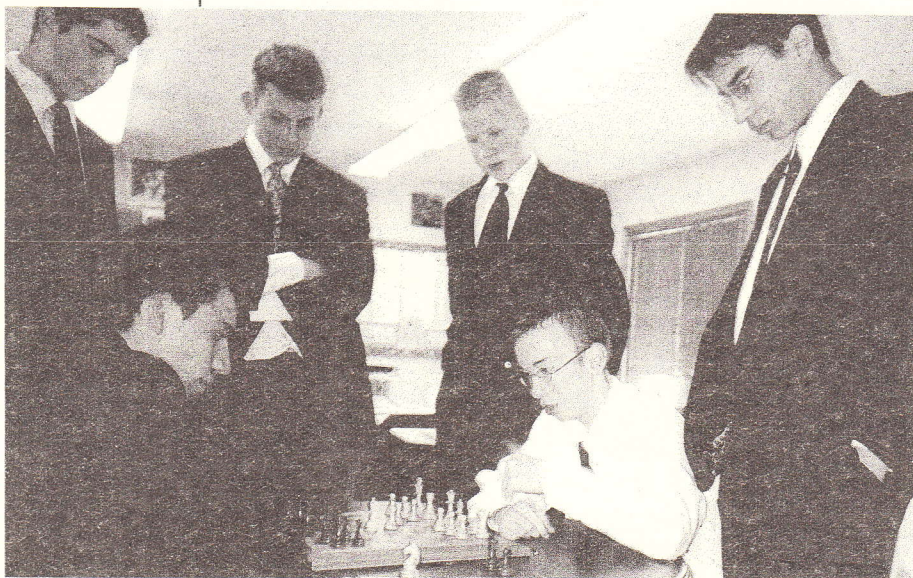
Check mate!

by Philip Dunphy, gr. 10

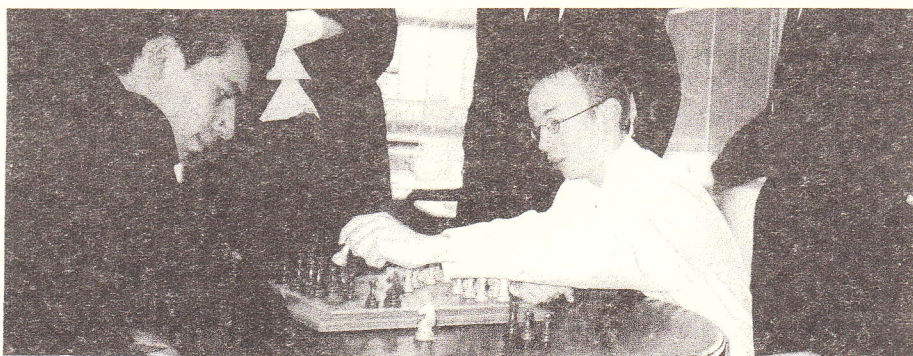
This year, along with the ping-pong tournament, we started the practice of a chess tournament, which we hope to make an annual event. All the seminarians participated in this tourney which was very competitive.

The match-ups for the first round were decided by a lottery. In this double-elimination tournament everyone had a fair chance to make it to the final round. The first round went quickly as most winners won their best-of-three matches 2-0. The second round saw better competition. In one of the matches there were 2 draws. But in the end, Isaac and Kevin squared off for an "all-Michigan" championship match. (Kevin had gone undefeated until the championship.) The first game was won by Isaac, but Kevin followed up with a win of his own. In the final and decisive game, Kevin beat Isaac and became chess champion for this year.

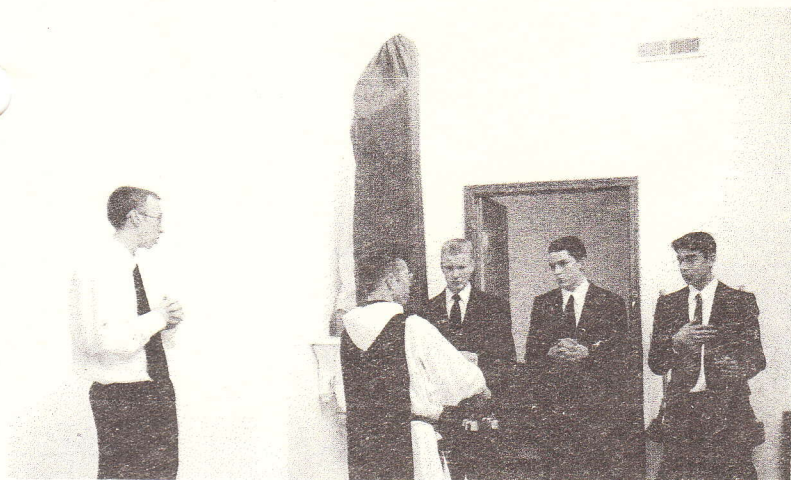
We all enjoyed the tournament and look forward to next year for the opportunity of being declared Chess Champion of the seminary.



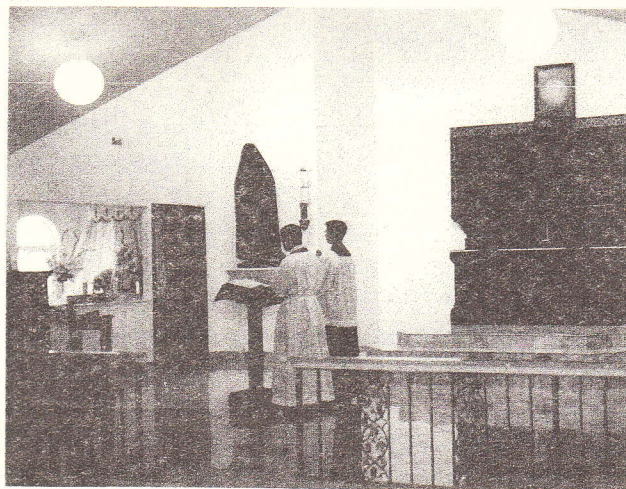
The pressure mounts under the intense gaze of onlooking seminarians as Isaac and Kevin battle it out during the chess tournament championship.



Kevin captures another piece en route to winning the championship title.



Father provides instructions to the seminarians during serving practice for the Holy Week Liturgies.



The unadorned sanctuary conveys the sorrow of Christ's Passion during the Good Friday ceremonies.



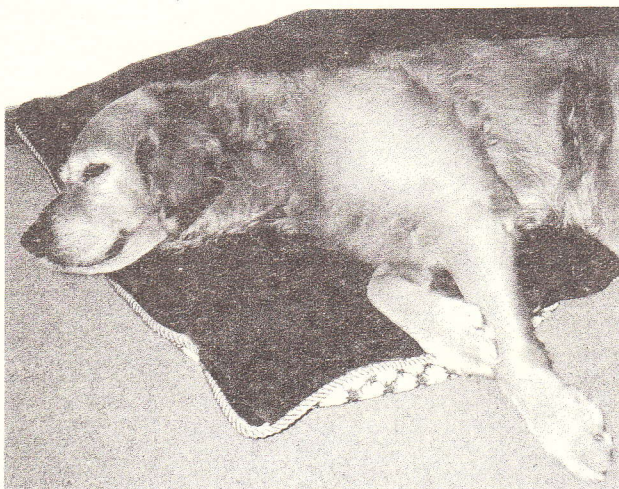
Kevin prepares for Easter by polishing the altar bells used during the Easter Mass.



During the Easter Vigil ceremonies, the dark night is illuminated by the light of the Paschal Candle, symbolizing Christ, Light of the World.



The seminarians take a break to enjoy a competitive game of basketball at the park.



Back at the seminary Caesar takes a break to nap on his dog pillow.

Spring fever

by Matthew Dunphy, gr. 9

At the end of the third quarter comes our favorite time of year — Spring Break. The end of the third quarter brings a time of relaxing vacation. This vacation means no school and enough free time to do a little “goofing off.” This reprieve comes at the perfect time because you’re almost done with school, and you get a little break to rest your mind before the last stretch of work. Believe me, this helps you focus a little better, as long as you don’t come back to school in “vacation mode.” In this case, it will take some effort to get back into the mindset of studying.

During vacation we will usually do some work and a lot of relaxing. This time also brings some extra sleep for a change. Also, during this time we may even have the opportunity to travel to visit relatives or friends. One thing we all would like, however, would be a longer vacation. But we know that won’t happen, so we’ll have to make this break a good one.

Lenten weather

by Francis Abernathey, gr. 11

April showers bring May flowers, or so they say, but what about snow showers? It’s not supposed to snow in April. Once or twice, maybe, but every day? The weather during Passiontide (the first two weeks of April) was certainly appropriate — it was penitential. It seems that Mother Nature just couldn’t make up her mind — she didn’t know if she wanted winter to stay or spring to come.

Although the weather was miserable in north Idaho, the seminarians weren’t down. We had been suffering from a little spring fever, so we were just happy that Easter had arrived along with Spring Break!

It was a holy Lent for us, but long and snowy. Now we are all ready for some sunshine and green grass so we can start making our Wednesday outings to the park. And if winter does decide to stay a little longer, I hope enough of the snow stays around so we can sled.

Grade cards

Seminarians love to find out their grades — and as quickly as possible after the end of the quarter. From the end of the

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 Theology, Latin, 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.

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.

last test, seminarians are continually at my door asking, “Have you finished my grades yet?” It is good to see this interest in their progress, but it can make things difficult for getting the grades done!

All in all, I am pleased with the academic efforts of our seminarians. During the second quarter the average “gpa” (grade point average) of all seminarians had increased two-tenths of a point from the first quarter. And again, for the third quarter they brought up seminary average another two-tenths of a point. We also added a new name to the honor roll for the second quarter and another at the conclusion of the third.

In general, I am very pleased with the academic efforts of our young men. The academic curriculum of the seminary is not easy, to say the least. In fact, it is quite demanding. The discipline of hard study, however, will serve these young men well in their future life. Please continue to keep us all in your prayers. You are daily remembered in ours.

Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI

The Guardian is published monthly for the enjoyment of our benefactors and for the family members of our seminarians. This newsletter is free upon request.

St. Joseph Seminary
15384 N. Church Rd.
Rathdrum, ID 83858-7650