



# THE GUARDIAN

Vol. IV, No. 10

Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

June 2003

The past month was packed with many activities. In early May we attended the film on Lewis and Clark. This especially interests us because they explored the area of the country where we live. This year marks the bicentennial of the start of their incredible journey.

We also have enjoyed our annual trip to the Seattle area, but we will wait until our next issue to tell you about it. May also included several processions for Rogation days and in honor of the Queenship of Mary. During the past weekend we helped out with an annual fundraiser for our parish school, which consists of a dinner followed by a musical program. The seminarians helped in serving the meal and also sang in the program.

Recently, the seminary has welcomed several visitors — young men who are checking out the seminary for possible entrance as seminarians. One visitor from British Columbia and two from Omaha, Nebraska, were recent guests. Now we are wondering how many students will enroll for next year.

June means that we have just one week left of school. During this first week of June we will wrap up our classes, take exams, clean out our rooms, pack our luggage and prepare to leave for the summer. On Thursday we will have a program, combined with the grade school students, and the awards will be distributed.

Friday is our final day of school. As is customary, each seminarian is asked to give a short speech to say what he remembers most from this school year and how it helped him. Then, on Saturday, Phil Dunphy, our only senior, will graduate. After that, we are off for

the summer. Needless to say, we all are anxiously awaiting our summer vacation and hope that you also will have a nice summer.

## Historical insight

by Michael LeStage, gr. 10

On the second of May, we all piled into the van to take the short trip to the IMAX theater in Spokane. The reason for going was to see the Lewis and Clark film. This was an awesome sight at the IMAX. Why? Because this isn't like any ordinary theater — the screen is much bigger. It's always more enjoyable watching something on a larger screen. As you know, the bigger the better.

Our primary reason for going to see this movie was to acquire a better knowledge of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. If you have ever delved deeply into their journey, you know how hard they worked to achieve their goal.

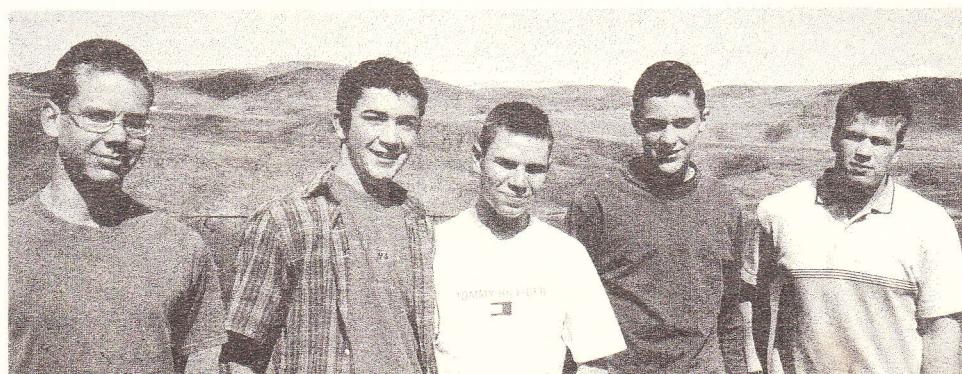
As you probably know, their journey was not exactly a cake walk. It took over two years and was dangerously risky. They faced numerous encounters with Indian tribes, some of which were hostile. Also, there was the harsh

## June calendar

- 4-6 — Final exams
- 5 — School program and awards ceremony
- 6 — Last day of school
- 7 — Senior graduation
- 18-21 — Annual Men's Retreat
- 19 — Corpus Christi Procession
- 25 — Monthly Mass for benefactors
- 27 — Sisters' Vows Ceremony

weather and difficult terrain. Nevertheless, they somehow managed to make it to the Pacific Ocean and back — alive.

Seeing this film really made us realize and appreciate the courage of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark in exploring their country's new lands. If it weren't for them, perhaps the Pacific Northwest would have remained unexplored for decades to come. Certainly, we owe a great deal to their dedication.



On our way to Seattle, we enjoyed a scenic stop along the Columbia River.

## Our May devotions

by Seth Reed, gr. 9

Usually here at the seminary we have a daily rosary at 5:20 p.m. But for the month of May (the month of Our Lady) there is a slightly different schedule. During May there is a public rosary at 7:00 p.m. at the main church. It's so nice to see how many people attend the rosary. At first I thought the seminarians would be practically the only ones, and I'm glad I was wrong. It also is a special privilege to say the rosary in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, especially during the month of Our Lady.

Also in the month of May, we have a daily crowning of the statue of Our Lady. Each day a seminarian is assigned to arrange a bouquet of flowers for her shrine. On some days we pray the Little Crown of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We also sing hymns to Our Lady each day, which is a nice practice for the month of May.

## A different kind of schoolwork

by Stephen Brodman, gr. 10

On May 13<sup>th</sup>, the seminarians had a half-day of school and a half-day of work. We were lucky to get the afternoon off school on this rare occasion. We still had to work, but that was more fun to do than class work or homework.

To start it off, with a chainsaw we cleared away a bunch of dead trees, branches, and brush around the church. We piled up all the dead wood and hauled it off in the old pickup truck to the burn pile. This took about ten full trips, but we got it done. We burned the wood and brush later, after a good rainfall, and it made quite a massive bonfire.

It was about 4:00 p.m. when we finally finished our chores, an hour later than we would normally get out of school. I really didn't care though, because we got out of a half-day of school.

I think that the seminarians should do this more often, since we get out of school to do outdoor work. I mean — we do work in school and cleaning brush away is work, so why not do the outdoor work since it's more fun? How about it, Father?

## Reliving the past

by Matt Dunphy, gr. 11

This year the upper-classmen have been studying world history. We are finally getting to the really interesting parts, as we are studying the Twentieth Century, including World Wars I and II. We also have been studying the aftermath of World War II and the Cold War. So far it's been really interesting, and I'll tell about some of what we have learned.

The underlying causes of World War I were nationalism, imperialism and the rise of *militarism*, which is the glorification of war and promotes the idea that war is very heroic. The event that actually started the war was the assassination of

Archduke Francis Ferdinand in Sarajevo. You might say that this event blew the war wide open. Another cause of the war was the fact that various countries had been making alliances and forming treaties with other nations, which caused tension among other countries.

At the end of the First World War, the leaders of the victorious countries got together and made the Treaty of Versailles. This treaty was not really accepted and it laid the groundwork for the next world war. The reason why was because this treaty had blamed the war entirely on the Germans and made them pay reparations for damages caused by the war. All that this accomplished was to make the Germans resentful and distrustful, thus leading to the next war.

After the First World War, of course, Hitler came to power in Germany and was looking to conquer most of Europe. Later on, when we were attacked at Pearl Harbor, the United States joined the war to fight against Japan and then also fought against Germany and Italy. Towards the end of the war, when we were fighting against Japan, President Harry Truman decided to use the Atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

After World War II the Cold War began. This wasn't a "war" of physical fighting but rather of brain power and the building up of weapons. This was mainly fought between the United States and the Soviet Union. I really am enjoying learning all of this history about the past century. Hopefully, the world will learn from past mistakes and not repeat them.

## A true Holy Father

by Mr. Tim Duff

How appropriate that as I write this on May 5<sup>th</sup>, the seminary is experiencing a spring snow. For today is the feast of the great St. Pius V, a Dominican and the first pope to wear white, a tradition kept by all subsequent popes.

Of all the saints dear to Catholics struggling to preserve the faith in our age of the Great Apostasy, certainly St. Pius V is of the first rank. He is the one who codified (made the law of the Church) the traditional Latin Mass, infallibly and irreversibly decreeing that this Mass could be used by all priests everywhere in future times, that it would always remain valid

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*The seminarians' and children's choirs sing at a recent funeral.*



*The end of the year means final exams.*



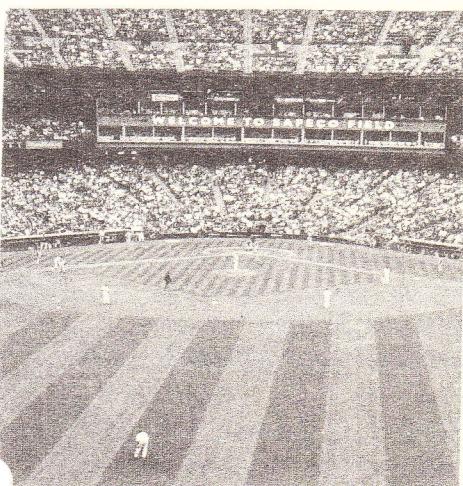
*On our Seattle trip we stopped at the Gingko Petrified Forest State Park in Vantage, Washington. Here Michael stands alongside some petrified tree specimens.*



*From time to time, the seminarians have the opportunity to fulfill a corporal work of mercy: to bury the dead.*



*We enjoyed a visit to the former St. Thomas Seminary near Seattle.*



*Our seats at the Mariners' game were in center field. (Seattle won the game 5-1 against the Kansas City Royals.)*



*Stephen enjoyed the baseball game even though he is a Cleveland Indians fan.*



*Some of the action from our recent pool tournament.*

## A true Holy Father

continued from page 2

and legal, that no priest could ever be forced to offer, or any lay person be forced to attend, any other.

The Holy Father codified the Mass certainly under inspiration of the Holy Ghost, not just as a response to the Protestant attack in his day but also as a remedy for the even greater attacks of future ages. His perpetual indult (permission) to attend the traditional Latin Mass is primarily for *us*, faced as we are with the "abomination of desolation," the "New Mass."

I have often said that if today we must somehow scruple or fear divine justice for attending the traditional Latin Mass, then the words of this great pope have no meaning — he might as well have played golf (or built a snowman!) that afternoon rather than write the infallible Constitution whereby the Mass would be preserved even in the face of the Great Apostasy.

Let us have the most filial gratitude and affection for such a loving, wise and prudent Holy Father, and let us beseech him, along with great Sts. Peter and Paul, and all the Apostles and holy popes in heaven, to quickly end this severe chastisement of the Church (and the world). Let us pray for the grace to be taught, governed, and led by a true and holy pope like himself, who rather than ravage the flock like the Modernist anti-popes have done, will guide, govern and protect it as the true Vicar of the Good Shepherd who would never put a wolf over His flock.

## A priestly heart, the Sacred Heart

This past month the seminary lost a member, you might say, of our family. Mary Gilfoil, a dear parishioner, passed away, after a long battle with cancer. This was especially significant to us, since Mary's husband Richard Gilfoil was a seminary instructor during the first two years of the seminary ('99-'01). All of the seminarians participated in the corporal work of mercy of digging the grave and in singing or serving the funeral Mass. Our sympathy and prayers are extended to Richard Gilfoil in this time of sorrow.

The past few weeks have flown by, with numerous activities, but the most significant event will come at the end of the month with the ordinations in Omaha. Although, unfortunately, I won't be able to take any of our minor seminarians with me, an ordination to the priesthood is something that no priest would want to miss. Such a ceremony brings back sentiments of deep gratitude and joy, as a priest in

## 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.

## 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.

attendance remembers his own ordination. The saints have said that priests do not fully comprehend what a gift has been given them in their priesthood, but each ordination ceremony helps us to understand that gift a little bit better.

The ordinations on May 31<sup>st</sup> in Omaha also remind me of the purpose of our minor seminary. God alone knows how many of the young men that have been — or in future will be — educated here will eventually become priests. That number, however, does not concern me. What really matters is that we produce holy priests, for one "Cure of Ars" can do more for souls than a hundred mediocre priests. So we pray and work to form young men who are serious about their Faith and who love God. I know that you join me in this daily prayer.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus, whom we especially honor during June, bless you and your loved ones. Let us remember His promise that He will "bless every place in which an image of His Heart is exposed and honored." May He bless you, and may He give to our priests the gift of "touching even the hardest of hearts." I thank you for your prayers and support.

Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI

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