



THE GUARDIAN

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Monthly newsletter of St. Joseph Seminary

May 2018

At last the final full month of the school year has arrived. And with it has come beautiful weather. We have now started to go down to the park for recreation on some days. Here at the seminary we have a gym and the large parking lot. We have fields and hills that are great for games like "Capture the Flag." But we don't have a level grass-covered field. So trips to the park for sports are a highlight of each week.

In the liturgy, we are becoming familiar with the Litany of the Saints. Recently, we chanted it in procession for the opening and closing ceremonies of Forty Hours. Then, a few days later, came the outdoor procession of the Greater Litanies. Finally, in another week, we shall have the Rogation Days. These processions with the chanted litany are for the purpose of asking for God's blessings, both temporal and spiritual. Sometimes we can take for granted our blessings, so these are opportunities to remind us that we must continue to implore God's mercy and His many blessings.

We also have made our "May altar" in the seminary. Every day of May, one of the seminarians provides flowers for the shrine, where we kneel each morning to honor our heavenly Mother. Then, in the evening, we pray the Rosary with the parishioners. We also pray another prayer called the "Little Crown" of the Blessed Virgin Mary. But the highlight of the month will be the Queenship procession at the end of the month.

So let us all honor Our Blessed Mother in a special way this month.

Pray for us, and we will also remember you in our prayers.

Forty Hours With Our Lord

by Thiet Nguyen, gr. 8

From Friday, the 20th of April, to Sunday, the 22nd, we seminarians and the parishioners of Mary Immaculate Queen had a privilege to be with Our Lord for the parish's annual Forty Hours Devotion. Many of us may ask, "What's the main purpose of this devotion?" or "I don't have anything to say to our Lord, why am I obliged to be at the church for so much time?" for it lasts for three days with Our Lord exposed on the altar.

In 1853, the well-known, saintly bishop of Philadelphia, John Neumann carried on this holy devotion which was established by Pope Clement VIII in 1592, and introduced it to the United States. His Holiness, Pope Pius IX granted the approval of this devotion to be widely practiced in America.

We should be convinced that if we want our work to be centered in God, our will, at least, must remain virtually united to Him. That is why we should, from time to time, renew our intention. Furthermore, face to face with God, or better still, heart to heart with Him, we can repeat our complete purpose, renew our spiritual forces, and ask Our Lord to grant us the strength to overcome all of our trials and temptations.

It is true that many Catholics don't have enough patience to be kneeling before Our Lord to talk and pray to Him for an entire hour. "Could you not watch one hour with Me?" Jesus

May Calendar

- 1 – Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker; special observances
- 4 – Mid-quarter
- 8 – Rogation procession
- 9 – Field trip to Grand Coulee Dam
- 10 – Ascension Thursday; Holyday of Obligation; no school
- 28 – Memorial Day; no school; Queenship Procession
- 31 – Feast of Corpus Christi

pledged with His apostles, whose eyes were heavy with sleep. Are you going to say "One complete hour? That's too much!" to Him?

We should always remember that we have such a great blessing from God to have this holy devotion of Forty Hours Adoration, for non-Catholics don't have any acknowledgment of Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist like we do. Above all, we should give thanks to Our Lord, who became man to die for our many sins that caused Him such great sorrow, piercing His Sacred Heart.



The seminarians joined the High School students to sing the Mass for the opening ceremonies of the Forty Hours.

Back to Spring

by Dominic Scherling, gr. 11

This is it, the time is here,
The moment to smell the spring-filled air,
As the blossoms bloom, and tulips grow,
When trees dry out, and when stars glow,

When birds come forth and chirp their songs,
Scenery approaches in great throngs
Yes, this is the time to stop and listen,
And watch the wonder-work of God glisten.

Now this season has begun,
It is the time to have some fun,
To take advantage of the sun,
And play the sports that have begun.

After a hard and brutal winter,
And the coldness of our nature.
This is the time to cherish most,
For all God's creatures tend to boast,

This is the time to appreciate,
And the time to dedicate,
All the goods that God bestowed,
And all that nature has often showed.

Don't forget to bring a football,
A sunny park is that which does call,
And after all the games you've played,
It's time to enjoy sweet lemonade.

After the summit of the season,
I will want winter for a reason,
To cool off the days and all the breeze,
And make the work load done with ease.

Hunting is a sport I do,
And fishing is enjoyable too,
And after we have done our trip,
Then we plan to take a dip.

Though we like to go on hikes,
We sometimes like to roam on bikes,
And after that we barbecue,
Have a fire and roast s'mores too.

Half way through summer vacation,
There comes forth an excitation,
Boys Camp is this time of gladness,
When all there is, is peaceful goodness.

As we close our grace-filled break,
We must remember to give God our day,
For in this world, there's much to give,
If we desire to forever live!

My Journey to the East Coast

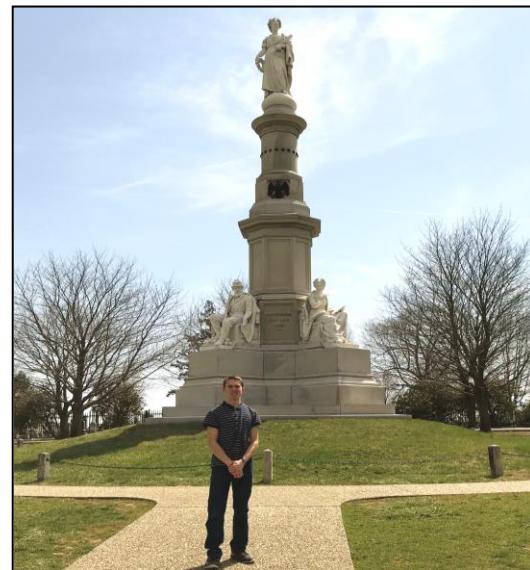
by Robert Kolinsky, gr. 12

Over the course of last month I spent almost two weeks with Fr. Benedict on the East coast. Now why did I go with him? Well since I am a senior this would be my senior trip for the year, and I will tell you about it.

There was a great deal of moving around and of course we got to visit sights such as monuments and museums, and some shrines of the saints. What I particularly liked to see was the shrine of St. Francis Xavier Cabrini. This was because this shrine contained her relics, and she was the saint that I served my first Mass, and that was just a little memory that gave me an interest. I also was interested in strolling the fields of the battle of Gettysburg. There they have preserved the battlefield, and since I knew a lot about the history I really enjoyed viewing the landscapes. So I certainly got to visit new places and there were a number of states that I had not visited before. And this trip was done towards the end of Spring Break, which gave me more time off school. It was certainly a vacation.

Now since I was with a priest we had the Mass. It was interesting to be in action with Father in doing his Sunday circuit. Here I got to go to the parishes where we had Mass, such as in Salem, New Hampshire, and then a several hour drive north to Oakland, Maine. So that was Our Sunday. We even drove to the homes of some of the Faithful to have Mass. For example, we had Mass for a family in New Jersey and another in Rhode Island.

It was a fun ride for a senior trip. There was the fun, but I also got to see a CMRI priest in action doing his missions for the people. So we must remember to pray for the priests and all who dedicate their time and effort to bring the Blessed Sacrament to the faithful of the Church.



Robert stands at the spot where Lincoln delivered his famous Gettysburg Address.



The opening Mass of the Forty Hours.



Pool is a popular recreation in the evening, when homework is finished.



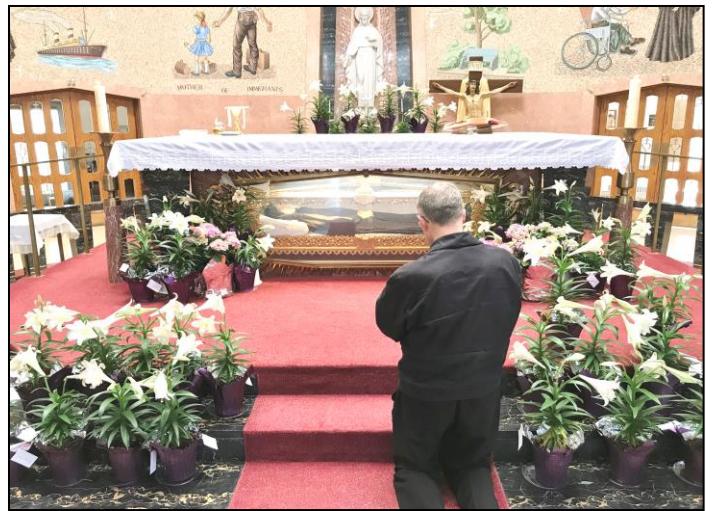
The seminarians and parishioners sing the Litany of the Saints during the Greater Litanies procession on April 25th.



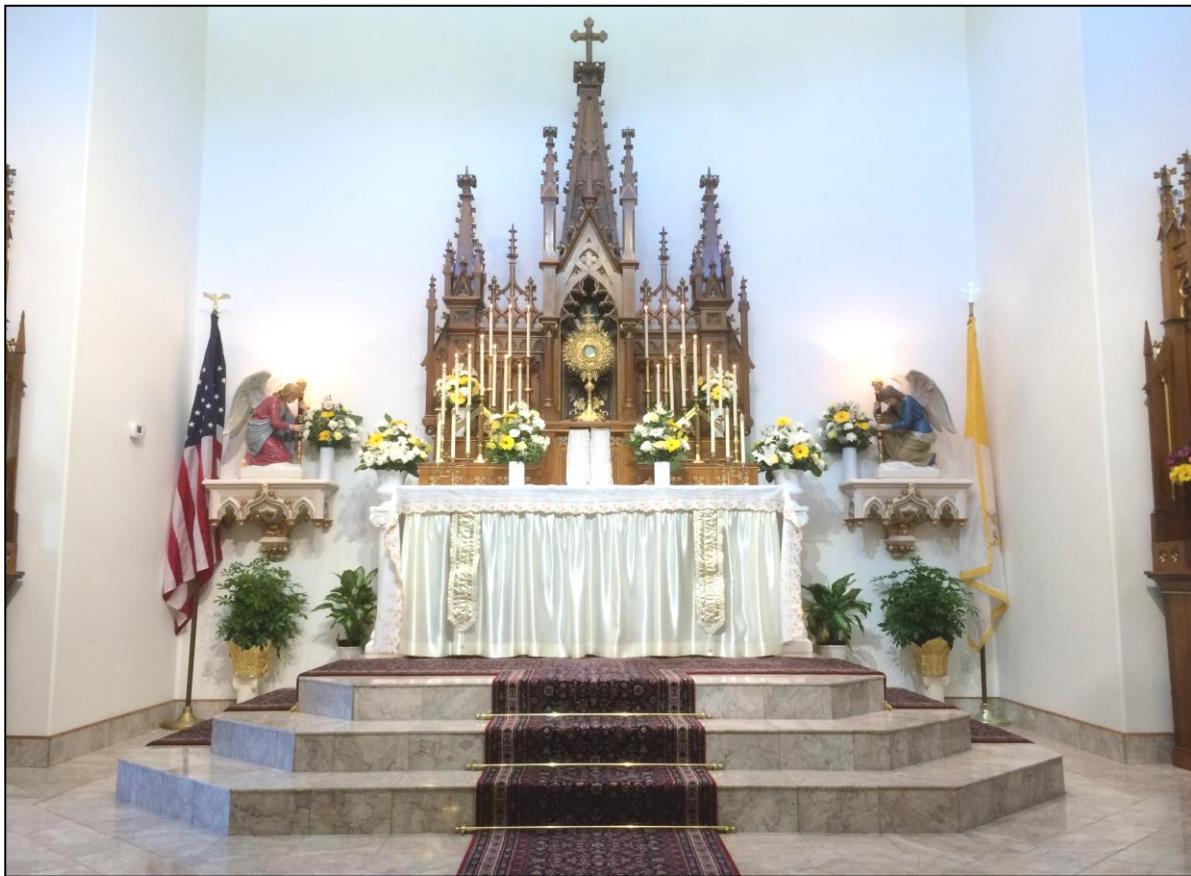
Blessing of the New Fire at the Easter Vigil.



The Mass of the Easter Vigil.



Father Benedict and Robert prayed at the shrine of Mother Cabrini in New York.



The Blessed Sacrament remained exposed on our altar for Forty Hours on the weekend of April 20-22.

Mary's Month

There are many liturgical celebrations and processions which occur at this time of year, but the devotion which dominates our thoughts is that of honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary during her month, the month of May. There are many ways of doing this, but what matters most is the love with which we honor her.

Saint Louis Marie de Montfort points out, in his masterpiece True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, that there are various practices of devotion, both interior and exterior. The inward devotion expresses itself exteriorly, and the exterior devotions foster the internal spirit. While we ought to practice both kinds of devotion, let us remember that the internal spirit is the more important.

The internal spirit consists in the love and esteem that we have for Our Lady in our hearts. If that is lacking, then the external devotions—processions, May shrines,

providing flowers, wearing the scapular, etc.—will be meaningless. It would be like having a body without a soul. The interior spirit is the soul of our devotion to Our Lady.

May we all grow in that interior spirit during this month dedicated to Our Blessed Mother. She is a tender, loving mother, to whom we owe honor, gratitude and love. Let us not fail to show her the love and devotion that she so richly deserves!

We are most grateful for your support for our seminary. Please continue to pray for our seminary and that a good group of young men will heed the call of Our Lord to follow Him. Priests are desperately needed today, but above all, we need holy priests. That is why the work of the seminary is so important. So please continue to pray for our work and do what you can to support it. We also pray for you and your intentions in our daily prayers. May God abundantly reward you!

Fr. Benedict Hughes, CMRI

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