



THE GUARDIAN

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Monthly newsletter of Saint Joseph Seminary

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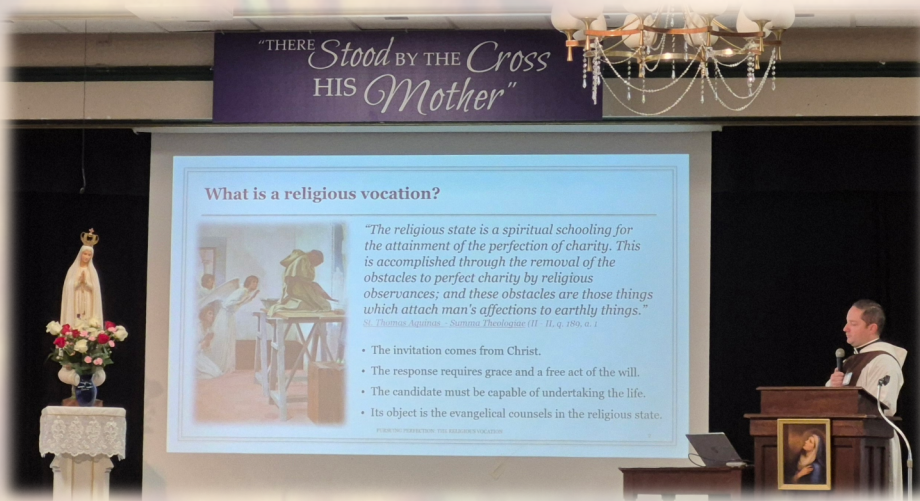
This past month has been a busy one here at the seminary! October started off with Fr. Martin's feastday on the 3rd. To celebrate this festival of both the Little Flower and our P.E. teacher, we went to play ice hockey that night at a local rink. On the feast of the Most Holy Rosary on the 7th, we held a Rosary procession here. The seminarians, as usual, carried the statue of Our Lady during the ceremony.

ful privilege of serving at this Mass offered by the Bishop.

The next day, the 10th, was another Rosary procession – this time at Mount Saint Michael in honor of Our Lady of Fatima. We were privileged to carry the statue of Our Lady for this candlelit procession, as well. On Sunday, the final day of the Fatima Conference, the guests came up to the City of Mary for a Solemn High Mass, which the seminarians

November Calendar

- 1 – Feast of All Saints
- 2 – All Souls Day; special observances for the Poor Souls
- 21 – Feast of the Presentation of BVM; chanted Vespers
- 25 – Thanksgiving Vacation begins after classes
- 29 – First Sunday of Advent
- 30 – Classes resume



Father Philip's lecture at the Fatima Conference was on religious vocations.

On the 8th and 9th, we attended the lectures for the annual Fatima Conference at Mount Saint Michael. The speakers, coming from all over the world, gave excellent talks this year. On Friday the 9th, a Pontifical High Mass was held at Mount Saint Michael for the conference guests. The minor seminarians, as usual, had the wonder-

served. In the following reception, we sang a few hymns for the entertainment of the visitors. As you see, it was a packed week for us at the seminary!

After receiving a couple weeks of well-earned rest, we began preparations for our annual All Saints Day party at Mary Immaculate Queen. As usual, we helped

run the carnival games for the children in attendance. It's always a lot of work to set up, but it pays off, since the children from the parish really enjoy these activities. In addition, the seminarians carved pumpkins for the competition held at the party.

November having arrived, we now turn our attention to prayer for the souls in Purgatory. We will sing several Requiem High Masses, which will be detailed in the next issue of *The Guardian*. We will also make several visits to the cemetery here, to gain indulgences for the Poor Souls. We encourage you to pray for the Poor Souls during this upcoming month, as well.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them!

A Time to Remember

by Leo Mansfield, gr. 11

After two months of being here at the minor seminary, the biggest highlights so far were going to the lake house, going to ordinations, and going to the Fatima Conference. All these events were phenomenal, but I'd have to say that the Fatima Conference was my favorite. There was something about this year's conference that made it better than the other two years I went.

First of all, the choir was phenomenal during the pontifical High Mass. Second, the banquet was very



The seminarians take a break between lectures at the Conference.

good this year and it has improved over the last few years. My first year I really liked the pomegranate cider, my second year I liked the tiramisu, but overall, the most well-done banquet was this one.

Third, the conference talks were definitely the best this year—they were all amazing. For example, Father Philip spoke on the need for vocations, how the world can drag you out of wanting to try it, and because you can try the religious life, but you can't try the married life. Father Zepeda made a very good point on how the internet works and how we need to step up our game in saving souls in this generation. Sr. Marie Vianney's talk on CK4L (Catholic Kids for Life) was very wholesome and interesting, plus I've never heard a Sister talk at the podium before. Father Benedict's talk, Bishop Sim's talk, Bishop Pivarunas' talk and all the rest were some of the best I've ever heard.

I met a lot of new people at the Mount that were very good and was edified by the atmosphere of the majority of the high school boys there. Overall, this Fatima Conference is something I'm never going to forget. I could speak all day about the amazing conference talks and the great moments we enjoyed.

The Art of Pumpkin Carving

by Diego Diaz, gr. 10

Everyone looks forward to November; why not? The feast of all Saints is in November; on November 2nd, we get a chance to help the poor souls in purgatory; and on November 26, we get to come together as families and give thanks to God for all he has given us. Sometimes, Advent starts in November, as will be the case this year, and we get to prepare for the wonderful coming of Our Lord on Christmas. November is truly a blessed, jam-packed month when we, as Catholics, can enjoy the wonderful spiritual and temporal benefits the Church gives us.

Personally, I love November; what is there not to like about it? In most schools, you get to dress up as a Saint, either your favorite saint or just a really awesome saint that you recently tried to be more devoted to. Also, in some schools, pumpkin carving contests are a big thing, like here at the minor seminary. Here we take pumpkin carving very seriously, very, very seriously. It's actually kind of stressful, because this week, we have the end of the Quarter; we have to set up the carnival game booths for the kids, figure out what saint we want to dress up as, and carve our pumpkins. Actually, it's fine; I'm not complaining.

Anyways, now that I've vented to you about how stressful this week will be, there will also be some fun parts. Do you know how to carve a pumpkin? I bet you do; pumpkin carving is in your blood, but just in

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The seminarians helped the altar boys at the Mount in carrying the statue of Our Lady for the candlelight procession.



Felix looks on as Brother Fidelis and Jonathan Kinley help in processing the grapes.



The wood splitter is a big help with preparing the wood for the winter.



Brother Ignatius Marie joins the seminarians for some recreation after homework is done.



During their weekly biology lab the seminarians have been using microscopes.



Our apple trees produced an abundance of apples this year.



On Friday evening we relax after a busy school week with various indoor games.

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case you didn't know, let me educate you on the art of pumpkin carving.

Now let me explain to you the steps for carving a pumpkin. 1) You find either a nice religious or secular stencil for your pumpkin. 2) You tape the stencil to your pumpkin and start to outline it with tacks. 3) You take the stencil off, and then you start shaving off the parts of your pumpkin that need to be taken off. 4) Lastly, you add your finishing touches and admire your beautiful work of art.

In conclusion, I really, really like November. It's the perfect environment for a sanguine like me, just



During October we recited our daily Rosary before the Blessed Sacrament exposed.

fun and games. Let us not, however, forget to pray to our patron saints and to pray for the poor souls in purgatory during this month, that we may obtain many graces not only for our beloved departed, but also for ourselves, for our family, and for our country. May you have an ever-blessed November. Hopefully your pumpkin looks really cool, and may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen. All ye Saints of the Lord, pray for us!

The Veneration of Relics

The month of November begins with the important feast of All Saints. The purpose of Holy Mother Church with the institution of this feast is to honor all the saints in heaven, from the greatest to the least. Since it is not possible during the year to honor all the saints (or even to know who they are), this feast fittingly makes up for the deficiencies in our



The seminarians served the Solemn High Mass on the feast of the Divine Maternity.

devotion.

It is also a reminder to us of our duty to honor God's dearest friends, the saints. How can we do this? We can learn about their lives and pray to them. We also show honor to their relics and images. Here at our church and seminary we are privileged to possess several dozen first-class relics of saints. We honor them because we know that these saints are in heaven, and their bodies, after the general resurrection, will be reunited with their souls to share the happiness of heaven.

The Council of Trent teaches: "The holy bodies of the holy martyrs and of others living with Christ... are to be venerated by the faithful, through which many benefits are bestowed by God on men" (Session XXV). For this reason, we have a beautiful relic case at our church, containing the relic of the True Cross and relics of the bodies of various saints. In the seminary the relics are displayed on the altar and the side shrines. In the Roman Missal there is even a feast of the holy relics on November 5, which is celebrated in some places.

- Father Benedict Hughes, CMRI



We have Benediction every First Friday in honor of the Sacred Heart.

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.

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