

all live in the spirit of St. Joseph's faithful and wise service of Christ. May we advance in a pure love for the Immaculate Virgin, who will bring us more closely to the love of God, whereby we may fulfil our vocation as other Christs, guarding tenaciously the eternal truths of Revelation and the Bread of Heaven, nourishing the flock of Christ. Mary Help of Christians, watch over us!

In Christ the King,



Rev. Fr. Vicente A. Griego
Rector, Holy Cross Seminary



Rev. Fr. Arnaud Rostand, District Superior of the United States (who preached the Opening Retreats), Rev. Fr. John Fullerton, District Superior of Australia and Rev. Fr. Louis Bochkoltz from New Zealand were present for this group photograph of the Faculty, Brothers and Seminarians at Holy Cross on the first day of classes.

Announcements:

- **Holy Cross Seminary can email an electronic subscription of the Seminary Newsletter** for all who prefer. If you wish to receive the Seminary Newsletter via email (usually in colour!), please send your request to: website@holycrossseminary.com Please inform us if you wish to continue receiving the printed copy.
- **Ignatian Retreat for 2014** (you may register at retreats@holycrossseminary.com or by post at the addresses listed above):
 - **Men's Ignatian Retreat:** 6-11 January 2014;
 - **Ladies' Ignatian Retreat:** 27 January – 1 February 2014
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - 7th June – Solemn High Mass with the Receiving of the Cassock & First Engagements in the Society of St. Pius X.
 - 15th August – Pontifical High Mass with Tonsure & Minor Orders conferred by His Lordship, Bishop Tissier de Mallerais.



Southern Sentinel

REGNAVIT A LIGNO DEUS

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March-April 2013

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Dear Friends and Benefactors,

With Easter on the last day of March, we look back upon the month of St. Joseph, which was filled with so many special events. The first among these was the start of the new Seminary year at Holy Cross with four new entries and the recommencement of the theological studies after a three year hiatus. The consecration of the Society of St. Pius X to St. Joseph (with its many spiritual blessings) was also a highlight that promised many more graces for us in training priests and religious. Pre-eminently, of course, Holy Week and Easter crowned March and opened April with the wonder and joy of Christ's work of Redemption and Salvation for sinful man, who must cooperate with His generosity.

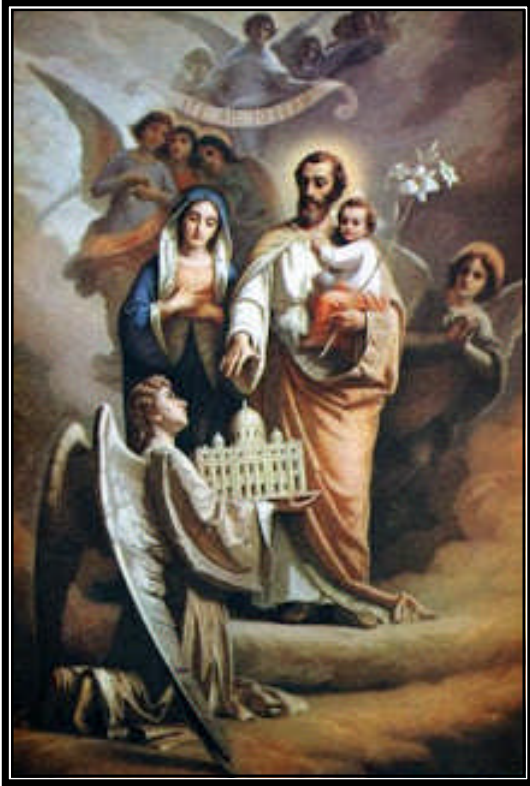
The concurrence of these various feasts and occasions cast light upon the role of St. Joseph in Christ's work and the mission of the Seminary. The ideal and example given us by Our Lord in His Passion, Death and Resurrection and the ever-silent, strong and noble St. Joseph's virtuous life suggest a pattern to be assiduously followed by men who desire to serve Christ – and especially to serve Christ as other Christs. St. Joseph's virtues of fidelity and prudence are a template of what life should be for the seminarians and religious at Holy Cross.

St. Joseph's fidelity was surely laid upon his humble dependence and constant seeking of grace in order to know and accomplish God's Will in all things. Purity of heart and a profound desire of conforming to God's Will brought forth a union of wills between St. Joseph and God. St. Joseph's habit of prayer and recollection endowed him with a divine "vision" – making clear what God willed of him and directing how he



The Resurrection Of Our Lord

must accomplish God's plan. The many difficult duties as head of the Holy Family were faced with supernatural prudence: *Behold a faithful and wise servant, whom the Lord hath set over His Family* (Luke 12:42). St. Joseph's fidelity and success in his role as head of the Holy Family were rooted in the power of God's grace and the constant desire to serve God's glory in all things.



St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church

judgement and have an excessive confidence in our talents. We tend to employ these natural qualities in the achievement of supposedly supernatural pursuits, which are often little more than disguised pursuits of self-aggrandisement. Such blindness naturally (and historically) results in failure. Supernatural wisdom cast aside and true humility scorned, pride can only expand its blind rule, neglecting the law of supernatural charity – to seek first the kingdom of heaven, labouring for sanctification by which greater glory is given to God. In this way are we sanctified and our neighbour is edified.

St. Bernard compares Joseph, the son of Israel sold into captivity in Egypt, and St. Joseph, the Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, highlighting the ideal of the faithful servant of God: *The former laid up wheat, not for himself, but for all the people; the latter received the living Bread from heaven to guard it, for himself and for the whole world* (Lesson VI, Matins, Feast of St. Joseph).

Both Josephs accomplished their duties of state by fidelity to living in the humble presence of God for His glory. Numerous outstanding events in their lives demonstrated their heroic efforts to act in accordance with the Divine Wisdom. Each maintained peace and purity in the midst of most frightful circumstances and trials. Despite threats against

Oh, that we had these habits of recollection, conviction, dependence and perseverance that so greatly assist in the faithful pursuit of God's Will in all things. St. Joseph's wisdom is manifest by prudent and humble manner of acting – he clearly understood his total dependence upon God, yet he acted... manfully. Recollection and prudence give order to the Christian life. Logically, the wise man understanding God's Will, acts accordingly with dependence upon God in order to transcend the merely natural order of human prudence and fidelity in pursuit of man's supernatural goal – union with God, now and forever. The virtue of humility makes man shudder before the magnificence of what God calls us to be, while encouraging us to pursue it whole-heartedly since it is God's Will – our sanctification through the duties of state in this life.

St. Joseph had the noble duty and honour of guarding the Holy Family; we, similarly, have a duty to guard the principle of our union in the family of Christ (i.e. sanctifying grace) and persevere in striving (cooperation with actual graces) to be more perfectly true children of God. Success in guarding our role in the family of God requires of us humility and prudence – humility which recognises our total dependence upon God and prudence that directs our every action rightly to our giving glory to God. This is realised through recollection and a genuine prayer life – which is exemplified in St. Joseph's life.

Man's fallen nature is inclined to self-seeking. When we are put in a position of authority, or recognising our personal strengths, we easily ignore prudence and forsake humility, and rely presumptuously upon our weak

life, exile, temptations of despair, peace reigned in their hearts. These men who valued union with God as the greatest treasure in this life, supremely sought to serve their neighbours' good, directing those under their care to greater union with God in humble service.

A profound prayer life was necessarily the habit of each Joseph, who must have attained the heights of contemplation. This is evidenced by Joseph's discerning (“*divining*”) of dreams that related to future events and the angelic visitations in St. Joseph's “dreams” that made clear God's Will. Human limitations in reasoning and understanding were overcome by supernatural prudence and the illumination of divine insight, which enabled St. Joseph (foreshadowed in Joseph of Egypt) to boldly accomplish his role in the fulfilment of the Messianic promises.

As Pharaoh's words in Sacred Scripture declaim: *Go to Joseph: and do all he shall say to you* (Genesis 41:55), the Holy Ghost proclaims St. Joseph's Patronal role in the Universal Church. Hence, we go to St. Joseph for all our spiritual and material needs in light of the Church's mission to give glory to God and to sanctify souls with the greatest of confidence to receive all necessary helps for our sanctification.

This requires not only a formulary recitation of a consecration prayer, but a habitual disposition of a prayerful life, which progressively unites man to God in recollection, prayer and the virtues. St. Joseph exemplifies this ideal of perfection in prayer and the possession of the peace of God, which we can and should seek – being the normal goal of Christian prayer. Before we begin to excuse our inability to pray well or profoundly, dismissing a profound prayer life as being the privilege of only great saints, consider the words of Fr. Garrigou-Lagrange, O.P., in his work *Life Everlasting: ...Infused contemplation belongs to the normal road of sanctity. If not learned on earth, it must be learned in purgatory. Better learn it now with merit, than wait to learn it in pain and without merit, after death.*

May our Lenten generosity have profited us in the matter of advancing in our prayerful spiritual life – contemplative and active. If we have not advanced as we would have hoped (or now begin to hope), we may yet profit from the glorious season of Paschaltide to continue our quest to become more prudent and faithful servants of Christ, desiring recollection and a more contemplative prayerful life. Let us ask St. Joseph for these gifts, that in honouring him we may receive Our Lord's eager generosity to share His life with us. In our sanctification and salvation, we do all we can to cooperate in Christ's perfect act of adoration, giving glory to God, now and forever.

Dear Friends and Benefactors, we at Holy Cross Seminary thank you for your continual and very generous support of the Seminary. With the start of the seminary year in these days of Our Lord's Resurrection, we wish to assure you of our prayers in gratitude, as well as in request, for your continued material and spiritual generosity. God will repay your charity a hundredfold. With His grace, may we give you the priests and religious, trained at Holy Cross, as a return for your charity, with the assurance of our striving to live more perfectly the life of Christ as you expect of the clergy and religious of God.

Laying emphasis on spiritual generosity, I point out that grace is the greatest treasure we can receive. Without the grace of God, we will never succeed in accomplishing His Will, and risk falling into the trap of serving our own wills, superficially and even deceptively in the “name of God”. Hence, we ask your spiritual assistance (through your generous prayers and sacrifices) to draw down God's grace more abundantly for the training and perseverance of priestly and religious vocations.

You are assured the prayers and sacrifices of the members of Holy Cross Seminary as we commence this new seminary year of training and preparing tomorrow's priests and religious brothers. May God bless this work. As we count on the heavenly protection of St. Joseph's patronage, to which we have consecrated our Priestly Society and our Seminary, may we