



Anima Mariae

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen

Dear Friends,

Praised be Jesus and Mary!

Spring. And May. Nature puts forth her profusion of blossoms. The honeybees and hummingbirds bustle among them collecting their sweetness. No wonder we specially honor Mary during this month, when Nature assists us so readily!



Mother Mary Dominica helps her students prepare for a Roman banquet as part of Latin Day.



Grade school students at St. Mary's Academy in Tacoma, WA, perform The Secret Garden.



Catholic Kids for Life hold a rally and Rosary march at Mount St. Michael in Spokane.

So, too, we Sisters of Mary Immaculate Queen gather during the spring and the closing month of the school year, the sweetness which we have striven to cultivate in God's little ones entrusted to our care.

The month of May was replete with memorable events here at St. Michael's convent and Academy, as well as in our mission schools. The first weekend of the month featured our annual Academy auction with its theme of Broadway musicals. Amidst the costumes, fun and games, a good deal of funding was generated for the school, enabling us to purchase needed textbooks as well as providing other improvements.

The following week, the 5th through 8th grades had their annual Latin Day, a day of games, tests and activities even to the extent of mock gladiator battles.

The weekend of May 16-17 saw the students and teachers of St. Mary's Academy in Tacoma putting on a dinner theater. The children performed a musical version of *The Secret Garden*. Weeks of work by Sisters and students culminated in a stunning remake of the parish hall into the garden and an outstanding performance by the children.

Returning to the student of the middle grades at St. Michael, they — especially the 5th and 6th graders — were so inspired by the seniors' trip to Washington DC for the Pro-Life Rally and subsequent formation of the Students for Life club among the high-schoolers, that these youngsters put together their own Catholic Kids 4 Life (CK4L) group. They invited the 7th and 8th grade students to join them, elected officers, came up with a logo and ordered T-shirts. CK4L sponsored their first event on May 22: a Rosary March for Life, to which they invited the entire school and parish! They also held a very profitable bake sale to have Masses said to end abortion. What a precious bouquet that their Sister mentor can offer to Our Lady!

Two days later, May 24th, the feast of Mary Help of Christians was the school May celebration in honor of Our Blessed Mother, as well as the last day for the seniors. Rain kept us from the traditional procession to



Sr. Michael Marie, the principal of St. Michael's High School, addresses the graduates during the commencement ceremonies.



The graduating seniors of St. Michael's Academy pose with the graduating kindergarteners.



The Sisters attend the dedication of the enlarged and newly-renovated Mary Immaculate Queen Church in the hills of Rathdrum, Idaho.

the Lourdes grotto, so we sang hymns and prayed the Little Crown of the Blessed Virgin while children from each grade level presented roses to Our Lady at each invocation. The crowning of Mary's statue by one of the senior girls preceded the Mass, which ended the morning solemnities.

While all this — and much more — was taking the focus of the teachers, the Sisters at



Hosanna, Filio David! The Sisters are joined by the lay choir of Mount St. Michael to give honor to Christ the King on Palm Sunday.



Having spent the earlier part of the day in silence and recollection, the Sisters venerate the crucifix as part of the Good Friday liturgy.



Four Sisters travelled to California for Holy Week to assist parishes in the Los Angeles area with chanting the Holy Week liturgies.



Sr. Mary Teresita lights the candles of the First Communicants at Mount St. Michael, in preparation for their profession of Faith, a renewal of their baptismal vows.



Faculty and students of St. Michael's Academy planted sunflowers around the Mount on the feast of St. Joseph the Worker.



Above and right: Twelve young ladies attended our Vocations' Week-end in March. They were given the opportunity to see religious life from the inside as an aid to discerning God's Will for them.



A questionnaire revealed that the highlight for some of the young ladies was praying with the Sisters; for others it was their visit to the Novitiate where the younger Sisters receive their initial training.



The Sisters join the annual "St. Joseph's Day Walk" up the switchback to Mount St. Michael in Spokane. The May 1 walk concludes with devotions at the new St. Joseph's shrine.



Jesus, Jesus, come to me! Sr. Mary Julianna assists the First Communicants at "the City of Mary" as they make their profession of Faith.



Several of the Sisters had the opportunity of venerating the heart of St. John Marie Vianney when it came to Spokane this Lent.



The Sisters in Tacoma, Washington, took their students to nearby Marymount for a Rosary walk. The grounds of this former convent are beautifully maintained.



May God reward their sacrifices. With hearts filled with gratitude for the freedom they enjoy, the Sisters joined in prayers at Holy Rosary cemetery for deceased veterans on Memorial Day.



In His goodness, God gives us little glimpses of the beauty of the next life through the wonders of creation. Every spring, the Sisters are delighted at the short-lived cherry blossoms in their back yard, which this year bloomed much more white than pink.

Our Apostolate of Prayer

Are you or someone you love in need of special prayers? Send your intentions to the Sisters to be remembered in our daily prayers, Masses and good works.



Mary Immaculate Queen Center were churning out the next issue of *The Reign of Mary*, printing three school yearbooks, and numerous other projects by which they honor our heavenly Queen.

The last few days of May surely put the cherry on the cake, as you might say. On Ascension Thursday, the Sisters were privileged to attend the Bishop's Mass early in the morning, sing a High Mass at 10:30 a.m., and sing hymns at the evening Mass preceding the Confirmation ceremonies. Oh yes — we also managed to squeeze in our traditional Ascension Day picnic as well!

On the feast of the Queenship of Mary, we wrapped up the school year with Kindergarten graduation and the presentation of awards for all levels. A few hours after we dismissed the students, the Sisters piled into our bus and vans and cars for the trip to the City of Mary. In the hills of Rathdrum, Idaho, on some largely wooded property stands the first church belonging to our Congregation: Mary Immaculate Queen Church. When built it was a little blue church on the hill. After several extensions were made over the years, it was decided that a major reconstruction was needed before the 50-year anniversary this summer. With the exception of the sanctuary and original foundation, most of the church was torn down, the basement extended, the walls rebuilt high enough to include a choir loft, and a roof of dark blue metal put on. So we still have a blue church on the hill, but impressively expanded and greatly beautified. On the feast of the Queenship, then, the church was rededicated, and what a joy it was for us all to witness the solemn ceremonies!



Who has more fun — the Sister recess monitors or the kindergarteners?

Saturday, June 1, was the Baccalaureate Mass magnificently sung by students and alumni, followed by the graduation



The Sisters enjoy our annual Ascension Day picnic at Spokane's Riverside State Park with its swinging bridge, unique basalt rock formations and beautiful scenery.

Calendar

July	12	Sr. Mary Veronica's feastday
	13-17	Classes for the teaching Sisters
	29-Aug. 2	Camp St. Philomena (see CMRI.org for details)
August	9	Sr. Marie Vianney's feastday
	11	Sr. Philomena Marie's feastday
	11-16	Ladies' Retreat & Get-away at Mount St. Michael
	15	Feast of the Assumption BVM
	18	Sr. Helen Marie's feastday
	22	Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
	28	Sr. Augustine Marie's feastday
Sept.	16	Sr. Mary Andrea's feastday
	17	Sr. Sophia Marie's feastday
	29	Feast of St. Michael: Titular feast of St. Michael's Convent
		Sr. Michael Marie's feastday

Summer Catechism

The Sisters will be traveling to the following areas to teach catechism this summer:

California	Montana
New England	western Washington

ceremonies and addresses. Meanwhile, on that same day, the Sisters gathered a bouquet for Our Lady by packing up the entire contents of their kitchen to be put into storage or transferred to the kitchen of the parish hall, preparatory to some major renovations which would start on Monday morning. (If you have never moved an entire convent kitchen before, you could have no idea...!)



"Will we need this in the main kitchen?" Sisters pack up everything in their kitchen in preparation for its demolition and coming renovation.

So passed the month, weaving daily crowns for the Blessed Mother both actually and figuratively.

Sisters' Summer Support



The Sisters have no income from tuition during the summer while our schools are closed.

As this is our main means of support, please consider sending a donation to help us with our needs over the next few months.

Thank you for your charity!

Anima Mariae is the free quarterly newsletter of the CMRI Sisters.

To join our mailing list, or to send comments, questions, prayer intentions or donations, please write or email:

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