

Sentinel of the Saints

The Newsletter of BVM Academy

Fall, 2017

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Energetic Beginnings

Dear Friends & Benefactors,
Many months have passed since our last newsletter to you. Meanwhile, numerous alterations have been made at this unique and promising academy. Three of the four priests have been reassigned and thus three new priests have taken station here, receiving the torch to enlighten souls and *enkindle in them the fire of Divine Love*¹. As I am one of these new priests to lead the academic team in forming souls — the minds and hearts — I wish to use this issue to mention some encouraging details and introduce the recent members of the staff.

Before proceeding to the *new* items, it is only appropriate to thank, with sincere gratitude, Frs. Stanich, Purdy and Mackin for their years of generous dedication to this academy. Their names will be remembered in the minds and hearts of all, and we wish to assure them of our faithful prayers as a means of appreciation for their benevolence. Most of all, we wish to thank Fr. Stanich who graciously directed this publication which I now have inherited. May we all, in seeing this newsletter printed, think of Fr. Stanich, who gave his last drop of energy for your good these past eight years.

The SSPX superiors deemed it time to send Frs. John Bourbeau, Michael Brown and Richard Boyle (yours truly) to this “hidden treasure chest.” We have joined Fr. Nicholas Gardner to form the team of priests who will direct the ship towards its end — ultimately salvation, by means of spiritual, intellectual, and physical excellence. Fr. Bourbeau was ordained in 2010 and has spent the last seven years in St. Mary’s, KS; Fr. Michael Brown was ordained in 2015 and has spent the past two years in Walton, KY; while I was ordained in 2009 and have spent six years in Watkins (Denver), CO, and the last two years in Ray Township (Armada), MI. We are all greatly honored to be here to collaborate with you in this challenging task to form saints for the glory of God.

To this end, we have started the academic year with an organized front to streamline our strengths and maximize our benefits. Thanks to the attention of all our families, we were able to host an orientation week for the boys’ high school. We desired to gather all the boys, both day students (locals) and boarders, to unify them in the guidelines set for the year. They took to these directives
(Continued next page)

¹ cf. Prayer to the Holy Ghost



Fifth-graders hard at work learning their grammar lesson.



Fr. Brown saying Mass for the high school boys.



Fr. Bourbeau leading the High School boys chapter at Auriesville.

(Continued from front page)

and clearly expressed their determination to carry on their formation amidst the counsels of wisdom granted to them by their dedicated staff. Under the initiatives invested, we have great hope for a bright — and ever gleaming — future.

The first week of classes did not only include distributing books and offering schedules, it also allowed the opportunity for the respective chaplains to concentrate on their apostolates.

Chaplain for Teachers = Fr. Gardner
 Chaplain for Boys' School = Fr. Bourbeau
 Dorm Prefect = Fr. Bourbeau
 Chaplain for Girls' School = Fr. Brown

There were days of recollections for the respective persons — teachers, boys and girls (high school). The fruits have already been seen and we will continue to offer spiritual support for one and all, so that each one of these precious souls may continue on the path they have begun to tread.

But to avoid jealousy creeping in with the parents, who saw all the emphasis being put on the staff and students, when they may have been tempted to become once again a student or desire to take a position as a staff member (!), the parents were invited to their own conference on September 7th. During this time, I was able to communicate to them the vision of this year and mention the theme which will inspire us throughout the course of this majestic endeavor:

P.O.T.E.N.T.I.A.L.
 Pride (healthy one)
 Order
 Temperance
 Effort
 Nobility
 Time
 Intention (focus)
 Ambition (desire)
 Longanimity (patience amidst difficulties)

These qualities will be fostered in staff and students this year so that we can reap the fruits of our potential in excellence.

We will accomplish such by looking to Our Lady of Fatima for guidance. We take one of her quotes for consideration this year: "Jesus wishes that you make me known and loved on earth."² It will be our sacred duty to promote Marian devotions this year and always. But without extra assistance, these daunting tasks would be difficult to fulfill. Thus, we have taken two patron saints to follow: Sts. Jacinta and Francisco. Staff and students will be encouraged to seek their intercession and imitate their virtues. What great things could happen if this plan is executed!

Applying this theme, we wish to foster a great pride in being members of BVMA. There is tremendous potential for endless achievements. Meeting with the staff and becoming acquainted with families, I only envision graces flowing and the benefits being reaped for time to come.

So apropos and providential, the same month I received my new assignment, the following creed was placed on my desk. As this newsletter is titled the "Sentinel", may we make this our own as

² June 13, 1917

we pursue great things these months ahead while setting to the plow with classes and activities.

The Sentinel's Creed

"My dedication to this sacred duty is total and whole-hearted.

In the responsibility bestowed on me never will I falter.

And with dignity and perseverance my standard will remain perfection.

Through the years of diligence and praise and the discomfort of the elements,
I will walk my tour in humble reverence to the best of my ability.

It is he who commands the respect I protect, his bravery that made us so proud.
Surrounded by well meaning crowds by day, alone in the thoughtful peace of night,
this soldier will in honored glory rest under my eternal vigilance."³

We have already set the standards which will enable us (the saints) to answer the call of duty which the occasion demands. It will be our goal to read this creed and stand behind it as a model. Please pray we are found faithful.

One example of the standards set is that all staff and students will respect complete silence in the hallways of the academy during school hours (8am - 3pm). This will instill in them the understanding that the place where they learn is sacred ground (let alone that the property also serves as a priory and chapel as well). The students, if they wish to speak between classes, will be urged to enter the classroom after moving from class to class and not waste precious time in the hallways. Just one example of the many standards which are being pursued to establish "a unity of thought, work and ambition".⁴

As an ending encouragement for all who wish to follow such challenging endeavors — to be found unified in what we will term the W.A.T. (work, ambition and thought) — I make mention that the BVMA students were found faithful in this manner on the closing event of our first week. The Auriesville Pilgrimage, an annual event commemorating the North American Martyrs, was a test. The students, with the help of their chaplains and staff, were able to lead the pilgrimage, not only in step, but also in joy, spirit, and example. You are all invited to join us next year to witness the W.A.T. and gain the graces offered.⁵

I thank you for your support in the past and humbly ask that you continue. Much is at stake when forming souls is at hand. With the help of God, the intercession of Our Lady and the saints, but not forgetting your faithful support, we will persevere in the work set before us.

Until next time, may we rest under the mantle of Our Lady of Fatima.

May God bless you all!

In Jesus and Mary,

Fr. Richard Boyle

Fr. Richard Boyle
Principal

³ "The Sentinel's Creed" is the Tomb Guard standard.

<http://tombguard.org/column/2012/06/the-sentinels-creed-line-6/>

⁴cf. Pius X by Dal Gal, a saying of St. Pius X

⁵cf. www.sspxridgfield.com for updates on the dates for the 2018 Auriesville pilgrimage



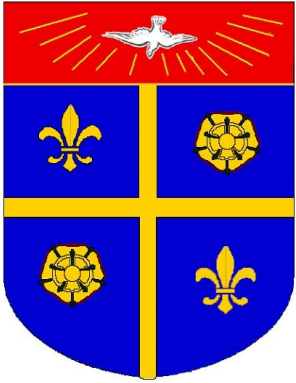
The K-8th graders gathering before Our Lady for morning line-up.



The middle school boys enjoying some healthy recreation during recess.



The High School Girls chapter ascending the hill at Auriesville.



BYM Academy's 2017 Jog-a-thon!

On **Saturday, October 28, 2017**, Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of God Academy will host its annual Jog-a-thon. The Academy is in a financial bind and needs to raise at least \$80,000 with this Jog-a-thon to offset this year's expenses. Will you please help us? **You can contribute via www.bvmacademy.org by clicking the Donate button**, or send a check by mail to BVM Academy, 2656 Warners Road, Warners, NY, 13164, payable to **BVM Academy**.

One-time donation: _____ /Per-lap donation: _____
Name of the Jogger/Priest you are sponsoring _____
Name of the Sponsor (your full name) _____
Your street address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip code _____



Sponsor a Student! or a Priest!

**Fr. Brown
Fr. Bourbeau
Fr. Boyle
Fr. Gardner**

