

# ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT NEWSLETTER

## SUMMER 2019 No. 196

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### FROM BISHOP DOLAN

My dear Friends,

Summer reaches its high point as Our Lady “ascends so high” on her Assumption Day, August 15<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to this feast each year, which includes the blessing of first fruits and flowers, a procession, and a pontifical high Mass. This year our two Sisters of Our Lady of Reparation, “Benedictines in black, not blue,” you might say, profess their vows, one temporary and one perpetual. May Our Lady of Reparation ever bless them in their holy ideals and life.

It's been awhile since I've written. June passed quickly with Pentecost and Confirmations. I tucked in a quick Confirmation trip to Milwaukee as well.

Corpus Christi was solemnized as usual with a beautiful priests' gathering to recite the Divine Office and sing solemn Mass. The rains stopped *just in time* for a fine St. John's Eve Barbecue which followed another solemn high Mass. Afterwards we went out to the still damp lawn and blessed St. John's Bonfire.

Our Corpus Christ octave was cut short by the blessed ordination of one more priest, Father Caleb Sons of Louisiana. Some of us were privileged to assist at the always moving ordination. The First Mass fell on the feast of the Sacred Heart, and then came Saints Peter and Paul. Such a series of great feasts and celebrations to close a very prayerful month.

But it seems that all of July was dedicated, in different ways, to our young people, or rather to leading them to Christ. First we welcomed over seventy young adults to our third Y.A.G., and nothing could dampen our high spirits and holy aspirations.

Oh, we did have a few problems...no water one day, not much air conditioning for a crowded hall, that sort of thing. But how smoothly, and spiritually, everything went. Many mentioned our Saturday evening Rosary Procession as a highlight (over 100 attending), or



*The Feast of the Assumption was observed with the usual blessing of herbs and first fruits. This blessing comes from Germany, and formulas for it are found as early as the tenth century. Herbs had not our restricted English meaning but included all kinds of cultivated and wild flowers, especially those which in some way had a symbolic relation to our Lady.*

the talks, the splendid and so well sung Masses, the sheer fun of the square dance, or maybe just the chance to socialize.

Soon on the heels of the young adults we recalibrated for our Girls Camp. The exceedingly “crafty” Sisters were a great assistance to be sure, and it was a wonderful three days for our young ladies.

Next it was the turn of the boys, in larger numbers this year. The boys generously gave one morning of their camp for the deeply impressive tonsure ceremony for our four seminarians, along with pontifical Mass at which they served or assisted. May more vocations be inspired. We need priests, both at home and abroad, because of our many missions which are growing all the time.

God bless you for your prayers, interest, and generous support.

Yours in the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

– Most Rev. Daniel L. Dolan





(Counterclockwise from top left) Our annual outdoor procession on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi was blessed with fine weather. A group picture of the Girls Camp conducted this year by the Sisters of Our Lady of Reparation. Our Boys Camp, ably overseen by Fathers McGuire and McKenna, provided many activities for boys from our several missions in the Midwest. The 2019 St. Gertrude the Great Young Adult Group gathering was a roaring success. More photos and information about this dynamic weekend can be viewed at [yagincincy.org/2019/07/19/2019-yag-recap/](http://yagincincy.org/2019/07/19/2019-yag-recap/). On the Feast of the Assumption two Sisters of Our Lady of Reparation took vows. One of those Sisters also received her black veil at that time. A festive luncheon followed in Helfia Hall. Father Charles McGuire enrolls members of his growing Holy Face Mission (located in Effingham, Illinois) in Our Lady's Brown Scapular.

