

facing the powerful allure of sensuality and the excitement of the passions (both of which are the usual fare of the media), has little chance to escape unscathed. Innocence must be protected and such dangers must be far removed in order to guard and foster vocations.

“All must pray and sacrifice for vocations.” Our gratitude goes out to all who responded to our plea for spiritual bouquets and petitions in honour of Our Lady and which were presented to Her by Bishop Fellay at the end of a procession on the evening of August 15th. May Our Lady bless us and grant us our pleas. All who wish yet to add their intentions and spiritual bouquets for priestly vocations are welcome to send them to my attention.

Thank you, dear friends and benefactors, for your continual support – spiritual and financial – with which we are able to continue training tomorrow’s priests. Do remember us at Holy Cross in your prayers and sacrifices and be assured of ours for you and your intentions. May the Immaculate Heart of Mary watch over you and grant us many holy vocations.

In Christ the King,



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



Fr. Benjamin Campbell favoured his Alma Mater with a First Mass the day after the Minor Orders (August 16th).



The procession after Vespers in honour of Our Lady to present petitions and prayers for priestly vocations.



The Bishop, his ministers and the ordinands after the Ordination Ceremony.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOLY CROSS SEMINARY:

- Bishop Bernard Tissier de Mallerais will confer the Priestly Ordinations on 19 December 2009. This will be the last Australian to be ordained for at least six years. Are there more courageous men who love God enough to respond to His call?
- Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius:
 - Men’s Retreat: 4 to 9 January 2010
 - Ladies’ Retreat: 18 to 23 January 2010



Southern Sentinel

Regnavit a ligno Deus

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Rev. Vicente A. Griego
Rector

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

As we celebrate the Feast of St. Pius X, our great Patron, we happily thank God for the blessings we have recently received with the ordination of our seminarians on the Feast of the Assumption. His Lordship, Bishop Bernard Fellay, Superior General of the Society of St. Pius X, conferred the Minor Orders. Fr. Patrick Groche, long time missionary in Gabon and now professor at our Seminary in Ecône, was present, as well as Rev. Fr. Edward Black, the District Superior of Australia, and Fr. Sayed Elias. Fr. Gerald Fallarcuna visited his Alma Mater to preach the retreat for those receiving the Minor Orders, a first visit since his ordination in 2005. Also visiting his Alma Mater was Fr. Benjamin Campbell, who, ordained in the United States last December, celebrated a First Mass at the Seminary.

The occasion of the Minor Ordinations, as the seminarians take these significant steps towards the Priesthood, is cause for joy. As the seminarian advances, whether donning the cassock, receiving the clerical tonsure, or receiving the Minor Orders of Porter, Lector, Exorcist or Acolyte, he must correspond to the greater graces offered him in Christ’s friendship. *Friend, go up higher* (Lk 14:10). To go higher means to take on greater responsibility, to live more perfectly the life of Christ. In the spiritual life, one cannot simply hold ground – he must advance.

I know thy works... thou hast patience, and hast endured for my name, and hast not fainted. But I have somewhat



Seminarians present themselves to receive the Clerical Tonsure.



The Cassock is blessed before the seminarian dons it as his habit in dress, signifying his death to the world.

against thee, because thou hast left thy first charity. Be mindful therefore from whence thou art fallen: and do penance, and do thy first works. (Apoc 2:2-5)

Applicable to all Christians, especially those who receive Orders, this admonition calls for persevering generosity compatible with God's love for us. Effort must be made to forge ahead; otherwise, contemptible familiarity stifles zeal, charity wains and numbness to God's grace ensues. This is spiritual death.

We each face the daily difficulty of persevering in supernaturalizing our duty of state and increasing in divine charity. But God helps us. He helps the faithful through the priestly ministry, while the faithful can help the priest through their prayers and good works. Our Lord commands: *Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he send labourers into his harvest. (Lk 10:2)*

From this we realize that the increase of priestly vocations is partly due to the generosity of the faithful and partly to the generosity of the man who responds to the call. Consequently, the faithful *must* pray for their priests, seminarians and even the young man in the world, who has yet to hear Christ's call. Bishop Fellay alluded to this point during his visit to the Seminary: "The laity must pray and do penance for more vocations."

Adding to these words were considerations on the dignity and power of the priest as explained by Fr. Ortíz at the First Mass of Fr. Campbell: "The priest, offering the Holy Mass, says to Christ: 'Come down from heaven, so that I may



The Lord is my inheritance... the Clerical Tonsure cuts man from the world.



The Lord clothe thee with the new man...the cleric receives the Surplice.

immolate You to the Father,' and Christ *obeys!* The priest, not the Blessed Virgin, nor the angels, absolves man from his sins – only the priest says: 'I absolve you,' and God forgives! The priest removes error by preaching Christ's Word – no other is commissioned to preach. The priest combats the devil, who, understanding the potential of Christ's priests, vengefully seeks to destroy them."

Real courage is needed to undertake such a great responsibility. Sadly, many young men ignore God's invitation in order to pursue a career in the world. Integrally Catholic men are truly needed in the world: fathers, professionals, tradesmen, etc... but more so, priests, who make and keep men Catholic.

There are too few priests. This is evident in the lamentable fact that many Traditional Catholics have let down their guard and have ceased to fight for the faith and have lost zeal for the glory of God. Many succumb to laxity in resisting the world and its influences.

If we pray for more priests, then we must act for priests. In other words, we must "use" the ones we have. Have our zeal and our generosity cooled? Do we receive the Sacraments frequently and devoutly? Do we heed our priests' admonitions to rid ourselves of the dangers and obstacles to grace, such as television, internet, movies, pop-culture music, immodest fashions, worldly entertainments, personal resentments, avarice or sloth? Do we desire holiness? Do we justify our affection for such with a presumptuous confidence that "we are not as bad as others?" *I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first charity. (Apoc 2:4)*

The world *is* our enemy because it vies for the devotion due to God. Essentially, the world assures us we can be happy without God. Wounded nature easily abandons true and eternal good for the world of fleeting pleasures. To say differently is to contradict Christ and His Apostles and the Magisterium of the Church (cf. Mt 13:22, Mk 4:19, Lk 12:30, Jn 12:25, 15:19, Ro 12:2, I Cor 5:10, II Cor 4:4, Gal 1:4, Ja 1:27, 4:4, II Pet 1:4, I Jn 2:15-16; and Pius IX's *Quanta Cura* and *The Syllabus of Errors*, Leo XIII's *Quo Graviora* and *Libertas Præstantissimum*, to mention only a few! Look these references up!

The error of Liberalism, which is devastating the Church (including Traditional Catholics), ignores the danger and rushes to fraternize with the world, which hinders grace and mutes God's call. The youth are easily wooed by the promoters of naturalism and materialism, and rashly sell their inheritance as children of God for the pottage of self-satisfaction and worldly acceptance.

The spirit of the world tramples purity and holiness, effectively destroying many vocations. Wounded nature, wilfully



Seminarians reverence the Bishop before they receive the first two Minor Orders of Porter and Lector.



Kneeling before the Bishop to be ordained an Acolyte, the last of the four Minor Orders.