



## **Joseph Damhorst, SJ** ***50 Years in the Priesthood***

Fifty years have gone by all too quickly. I have enjoyed what I have been doing and been called to as a member of the Society of Jesus.

Ups and downs have been many, too many to dwell on. The uppermost is being invited to reach out as a Jesuit priest to the Native American people of the U.S. and in Belize.

I wouldn't have thought about this in the 1950s when I was considering entering a religious order for priestly training.

One motivating thing on my mind then, and is still very much part of my life, was assisting all young men and women to find God and their callings in life. By young, I mean ages 8 to 88 years of age.

I sum it up under the umbrella of reconciliation. My prayer and ministry focus much of the time upon this need. People seem to beg for reconciling themselves with God, others, themselves and, more recently, with the earth.

I am glad to live and be part of this as people continue to minister to me as much as I do to and with them.

