



Louis McCabe, SJ
60 Years as a Jesuit

While praying under a large oak tree on senior retreat at Regis Jesuit High School in Denver, I heard the voice of Jesus say: “Will you be a Jesuit for me?” My immediate “Yes” brought deep joy and profound peace to my spirit.

Since that moment 60 years ago, I have received many wonderful graces in my vocation. I greatly appreciate the education I was given in literature, languages, philosophy and theology. I was equally privileged to be assigned to different life-giving ministries. In high school ministry, I enjoyed teaching the sophomores most. Yes, I know, that surprises many teachers. As the minister of the Jesuit community in Berkeley, and as socius to the provincial in St. Louis, I learned that I was very content to be a good assistant to the one in charge. As socius, I loved writing the obituaries of 44 wonderful Jesuits.

My love for the Society of Jesus was deepened in my five years as vocation director, guiding 19 men in their discernment process to entrance into our novitiate. I also felt Jesus with me in the shotgun seat of a rugged Toyota pick-up truck as I navigated the rough roads to the distant Mayan villages in Belize. We had some good heart-to-heart talks on those drives. Now I am back in my element, directing retreats in Louisiana.

Please pray with me in the words of Psalm 106 *“Give thanks to the Lord, who is good, his love endures forever.”*

