



Michael Tueth, SJ ***60 Years as a Jesuit***

A few years ago, my grand-nephew James asked me to be his confirmation sponsor. He wrote that he chose me because “You have shown me that a person can follow God and have a strong relationship with God and enjoy every day of your life.” In one eloquent sentence James described what I hope I am communicating to others. My life as a Jesuit has been filled with blessings and joy. I am so proud to be a member of a group of amazing men who over the centuries has managed to serve and change the Church and the world in so many ways.

I have particularly enjoyed teaching, both in high school and in college at several venues. Another one of my favorite duties is presiding at weddings, especially of former students. Over the years, during some of my accomplishments and some failures, the Society has shown me such personal care. Many people have told me that they think I am pretty funny. Well, I would love to be considered “a fool for Christ,” but I am not sure that everyone sees me that way.

Every day in my morning prayer, I recite a list of items for which I am grateful, and my vocation is near the top of the list. But there is so much more. God has been extremely generous in bestowing blessings on me, and I have felt God’s presence in my life every day. How could I not feel close to God and filled with joy?

