

From the Pastor's Desk

August 15, 2010

"I haven't seen Father So and So in a while. Where has he been?" Some may be wondering why you may go several Sundays before seeing a particular priest celebrant at the Mass that you regularly attend on Saturday evening or Sunday. It's true that during the summer time, we priests get away for a bit of vacation. Father Hector is away now for a few weeks, and I missed a couple of Sundays in June and one in July.

However, another reason you might not see a particular priest every single Sunday at the same Mass is that St. John's priests cover eleven Masses in four locations every Saturday and Sunday. As you know, there are six Masses at St. John's in English (Sat @ 5:30 pm, Sun @ 7:30 am, 9 am and 5:30 pm), Spanish (Sun, 12:30 pm) and Latin (Sun, 10:30 am). There are two Sunday Masses at St. James, Durham, one each in English (9 am) and Spanish (10:30 am). During the school year, there are two Sunday Masses in English at the Newman Center (10:30 am and 7 pm). Finally, St. John's priests are also celebrating the Saturday evening, 7:30 pm Mass at St. Thomas in Oroville. Most weekends, one of us priests will be at two or even three locations. Two weeks ago, for example, I celebrated one Mass at each of the four locations, in two languages. Some weekends, I get to celebrate Mass in three languages. Good thing I love languages and I love traveling!

As we journey forth into this Twentieth Week of Ordinary Time and prepare for a new academic year, we pray for a fruitful year for our Notre Dame School. May the good Lord bless Notre Dame's students, families, teachers, administrators and principal in the coming year!

Yours in Christ,
Father Berg