



MASS IN THE SUMMER

LITURGY BYTES *by Michele Hall*



With summer here and vacation plans made, how do we combine Sunday Mass with our vacation? Actually, this is easier than it was years ago before social media took hold of our lives. Today there is an 800 number for Mass times; there is a website entitled “Masstimes.org”; and now there are ways from our phones to “google” Catholic churches in the area you are visiting which would provide the local parish’s Mass schedule. Remember, vacations are times for relaxation which can be enriched even more with prayer, and the best prayer is the Mass. I am sure you all realize that we are nourished in an incredible way with the Eucharist which helps to make the journey of this life even richer!

As Catholics, it is wonderful to know that no matter where we go in the world, the Mass will be the same. It will follow the same order, and we will be able to receive the Eucharist. Attending Mass in a different location also shows that the Church is universal. So, during vacation, take the time to de-stress but do not get away from God. Enjoy the many different architectural differences you will encounter when visiting churches throughout our country and the world. Be in communion with our God so you can be thankful for all the blessings you have in your life, especially the opportunity to go on vacation!

Another idea when visiting another parish for Mass when you are away is to take a look at their bulletin. It usually gives you an opportunity to learn a bit more about this particular parish and its activities. If you do bring one home, please share it with us. You can leave these bulletins on the table outside the parish office if you like. Just as we, the Parish of Holy Cross, stress: “All are Welcome,” I hope you find that same welcome this year on your vacation.

Have a blessed, peaceful, and restful week ahead!