



THE CALL

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Pastoral Council Members: Father Vicente Teneza, Pastor, Father Jose Jesus Marin, Parochial Vicar, Deacon Charlie Morrison, Nellie Basquez, John Bernatchy, Ray Brosterhous, Shirley Brown, Maria Gutierrez, Nanette Limcolioc, Kit Mapa, Judy Niedzwiedz

- “There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit;
- there are different forms of service but the same Lord;
- there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.
- To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.”

—1 Cor 12:4-7



St. Paul Catholic Church

8720 Florin Road
Sacramento, CA 95828
916-381-5200
www.stpaul-florin.org

The Pauline Year



Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed June 28, 2008 - June 29, 2009 to be a special jubilee year dedicated to St. Paul.

The Pauline year commemorates the 2,000th anniversary of the saint's birth. Jubilees, or holy years, are a tradition drawn from the Old Testament, which describes years of jubilee that occurred every seven years. Just as the seventh day of the week was reserved for rest in honor of the Lord, so was the seventh year.

Holy Years are special times dedicated to pilgrimage and prayer to help Catholics become closer to God. The Year of St. Paul, or the Pauline Year, is one of them.

A Scriptural Walk With Saint Paul

As part of the **Year of St. Paul** celebration the Pastoral Council of St. Paul Catholic Church encourages all parishioners and pilgrims

to participate in a 30 day Scriptural walk with St. Paul.

Lectio Divina

This exercise, the scriptural walk, is an excellent example of *lectio divina* or sacred reading. This slow, contemplative praying of the Scriptures, practiced at one time by all Christians, enables the Bible, the Word of God, to become a means of union with God.

Time set aside in a special way for lectio divina enables us to discover in our daily life an underlying spiritual rhythm. Within this rhythm we discover an increasing ability to offer more of ourselves to the Father, and to accept the embrace that God is continuously extending to us in the person of his Son Jesus Christ.

Lectio divina begins with cultivating the ability to listen deeply, to hear “with the ear of our hearts” as St. Benedict encourages us. When we allow ourselves to become women and men who are able to listen for the still, small voice of God (I Kings 19:12); the “faint murmuring sound” which is God's word for us, God's voice touches our hearts.

The reading, is very different from the reading we apply to newspa-

pers, books and even to the Bible. Lectio is reverential listening; listening for the still, small voice of God that will speak to us personally; to hear a word or phrase that is God's word for us this day.

Begin your 30 Day Walk with Saint Paul

Each day, for 30 consecutive days, set aside a period of time where you can have 30 minutes or so of unrushed and uninterrupted time, just you and God and your bible.

- Make yourself comfortable. Allow yourself to be quiet in mind and spirit. Enjoy this silence for a few moments.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you on your day's walk with Saint Paul.
- Turn to your bible and read from Saint Paul or the Acts of the Apostles (**see daily reading**). Read it slowly, aloud if you wish, listening for words or phrases that "speak" to you.
- Meditate on what the words mean to you, how they may relate to your life experiences in the present or even in the past. Take your time, let the words interact with your memories and thoughts and lead you into dialogue with God. "Talk" to God in your mind in a conversational way, as you would with someone you know loves you.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you put into action what He wants of you today. (*Use the following or any other appropriate prayer*)

Loving God, may your Holy Spirit come into every part of my being and, for your glory, make it a temple for Jesus Christ. May I, following the example of Saint Paul, grow to be a worthy instrument of the Gospel. Amen.

Daily reading:

Day 1—Love of God, Romans 5:8-10

Day 2—Love of Neighbor, Romans 13:8-10

Day 3—Reconciliation, 2 Corinthians 5:19-20

Day 4—Sin and grace, Romans 3:23-24

Day 5—Faith, Romans 3:25-26

Day 6—Hope, Romans 5:5

Day 7—Joy, Philippians, 4:4

Day 8—Peace, Philippians 4:8-9

Day 9—Mission, Romans 10:14-15

Day 10—Baptism, Galatians 3:27-28

Day 11—New life, 2 Corinthians 5:16-17

Day 12—Patience, 1 Corinthians 13:4

Day 13—Kindness, Titus 3:4-7

Day 14—Faithfulness, 1 Thessalonians 5:23-25

Day 15—Family, Ephesians 3:14-18

Day 16—Humility, Philippians 2:5-8

Day 17—Gentleness, 1 Thessalonians 5:23-25

Day 18—Self-control, Romans 8:14-17

Day 19—Resurrection, 1 Corinthians 15:20-21

Day 20—Wisdom, Colossians 1:9-10

Day 21—Counsel, Romans 11:33-36

Day 22—Fear of the Lord, 2 Corinthians 7:1

Day 23—Understanding, Colossians 2:1-3

Day 24—Knowledge, Philippians 3:7-9

Day 25—Unity, 1 Corinthians 3:5-9

Day 26—Gospel, Romans 1:16

Day 27—Death, Romans 6:19-23

Day 28—Freedom, Galatians 5:13-14

Day 29—Persecution, Romans 8:35-39

Day 30—Prayer, Acts 16:25-31

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It is our prayer that this 30 day walk with Saint Paul will allow you to enjoy the presence of God through the Holy Scriptures.