

# HORIZON

*'From the rising of the sun to its setting let the name of the Lord be praised' Psalm 113:3*

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## Year of St. Paul

In a recent conversation, someone expressed the **St. Paul Event** as a "God-event"! God did manifest Himself to all us at this The enthusiasm and joy that radiated from the presence of the people who participated, the music that flowed throughout the celebration of Solemn Vespers, the zeal of St. Paul's love for Christ from Bishop Barbarito's homily spoke volumes of how we are to continue missionary zeal of St. Paul to go out to proclaim and witness the Good News to all we meet.

The **St. Paul Event** is only one special occasion in this **Year of St. Paul**. There are more ways we can continue to celebrate the Pauline Year:

- The second Reading of the Sunday readings is from the Letter to the Philippians and from the First Letter to the Thessalonians. Weave into the homily the *time, place, occasion, theme* of the Letter and its particular message of the passage might speak to the people in their lives today.
- Display on your parish website different artist's paintings of St. Paul e.g. **Rembrandt Hamerszoon van Rijn** (1606-1669), Dutch painter([www.jesuswalk.com/philippians/artwork-st-paul.htm](http://www.jesuswalk.com/philippians/artwork-st-paul.htm))
  - ~ [St. Paul in Prison](#) (1627). Oil on panel. Staatsgalerie, Stuttgart, Germany.
  - ~ [St Paul at his Writing-Desk](#) (1629-30), Oil on wood, 47 x 39 cm, Germanisches Nationalmuseum, Nuremberg
  - ~ [Apostle Paul](#) (1635), Oil on canvas, 135 x 111 cm, Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna.
  - ~ [Apostle Paul](#) (1657), Oil on canvas, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, 40.9" x 51.6" (104.0cm x 131.0cm). Rembrandt (and Workshop?)
  - ~ [Self Portrait as the Apostle Paul](#) (1661), oil on canvas, 93.2x79.1cm, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam
- Review the website [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va) to share with the people the historical overview of the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

## Why Catholic?

*Parishes Kick-Off Why Catholic?*—The Coordinators of **Why Catholic?** have begun to organize the Small Community faith sharing groups as they begin the second half of Year II on the sacraments. Some parishes are requesting more books for their groups. If you have any extra books, please let me know and I can pass that information on to them.

### *Number of Participants, Sisters of St. Joseph Grants and Clearing House for "Material Pickup"*

- Please send me the **number of participants** in your fall session after your Sign-Up Sunday and sessions begin.
- The **Sisters of St. Joseph Grant** will be available to parishes who need support to continue **Why Catholic?** in their parishes. This is the only Grant available to this Office for this year. Therefore there is a limited amount of money available to you. Some parishes have already made such requests. **Please** if you have such a need, please make your request known on your parish stationery. This Office will make every effort to meet your needs in some way. It is very important that we continue this form of Adult Education in our parishes.
- Once again, this Office will become the **clearing house for the purchase** of your **Year III books**. In order for the books to be here at a reasonable time, the order must be in to me by **Friday, October 31**. I recommend that you order one extra package over the number you expect. The cost of your books will be \$8.50 per book. The books come in packages of 10. If you wish to order the

Bulletins or Leader Books, you may include this in the order. The **Purchase Order** will be posted on the **Pastoral Documentation**.

*Advent Retreat: Eucharist: Bread for the Journey:* The retreat invites everyone in your parish to come and to rest awhile to reflect more deeply how the Eucharistic bread nourishes and sustains our journey in the Christian life. Like St. Paul told the community at Corinth, our participation in the Eucharist strengthens the Body of Christ. We are “companions on the journey” who break bread and share life together. Participants are invited into silence, prayer, and ritual. Below is the schedule for the Advent Retreat. Attached to this newsletter will be the **Advent Poster** to **advertise** the event in your parish and a **Registration Poster** to register the number of your participants. Remember all members of the parish are invited to attend. The deadline for parish registrations is **Monday, November 24**. Be sure to check the places and times on the poster.

### *Advent Retreat (December 6-12, 2008)*

<b>Jefferson</b>	IHC Intermediate School, Watertown	Dec. 6	10:00-12:00 pm
<b>Lewis</b>	St. Peter's Church Hall, Lowville	Dec. 7	1:00-3:00 pm
<b>Clinton</b>	St. Peter's Emmaus Hall, Plattsburgh	Dec. 8	1:00-3:00 pm; 7:00-9:00 pm
<b>Adirondack</b>	St. Agnes School, Lake Placid	Dec. 9	7:00-9:00 pm
<b>Essex</b>	St. Mary's School, Ticonderoga	Dec. 10	7:00-9:00 pm
<b>St. Lawrence</b>	Trinity Catholic School, Massena	Dec. 11	7:00-9:00 pm
<b>Franklin</b>	Holy Family School, Malone	Dec. 12	7:00-9:00 pm

## **2008 World Synod of Bishops**

The 12<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops has begun an intense moment of reflecting and praying the Scriptures. One of the great tasks of the Church for the 21<sup>st</sup> century is evangelization and ecumenism. Pope Benedict XVI stated that both evangelization and ecumenism are “centered on the word of God and are justified and supported by this same word.” In the Holy Father’s homily in the Inaugural Address, he pointed out that in this Year of St. Paul, we hear the urgent cry of St. Paul when he said: “I should be in trouble if I failed to preach the Gospel” (1Corinthians 9:16). This cry is an urgent invitation that we are all evangelizers and our first responsibility is to proclaim the Gospel.

Pope Benedict echoes the same message of Pope John Paul II when he states that many have not met Him yet and are waiting for the first proclamation of his Gospel; others, though having received Christian formation, have allowed to weaken and they maintain only a superficial contact with the Word of God; still others have fallen away from the practice of their faith and are in need of a new evangelization. Nor is there a lack of righteous persons asking essential questions on the meaning of life and death, questions to which only Christ can supply a fulfilling response. It becomes therefore indispensable for Christians on every continent to be ready to respond to whomever asks the reason for the hope that is within them (cf 1Pt 3:15), announcing the Word of God with joy and living the Gospel without compromise.” Let us pray for the fruitfulness of this Synod so that we may as the Body of Christ dwell in the richness of the Word of God. Go to [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va) for further reflections on the Synod.

Below is a Prayer for the success of the Synod:

### *Shed Your Light Upon Your Church*

Lord Jesus Christ, send forth your Spirit of love and truth on the bishops in synod and on all who assist them in fulfilling their task. Make them more faithful to what the Spirit is saying to the Churches; stir their souls and teach them truth by that same Holy Spirit. Through their work, may the faithful of their Churches be purified and strengthened in spirit, so that they may follow the Gospel through which you accomplished salvation and they might make of themselves a living offering to the heavenly Father.

May Mary, the Most Holy Mother of God and Mother of the Church, assist the Bishops in these days, as she assisted the Apostles in the Upper Room, and intercede with motherly affection to foster brotherly communion among them, to allow them to rejoice in prosperity and peace in the calmness of these days, and, in reading the signs of the times, to celebrate the majesty of the merciful God, the Lord of History, to the praise and glory of the Most Blessed Trinity, Father Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **Resources**

**St. Pauls Communications** has some excellent resources on the history, letters, and life of St. Paul on sale. Some of these materials are on sale 1-800-533-2522.