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## :: NEWS ::

### India : Kolkata - The Daughters of St. Paul—"Religious Congregation of the Year" (30/07/2009)



The Daughters of St. Paul in Kolkata received the AFJ (*Ambassadors For Jesus*) Award for the year 2009, bestowed on our Institute in recognition of its apostolate and the clarity of its objectives.

The award was presented by Fr. Michael Baju, Vicar General of the Kolkata Archdiocese. In her acceptance speech, Sr. Priya Vadakkal explained that the Pauline Family is made up of five religious institutes, four secular institutes and a lay association.

The Daughters of St. Paul bring the Word of God to everyone through the many information channels available to society today. In India, this mission is yielding good results thanks to many projects and programs coordinated by the Province's central headquarters in Mumbai.

These activities are then implemented through our many book and media centers scattered throughout the country, all of which project the face of a Congregation that silently carries out its mission in a fruitful and efficient way.

### Italy : Ribera (Agrigento) – Park Dedicated to St. Paul (27/07/2009)



On 11 July 2009, the inauguration of a new park dedicated to the Apostle Paul in Ribera, Italy opened with a Eucharistic Liturgy celebrated by Archbishop Franco Montenegro and attended by the mayor, many members of the Pauline Family and numerous residents of the area.

"The city council hopes that this park will be not only a meeting place for our citizens but also a place where they can refresh and rejuvenate themselves," said the mayor.

Nellina Sarullo, an "Alberionian Pauline" who was the driving force in the campaign to dedicate the new park to the Apostle of the Gentiles, was visibly moved to receive a statue of St. Paul from the General Government of the Daughters of St. Paul. The statue was blessed by the Archbishop, who took advantage of the occasion to underscore the virtues of the Apostle, especially his ardent and revolutionary presentation of the Good News and his complete self-gift to others. "St. Paul was neither tepid nor indifferent," the Archbishop declared. "His faith did not waver at the first sign of difficulty. He committed himself wholeheartedly to the ideals and values in which he believed."

The new "Pauline park" will serve not only as a gathering place for the families of Ribera, but also as a locale in which to hold concerts, meetings, film festivals, etc., with the proper authorization of the city council. All this will help the citizens grow as individuals and as a community, hopefully under the guidance of St. Paul who, as Fr. Alberione affirmed, wants to lead all people to a deeper knowledge of Jesus Master Way, Truth and Life.

### Malaysia : Selangor - A Rousing Musical To End the Pauline Year (24/07/2009)



Viewers from various parishes in Selangor were treated to a rousing musical presentation of the life of St. Paul held in the Church of Divine Mercy on 27 and 28 June 2009. The musical was produced by the Daughters of St Paul and the Association of Pauline Cooperators, in collaboration with several local churches.

The 2-hour long dramatization of Paul's conversion, mission to the Gentiles and martyrdom features 17 songs performed by the Catholic-Anglican choir, conducted by Steven Austin Koh. Koh, musical director Raymund Pragasam and Timothy Zarsadias in the role of Paul all received high acclaim from both audiences.

Addressing the enthusiastic crowd-made up of priests, religious and laity (including representatives of the Lutheran and Anglican Faiths)-Sr.Bibianah, local superior of the FSP community of Selangor, said she hoped the musical would make St. Paul's message better known to everyone and more accessible to them via the medium of music. She also stressed the ecumenical nature of the collaborative effort which, she declared, reaffirmed Paul's statement: "Many though we are, we are but one body in Christ Jesus."

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### **Korea : The Pauline Family Closes the Pauline Year Together** (21/07/2009)



The Pauline Family of Korea, which sought to follow in the footsteps of St. Paul during the year dedicated in a special way to him, concluded this important event with diverse initiatives carried out in the cities and dioceses in which its members live and work.

**Seoul:** Solemn Eucharistic Celebration on 29 June, presided over by Fr. Ambrogio Baek. About 230 members of the Pauline Family participated in the Liturgy. In his homily, Fr. Ambrogio urged everyone to live Christ as Paul did because "you are Paul today." The Mass was followed by a joyful family gathering for refreshments.

**Diocese of Busan:** On 29 June, Fr. Ignazio Hwang, ssp, celebrated a special Mass closing the Pauline Year. This was followed by a conference in which about 400 people (members of the Pauline Family and others) participated. On 25 and 26 June, after the Eucharistic Celebration in the Catholic Church of Hwalcheon, two encounters were held on the themes: *The Conversion of Paul* and *The Love of Paul*. On 20 and 30 June, the church hosted a poster exhibit entitled, *With St. Paul*.

**Diocese of Daegu:** A solemn Eucharistic Celebration was held on 29 June at the Cursillo Center of Daegu. Members of the different Institutes of the Pauline Family participated in the Liturgy.

**Diocese of Gwangju:** A Eucharistic Liturgy to conclude the Pauline Year was celebrated by Bishop Andrew Choi in the city's cathedral and attended by many of the faithful. To enrich the occasion, the Daughters of St. Paul who, during the Jubilee Year, wrote and published many books about St. Paul, held an exhibit of the original pictures that illustrate these texts.

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### **Brazil : Sao Paulo - Solemn Conclusion of the Pauline Year** (20/07/2009)



On 28 June, Archbishop Pedro Odilo Scherer of Sao Paulo brought the Pauline Year to a close in a solemn Eucharistic Liturgy celebrated in the city's cathedral. The Liturgy was concelebrated by other bishops, priests and deacons, and attended by a large crowd of religious and laity. The hymns sung at significant moments by the Baccarelli Choir enriched the event even more.

At the end of the Mass, the Archbishop blessed a statue of the Apostle of the Gentiles presented to him by about 20 young people representing the "*Eoncontro de Casais com Cristo*" Movement (*Couples who have met Christ Movement*).

The statue will make the rounds of the dioceses of Sao Paulo, Santa Caterina and Rio Grande del Sud as a preparation for the Movement's 15th Congress. After blessing the statue, the Archbishop then gave twenty-six seminarians a "mission cross" and commissioned them to carry out an evangelization initiative in various parishes during the month of July. The Daughters of St. Paul are collaborating with this mission by providing the evangelizers with material to distribute on their visits to the families.

The blessing ceremonies concluded in the main square outside the Cathedral, with the inauguration of a bronze monument dedicated to St. Paul-a gift to the city and state, both of which bear the Apostle's name. Mauricio, the young sculptor of the work of art, was present for the occasion.

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### **Chile : Santiago - Fr. Amedeo Cencini Speaks about Formation Today** (18/07/2009)



*New Formation for a Time of Crisis:* this is the title of the course organized by OTEC (Organismo Técnico de Capacitacion), which was held from 22-25 June in La Florida, Santiago. Guest speaker for the occasion was Canossian Fr. Amedeo Cencini, a doctor of psychology, a professor at various prestigious universities, the author of numerous books, and a consultant for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. Fr. Cencini's conferences dealt with the affective-sexual formation of priests and religious.

More than 250 priests and religious from Chile, Argentina and Peru participated in the course and all declared that they were very satisfied with the guest speaker's in-depth treatment of the subject and his reflections on the importance of ongoing formation.

Fr. Cencini also insisted on the need to renew the formation process for priests and religious, underscoring that religious formation today is challenged by the fact that the contemporary family is in crisis and thus new modes of educating candidates to the priesthood and religious life must be adopted. In view of this, he said it is important that religious formation include subjects such as psychology and psychopedagogy because the problem touches not only initial

formation but also ongoing formation. "In today's world," he asserted, "priests and religious, especially the younger ones, need permanent accompaniment so as to enable them to remain faithful to their gift of love to God."

Sr. Claudia Pena y Lillo, fsp, director of OTEC, said that the foundation was very happy to hold an encounter that helped it fulfill its mission to serve the Church and society. OTEC is an information center for formation to communications run by the Daughters of St. Paul of Chile. It organizes formation initiatives primarily for teachers, pastoral workers and religious men and women.

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### **Mexico : Mexico City - Six New Pauline Cooperators** (18/07/2009)



On 12 July, the sisters of our Mexican Province had the great joy of welcoming into the Pauline Family their first six Cooperators: Luz Maria Ramirez Cruz, Soledad Gonzalez Franco, Rosalba Munoz Ortiz, Lucia Elizaeth Perzabal Ibanez, Rogelio Ernesto Clapes Lopez and Rogelio Albarran Saavedra.

The journey of these new members of our Family began a long time ago. They received a biblical-ecclesial formation that took as its starting point the Acts of the Apostles, and which also included a study of the Pauline charism and the Statute of the Pauline Cooperators Association.

This stage of their formation closed with a retreat as a preparation for making their Promise. They say with gratitude that during this time, they experienced God's presence guiding their lives, the beauty of the lay vocation and the privilege of belonging to the Pauline Family,

The new Cooperators will devote themselves in a special way to carrying out the Pauline mission in the parishes to which they belong. Some of them already collaborate with our sisters in the FSP book center apostolate and others in the publishing department.

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### **Kenya : Nairobi - FSP Edition of the Liturgy of the Hours** (17/07/2009)



After the success of the *African Bible*, published in 1999 in English and in 2004 in Portuguese, the Daughters of St. Paul of East Africa are now bringing out the *Liturgy of the Hours* in four volumes. The release of this new edition has been timed to coincide with the celebration of the Second Synod of Bishops for Africa (October 2009) and with the Year for Priests.

Requested by the bishops of the East African Episcopal Conference and encouraged by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, this new edition was made possible thanks to the valuable collaboration of Fr. Rinaldo Ronzani, a Comboni priest,

who directed the committed efforts and hard work of numerous collaborators. The Italian Episcopal Conference, the American Episcopal Conference, GIA Publications and the International Commission for English in the Liturgy (ICEL) also made important contributions to the project.

This new *Liturgy of the Hours* is based on the second edition of the text (1985) and has been updated according to the Latin edition of 2000. The result is not only a new edition but also one that has been enhanced in unique ways. The translation of the Psalms and Canticles is faithful to the original Hebrew text, but at the same time it is easily sung and also easy to proclaim. The biblical texts are those of the *New American Bible* (the same text used for the *African Bible*).

Two other publications are being planned to accompany this new edition: a one-volume edition of *The Prayer of the Church*, which will include all the texts of the 4-volume edition except the Office of Readings; and *Christian Prayer*, a slim book containing Morning, Evening and Night Prayer. The latter book will be helpful to parish priests who want to introduce the laity to the recitation of the Breviary.

Our sisters say it was an honor for them to edit this work—a great gift to the African Church, which is always more open to welcoming the message of Christ and incarnating it in its many cultures.

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### **Philippines : Cagayan de Oro - Closing the Pauline Year with a Symposium** (16/07/2009)



The Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro closed the Pauline Year with a symposium on St. Paul and a solemn Eucharistic Celebration. The event, bannered by the theme, *Keep the Spirit of St. Paul Alive Everyday*, was held on 27 June 2009 in Cagayan de Oro. More than 500 people from different parishes, religious institutes and associations attended the event, which was organized by the Pauline Family: Society of St. Paul, Daughters of St. Paul, Pauline Aggregated Institutes and Pauline Cooperators.

Two Bible exegetes were invited to speak about the person and teachings of the Apostle. Fr. Gil Alinsangan, SSP, Rector of St. Paul Seminary in Silang, Cavite, spoke on *St. Paul, Preacher of the Gospel and Nurturer of Christian Communities*. He was followed by Fr. Renato Repole, sj, Rector of St. John Vianney Theological Seminary, Cagayan de Oro, who discussed the topic, *St. Paul, Shepherd and Peace Builder*. The two presentations were followed by a short open forum.

The culmination of the day was the Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Archbishop Antonio Ledesma, sj, of Cagayan de Oro. He was joined by Bishop Edwin De la Pena, msp, of the Prelature of Marawi, and other concelebrants. In his homily, Archbishop Ledesma gave pointers as to how to make Paul's spirit alive and active in today's world.

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### **Macau : Bi-lingual Pilgrimage To Close the Pauline Year** (15/07/2009)



Great was the joy and appreciation of the 80 people who participated in the pilgrimage organized by the FSPs and the Chaplain of the Macau Cathedral to conclude the Pauline Year. The pilgrimage, which took place on 27 June, consisted of a visit to 5 local churches according to an itinerary that included times of prayer, the singing of hymns, the chance to go to confession and the Eucharistic Celebration.

One of the FSPs prepared the prayers, readings and hymns based on the material we received in the Congregation to celebrate the Pauline Year, and Fr. Domingos, the Timorese Chaplain of the Cathedral, had copies of the booklet printed in Cantonese and Portuguese, the principal languages used in Macau. The pilgrimage was a time of great communion and sharing for the participants, who suggested that this type of initiative be organized at least once a year.

On 29 June, a solemn Mass to close the Pauline Year was celebrated in Chinese in the Cathedral, presided over by the Bishop of Macau and concelebrated by about 20 priests.

Best wishes from the Paoline *Online* editorial team

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