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CALLED TO ETERNAL LIFE



WOE TO US IF WE DO NOT EVANGELIZE!

Dearest Sisters,

In the wake of our recent *Continental Meeting for the Apostolate-Administration* in Asia and the Pacific, held in Seoul from 14-24 June, I would like to dedicate this “dialogue” with you to the theme of mission, through which we express our passion for God and humanity.

In the report I delivered in Seoul (and that I will deliver at the other Continental Meetings), I took upon myself personally and on behalf of all of you the cry of the Apostle Paul: “Woe to me if I do not evangelize!” (1 Co. 9:16) Fr. Alberione experienced this apostolic anxiety personally and passed it on to us, his daughters, who are heirs to a very beautiful mission because, as he said, “It is the same mission as that of Christ: you are associated to him” (FSP41, p. 166).

Having concluded our meeting in Korea, we now turn our gaze to Brazil where, from 8-18 August, sisters representing our circumscriptions on the vast American continent will gather in their turn. As you well know, the purpose of these meetings for the apostolate-administration is to *redesign our mission in the light of the charism*, according to the directives of our 9th General Chapter and within the parameters of the redesigning process that has taken place up to this point. On the concrete level, we want to draw up a *Global Apostolic Project* that can help us re-express *how* we should be present among the people today and *what* our apostolic activities should involve, including the assumption of new modes of communication.

To open new paths for our mission—the hope expressed in the theme of these continental meetings (*Imbued with the Word, We Trace Out New Paths for Our Mission*)—presupposes several essential conditions. The first of these is the communitarian dimension of mission, powerfully underscored by our Constitutions (cf. art. 27), with a decided emphasis on the element of *contemplation*. The Lord has brought us together “to be his companions,” the same reason for which he called his first disciples (cf. Mk. 3:14ff.).

To be the companions of Christ gives rise to an inexhaustible wellspring of apostolic passion: those who experience Jesus in a life-altering way feel compelled to communicate him to everyone, to be his instruments and channels. But, as Fr. Alberione said, we can be *channels* of Christ only if we are first *basins*: “A basin must be filled before it can pour out its contents” (FSP41, p. 272).

To be the companions of Christ means allowing the transforming power of the Word to dwell in us. It means allowing Christ to be incarnated in us so that we, in our turn, can speak his life-giving and compassionate words to contemporary humanity, helping to fulfill his dream of bringing about communion in the human family by giving preference to his choices.

Thus we are called to incarnate ourselves in the events of our times in a loving and proactive way. Even the maladies of contemporary society are a *kairos* since they give us the chance to do good. “What purpose do Christians serve when everything is going well, when people and events are already oriented toward God? Christians are prophets, witnesses, evangelizers who lead people to salvation, to Jesus Christ.” These are the



words of Fr. Bartolomeo Sorge, an 80-year-old Jesuit with the heart of a child, who delivered a very enlightening conference at our Interchapter Meeting.

We are truly in a period of revolutionary change in human history and in the Church itself, which is preparing to realize—through the newly-erected Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization (June 2010) and the upcoming Bishops’ Synod on the theme *New Evangelization and the Transmission of the Christian Faith* (Oct. 2012)—the great dream of John Paul II, namely, to carry out a new evangelization, which essentially means “intensifying our missionary activity so as to fully correspond to the Lord’s command” (Benedict XVI).

The new evangelization takes as its starting point the presupposition that “what must change is not the Gospel but the one who receives it” (Bruno Forte). The whole Church is called to face this new challenge, to learn today’s new languages, to try to find new ways to communicate the Faith. New evangelization initiatives must be implemented boldly, passionately and creatively.

The path of *new evangelization* is innate to our charism. Fr. Alberione said, “The world needs a new and thoroughgoing evangelization.... It needs instruments suitable for this and apostles burning with faith” (PP, pp. 680ff.).

Evangelization must *always* be “new”: new passion for proclaiming the Gospel; new methods for reaching all people; new ways of expressing the one Truth.

Speaking to members of the Latin American Episcopal Conference in Port-au-Prince, Haiti in 1983, Pope John Paul II said that the new evangelization must be “*new in passion, methods and expression.*” His words echo the pastoral strategy of Fr. Alberione.

Consequently, our evangelizing activities must be:

New in passion: in the burning love that prompts us to dedicate our whole life to the Gospel; in zeal to quench contemporary humanity’s thirst for meaning; in the compelling need to help people today meet Christ the Savior; in profound apostolic anxiety for those “far away.”

New in methods: because by virtue of our apostolic vocation, we are “obliged” to keep in step with progress, to form ourselves in



the sphere of communication and its new languages; to keep updated concerning the instruments we use.

New in expression: because our apostolic action “doesn’t consist in evangelizing the people who lived ten centuries ago but those who live today” (Fr. Alberione). We must communicate the Good News through languages that everyone can understand. Thus evangelization must be faithful not only to the content of the Christian message (Jesus Christ, his Word and the human and Christian values that spring from this); it must also be faithful to the language used. That is to say, it must be “suited to the time, the place and the instrument of communication,” as our Constitutions emphasize (art. 19). The new evangelization passes necessarily through the evangelization of cultures.

Dear sisters, the fundamental condition for undertaking the journey ahead of us in a spirit of hope is openness to the Spirit of God, who infuses us with the courage to *move ahead.*

Onward, therefore, because as the Final Document of our 7th General Chapter (1995) says so graphically, “We have not yet reached all the nations of the world. We have not yet discovered all the possibilities for announcing the Gospel. We have not yet utilized all the most rapid and effective instruments for our mission. We have not yet learned every language....”

In affectionate communion and prayer,

S. M. Antonietta Bruscato
Sr. M. Antonietta Bruscato
Superior General

Rome, 10 July 2011

COLOMBIA

TRUTH, PROCLAMATION AND AUTHENTICITY OF LIFE IN THE DIGITAL ERA



This was the theme of a meeting recently organized by the FSPs and SSPs of Colombia in collaboration with the local Bishops' Conference and St. Alphonsus University. The purpose of the encounter was to reflect more deeply on the theme chosen by Pope Benedict XVI for World Communications Day 2011. Attending the event were journalists, professors, men and women religious and representatives of the various communications media, both religious and secular.

Particularly noteworthy was the presence of the country's Minister for Information and Communications. The opening of the meeting was broadcast via both television and the Internet. In expanding the borders of information and knowledge, the digital era brings us closer to the most important objective for media workers, namely: "to proclaim the Truth."

CONGO

FORMATION TO THE MEDIA



The 53 bishops of the Democratic Republic of the Congo recently met for two days of formation on the new media.

The encounter, organized by the local Episcopal Conference, was a "first" for the Church of the Congo. During the concluding Eucharistic Celebration, SIGNIS awarded several people certificates acknowledging their valuable contributions to the world of social communications. Participants in the Liturgy included about 2000 representatives of Basic Christian Communities in the Kinshasa area. In this joyous climate of festivity, both the Daughters of St. Paul and the Society of St. Paul received from Cardinal Monsengwo a cup and a certificate of appreciation for their presence and apostolic activities in the Congo.

ITALY

PAULINE PUBLICATIONS AT THE TURIN BOOK SALON



The Daughters of St. Paul were one of the seven publishing houses chosen by the Union of Catholic Italian Publishers to display their editions from 12-16 May in a special exhibition promoted by the 24th Turin Book Salon. The display was the Salon's contribution to the initiatives organized to commemorate Italy's 150th anniversary of unification. In keeping with this purpose, it focused on the theme: *Books in Italy: 1861-2011*, with our Pauline Publications exhibited in the section entitled: *The Phenomenon of Catholic Publishing*.

Through this display, Italy was able to "read" 150 years of its history, culture, customs and creativity through the privileged "observatory" of books—texts, authors, publishers, etc., that have helped to shape the country's culture and shared memories.

At the end of the Book Salon, the display moved on to other Italian cities.

**UCSI RECIPIENT
OF PAULINE AWARD 2011**



Dr. Andrea Melodia, president of Italy's Catholic Press Union (UCSI), accepted the *Pauline Communications and Culture Award 2011* on behalf of his organization in a ceremony held on 18 May at the conclusion of a Congress held in preparation for World Communications Day (5 June).

The Congress, organized by the Pauline Communications and Culture Association, the Pastoral Institute "Redemptoris Mater" of the Pontifical Lateran University, and the National Social Communications Office of the Italian Bishops' Conference (CEI), was held in Rome and revolved around the theme chosen by the Holy Father for this year's WCD: *Truth, Proclamation and Authenticity of Life in the Digital Age*. In bestowing the award, the Pauline Communications and Culture Association praised UCSI's commitment to fostering ethics among communicators.

The Congress was part of a program of events organized annually by the FSPs and SSPs to help the people of Italy prepare to celebrate WCD in a more profound and meaningful way, in keeping with the directives of the document of the Italian Episcopal Conference: *Communication and Mission*.

The award is conferred on media workers, film directors, journalists, writers, performers or cultural associations that, by their activities, strive to concretize the Pope's message for World Communications Day.

ROMANIA

SHARING OUR CHARISM WITH THE LAITY



In 2010-2011, the Daughters of St. Paul of Bucharest, in collaboration with Fr. Guido Gandolfo, ssp, accompanied a group of lay people on an itinerary designed to concretize the appeal of the Apostle Paul to "revive the gift of God that is in you."

Aware that "all the members of the people of God are workers in the Lord's vineyard" (cf. *Christifideles Laici*, n. 55), our sisters held seven monthly encounters with the laity to share with them the charism given to the Pauline Family and the entire Church. In a familial and deeply spiritual atmosphere, the participants (youth and adults, laity and religious, Catholics and Orthodox) reflected on themes such as the common priesthood of the people of God, the spiritual-apostolic experience of Fr. James Alberione, and the figures of St. Paul and Jesus Master.

Our sisters say that it was deeply moving to see the group gathered around Jesus Eucharist and Word during the times of Eucharistic adoration, praying with and for the Church.

As the formation sessions progressed and the participants discovered the depth of the Pauline spirituality and the ways it is enriching their lives, they enthusiastically welcomed the proposal to continue this faith journey so as to live and communicate Jesus Master Way, Truth and Life always more fully in their daily contexts. Thus the FSP community of Bucharest will resume these monthly encounters in the autumn with the help of Fr. Guido, who will trace out for the group an itinerary centered on *Donec Formetur Christus in Vobis*.

GOOD NEWS!



The Pauline digital network has a new member, born on the Feast of St. Paul, the Apostle of the Gentiles. The FSPs of Bucharest joyfully inform us of the opening of their new website: *www.pauline.ro* – the realization of their long-held dream to reach the people of Romania and the whole world so as to proclaim the Gospel, Christian values and everything that can help to promote the human and Christian formation of every person. In short, “To give the whole Christ to the whole person through all the instruments possible” (Blessed James Alberione). The new web site gives ample space to the Pauline Online Book Center so as to help people get to know our publications.

We share the joy of our sisters and promise to visit them “virtually”!

PHILIPPINES

MEDIA PRACTITIONERS’ ASSEMBLY



The 3rd FSP Media Practitioners’ Assembly, organized by the Daughters of St. Paul of the Philippines and held in Pasay from 5-7 April 2011, revolved around the theme of Benedict XVI’s message for the 45th World Com-

munications Day: “Truth, Proclamation and Authenticity of Life in the Digital Age.” The meeting offered FSPs working in the areas of radio, TV, print, audiovisuals, information technology, media literacy education and the archdiocesan media office the chance to share their apostolic initiatives and map out a more effective response to the challenges they encounter in their respective ministries. Today’s new technologies are changing not only the ways people communicate with one another but communication itself. Because of this we need to seriously reflect on the meaning of communication in the digital age.

**MEET CHRIST
WHO GLADDENS YOUR HEART**



Thirty-three junior professed members of the Pauline Family gathered in Pasay City (Manila) from 23-25 May 2011 to reflect more deeply on the Pauline mission in the world and cultivate a spirit of collaboration in the Pauline family. The Juniors’ Congress, which centered on the theme, *Meet Christ Who Gladdens Your Heart*, offered the participants the chance to discern and reflect on the signs of the times in a joyous and fraternal climate of prayer—an effective premise for future communion and collaboration for the sake of the Gospel in an age characterized by the globalization of cultures.

CZECH REPUBLIC

BIBLE24

In 2008, an event entitled *The Bible Day and Night* was organized in Rome to celebrate the Synod on the Word of God. The project consisted of a non-stop reading of the New Testament over a 24-hour period. Its purpose was to unite parishes and help the faithful become better acquainted with Sacred Scripture. All the churches of the diocese of Rome



remained opened for that 24-hour period so as to give everyone the chance to visit them and discover their spiritual and artistic treasures. Inspired by this initiative, the Daughters of St. Paul of the Czech Republic organized a similar event in Prague with the help of their Pauline Cooperators. This year, 180 readers and more than 1600 listeners participated in it. Now in its third consecutive year, *Bible24* has become an annual event in Prague, offering its citizens a time of spiritual renewal and deeper reflection on the Word of God.

PUERTO RICO

INAUGURATION OF A NEW PAULINE BOOK CENTER



We just received the following message from our sisters in Puerto Rico: "Blessings and peace in Jesus Master! Please click on our link (www.paoline.org) to see pictures of the inauguration of our new book center, located at 174 Roosevelt Ave., Hato Rey, San Juan. Sincere thanks for all the prayers, help and support we have received from you in carrying out our mission in this country."

The Circumscriptions

SOUTH KOREA

ONLINE BIBLE SCHOOL



The *Ut Unum Sint* Bible School run by the Daughters of St. Paul of Korea has expanded into the digital world, offering its students new learning possibilities. In fact, online teaching is making it possible for more people to enter the fascinating world of the Bible. E-learning offers wonderful advantages to students by eliminating problems linked to space and time.

At the moment, *Ut Unum Sint* has 304 students enrolled in its course on "Introduction to the Old Testament" and 433 enrolled in the one on the New Testament. Feedback shows that interest in our sisters' interactive and dynamic Bible school is steadily growing.

www.uus.paoline.or.kr

SPAIN

A PAULINE DREAM FOR THE IBERIAN PENINSULA



From 25-26 June, our Madrid community hosted the first meeting of the Delegations of Spain and Portugal. The dream to initiate a journey of closer dialogue and collaboration

between the two circumscriptions was triggered by the process of redesigning our FSP presences throughout the world. With enthusiasm and good will, our sisters reflected on various aspects of the Pauline life on the Iberian peninsula: communities and sisters, the apostolate and our lay collaborators, vocations, diffusion, book centers, organization and administration.... Many resources and potentials came to light in their discussions and on the basis of these the sisters pinpointed specific areas in which they felt they could work together successfully, namely: the publishing apostolate, a common line of action regarding our book centers, ongoing formation and spirituality. All these "bricks" will help to lay a solid foundation for a shared journey, carried out with creativity and vitality in the light of the charism. United, there is a better chance that fruit will emerge.

PARAGUAY

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

May 2011 offered a star-studded program of events to the citizens of Paraguay, who are commemorating their country's 200th anniversary of independence this year. The main bicentennial celebrations were held in



the most strategic places in the capital. Book-oriented events were included in the program. One of these, a *Bicentennial Book Fair* in which the Daughters of St. Paul enthusiastically participated, was held in the city's old train station, with book stands set up among the train cars and engines. The FSP stand offered the Word of God to all passers-by and also offered a small workshop for children entitled, *Working with St. Paul*, which helped both the children and their parents get to know the Apostle through games and other activities.

Another major bicentennial event, characterized by color, music and great creativity, was the second *Expocatolica* hosted by the diocese as a part of its "Mission to the Citizens" initiative—the Church's contribution to the country's anniversary celebrations.

Calendar of the General Government

22 - 24 July	Rome, Generalate	Meeting with the Province of Italy-Switzerland	General Government
26 July - 2 August	Ariccia	Spiritual Exercises	General Government
05 - 07 August	São Paulo, Brazil	Meeting with SAL	Sr. M. Antonieta Bruscato Sr. Anna Caiazza Sr. Gabriella Santon
08 - 18 August	São Paulo, Brazil	Continental Meeting for the Apostolate-Administration	Sr. M. Antonieta Bruscato Sr. Anna Caiazza Sr. Gabriella Santon
19 August - 30 September	Brazil	Fraternal Visit	Sr. M. Antonieta Bruscato Sr. Anna Caiazza Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan Sr. Samuela Gironi
19 - 26 August	São Paulo, Brazil	Fraternal Visit	Sr. Gabriella Santon
27 - 31 August	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Visit for a specific purpose	Sr. Gabriella Santon
01 - 05 September	Santiago, Chile	Visit for a specific purpose	Sr. Gabriella Santon
01 - 09 September	Generalate, Rome	Encounter for the Juniors of Europe	Sr. Francisca Matsuoka
15 September - 10 October	Generalate, Rome	Formation Encounter for Missionaries	Sr. Francisca Matsuoka

DISSERTATIONS OF THE SISTERS PARTICIPATING IN THE CHARISM COURSE



The annual International Course of Formation to the Pauline Charism began in October 2010 and concluded in May 2011. Six Daughters of St. Paul from various circumscriptions participated in the course. All were very grateful to their superiors for giving them the chance to live this experience of Pauline unity and universality, which they say enriched them both personally and as a group. They are now ready to throw themselves afresh into whatever aspect(s) of the Pauline mission they are asked to carry out.

We would like to present here a thumbnail sketch of each sister's final dissertation.

JESUS MASTER, WAY, TRUTH AND LIFE
by *Sr. Irma Cipriani, Brazil*

Sr. Irma's paper presents the spirituality of the Pauline Family, which the Founder intensely wanted not only for his sons and daughters but also for all those to whom our apostolate is directed. Sr. Irma says that in writing her dissertation she was able to reflect more profoundly on Fr. Alberione's thought and come to a clearer grasp of the dynamics involved in conforming oneself to Jesus Master, Way, Truth and Life through

all our human faculties: mind, will and sentiments. This process should be carried out according to the example of St. Paul, who allowed himself to be transformed by the Spirit to the point of reaching a profound union of holiness and activity in proclaiming Christ. Sr. Irma concludes her dissertation with the comment that she still has much to learn about our Pauline spirituality and vocation, especially regarding how to live it with greater authenticity on a daily basis.

WORK AS AN EXPRESSION OF PAULINE POVERTY

by *Sr. Rosa Magdalena Dolzani, Argentina*

Sr. Rosa's dissertation is an attempt to grasp the fundamentals of Pauline poverty through reflection on the thought and words of Prima Maestra Thecla and Fr. Alberione on this subject. After briefly examining the theme of work in Genesis, the Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, the Letters of Paul and the documents of the Church, the dissertation moves on to consider work and poverty in the teachings of our Founders. Sr. Rosa focuses in a special way on the five elements characteristic of Pauline poverty, which renounces, produces, preserves, provides and builds up.

The dissertation concludes with the statement that poverty is an attitude of the heart and work is the imitation of Christ and therefore has redemptive value.

OUR PAULINE APOSTOLIC SPIRITUALITY: A PATRIMONY TO BE PASSED ON

by *Sr. Maria Kimani, Kenya*

Moved by the desire to keep alive the Pauline spirituality and apostolate so as to share them with others, Sr. Maria explores the roots of our charism in her dissertation. She seeks to assimilate the experience of the Founder and Maestra Thecla and demonstrate how to creatively live it today in the socio-ecclesial context of Africa, using the means best suited to reaching the most people. Sr. Maria is profoundly convinced that we must welcome our apostolic Pauline spirituality as a gift and heritage to be passed on to others. She says that this gift belongs to the whole Church and therefore should be transmitted through witness of life, prayer and apostolate.

**THE BIBLICAL APOSTOLATE
IN THE THOUGHT OF FR. ALBERIONE**

by Sr. Olga José Massango, Mozambique

The theme of Sr. Olga’s dissertation is the Biblical Apostolate, understood as apostolic animation in the area of the Bible. To penetrate the masses of humanity with the Gospel—this was the burning desire of young James Alberione.

Using the historical approach to her subject, Sr. Olga seeks to examine more profoundly the thought and journey of our Founder in the context of the Church of his time. By means of Biblical projects, he opened new paths for the Pauline apostolate and also consolidated the identities of the Institutes he founded.

Reflecting on her experience in helping to produce the Portuguese translation of the *African Bible*, Sr. Olga presents the various stages of this project from the seminal idea to its concretization and diffusion. In the last chapter of her dissertation, she reflects on the prospects of the Biblical apostolate today, touching on the relationship between the new evangelization, the “Court of the Gentiles” and new pastoral proposals—all of which should ensure that the Word of God, transformed into words, music and pictures, will reach people everywhere and give meaning to their lives.

**MAESTRA THECLA MERLO:
MODEL FOR SUPERIORS**

by Sr. Consuelo Sanchez, Spain

Prima Maestra Thecla, the Co-Foundress and Mother of the Daughters of St. Paul, is a model for all FSP superiors, whom she taught that “to govern is to love.” Retracing her life and writings, Sr. Consuelo’s dissertation sketches out the figure of Maestra Thecla, revealing her to be a simple woman with a limited education who nevertheless collaborated very competently with Fr. Alberione

and accomplished great things as a result of her faith and self-surrender to God.

Truly “a woman associated to priestly zeal,” Prima Maestra helped to transmit the Pauline charism and build fraternal communities, inspiring the FSPs to work together in profound communion, with their gaze fixed on Christ. M. Thecla’s prayer life, united to intense and profound spiritual work, transformed her into a competent guide for the members of the Institute, showing them how to place Jesus at the center of everything so that he could be the Way, Truth and Life for everyone.

**THE PAULINE COOPERATORS:
LAY MISSION PARTNERS FOR THE GOSPEL**

by Sr. Agnes Wong, Malaysia

From the very beginning of his foundational project, Fr. Alberione wanted his cooperators to be a part of the Pauline Family. In her dissertation, Sr. Agnes briefly outlines the various forms of lay apostolate that have flourished in the Church throughout history so as to respond to the needs of the times. She is convinced that the Pauline Cooperators can enrich the apostolic activities of the Daughters of St. Paul and make them more effective.

The FSPs should be models for their lay co-workers, she says, showing them how to face problems and read the signs of the times. In her paper, she expresses the hope that our Cooperators will be given the formation they need so that they can get to know the Pauline charism better, acquire a clear identity within the Pauline Family and dynamically live their vocation so as to be credible witnesses in the Church. Sr. Agnes feels it is important that our Cooperators be recognized as “lay mission partners for the Gospel” and that collaboration between these co-workers and all the members of the Pauline Family be strengthened.

UPDATING

Regarding study: you have made progress but you need to make more. Regarding the apostolate: there too you have made progress and are moving ahead.

Blessed James Alberione



The greatness of Fr. Alberione’s intuition, which we still haven’t fully discovered, is that he saw the Apostle Paul as a person who allowed himself to be totally and progressively transfigured by the voice emanating from the brilliant light that surrounded him on the road to Damascus. This transfiguration enabled him to radiate the light of the Risen Christ to the world.

Like the Gospel figure in search of fine pearls, Fr. Alberione tirelessly sought a spirituality that would solidly support the Pauline Family’s universal mission, namely: *to proclaim the Gospel to everyone*. In the end, our Founder discovered that the Lord had hidden this “pearl” in his own priestly and apostolic heart. In fact, the Pauline spirituality springs from the passion that inflamed the heart of the Apostle of the Gentiles and that was destined to kindle many other flames....

Paul of Tarsus—mystic, missionary and martyr for the sake of the Gospel—who allowed himself to be transfigured by the love of Christ, shows every Pauline how to live and communicate him (cf. AD 64, 160). This is the heritage Blessed James Alberione passed on to all those yearning for fullness of life: to relive today the experience of the Apostle Paul, who traveled the world, renewing it with the light of Christ (cf. AE 37). From Damascus to Rome, Paul carried in his heart the transfiguring light of the Word, the voice of the risen Christ.

Light and *voice*, key binomials for Paul, also play an important role in the charismatic experience of Fr. Alberione (cf. AD 15), and thus are significant binomials for all the members of the Pauline Family. “Suddenly

a light from heaven shone all around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice” (Acts 9:3-4). The explosion of light into Paul’s life launched him on a new journey, but it was the voice of Jesus that enabled him to translate this contact with the risen Lord into concrete experience. First light, then voice.

In the Bible, these symbols can be reversed so that it is the Word that generates light (cf. Gn. 1:3). Let us not forget that Paul, an up-standing and observant Jew, meditated on the law of the Lord day and night, taking advantage of every opportunity to learn from it (Ps. 1; 118). Then, one day, that word was transformed into a blinding light that enabled him to see everything differently. The people he wanted to capture and throw into prison had not changed but now they had become the concrete “place” in which Paul met the risen Christ: “Who are you, Lord?” “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting” (Acts 9:5). The Word draws Paul into a Light that transfigures his life and helps him hear and understand the true voice of God and of his brothers and sisters.

On the road to Damascus, Paul encounters the luminous, gratuitous and merciful love of God. By vocation, the Pauline Family is called to irradiate light to a dark world, no matter what the cost! The prospect revealed to the Apostle Paul and lived by Blessed James Alberione is a lofty and challenging one for us: *to shine like bright stars in the world, holding fast to the word of life* (cf. Phil. 2:15-16).

In order to witness to the light (cf. AD 157), we must nourish ourselves on the voice/Word of the Divine Master day and night.



AS CLEAR AS GLASS

In his homily for Maestra Thecla's funeral liturgy, Cardinal Arcadio Larraona said, "You don't know—you can't know—how much [your Prima Maestra] suffered, worked and prayed.... At this point, you find everything done. But things didn't get done by themselves. How much hard work, how many inspirations, how much correspondence [to grace], how many sacrifices, and how much faith were involved! How necessary it was to 'hope against all hope'! Your Prima Maestra's life was a poem from the very beginning of her religious life. [...] I remember your Mother. Her life reflected her essence: she was as clear as glass; in her, nothing was exaggerated."

Placed in charge of the Congregation, Prima Maestra stood out not because of her role but because of the simplicity with which she lived it. Her life was simple but sublime, characterized by constant, generous self-dedication. She sought to develop the many virtues she had already been practicing at home: obedience, humility, poverty, chastity, prudence, love of God and union with him. All these virtues were admirably woven together in her life.

Like all human beings, Prima Maestra had limitations and shortcomings. She experienced struggles, victories, defeats and the need to start over again. The people who knew her from the beginning of the Pauline foundation up until her death witnessed her steady ascent toward God. She became kinder, more loving and more humble with the passing of the years.

Led by the Power of God

Prima Maestra's spiritual notes reveal how profoundly she felt her "nothingness." In her notebooks, we find over and over again the words, "I am nothing. God is everything." "I must reach the point of fully grasping my nothingness." This feeling of "nothingness" derived in part from her delicate health and limited edu-

cation but above all from her profound sense of God. It was reinforced by her awareness that "God is everything." Consequently she was able to exclaim, "Every good thing comes from God. Everything is his! Therefore I want to trust him completely."

Prima Maestra's spiritual life can be summed up by her constant declaration: "By myself I can do nothing but with God I can do all things." This attitude of "doing all things with God" extended to every aspect of her life: apostolic projects, community life, study, poverty, suffering, financial investments, trips, etc. As a result, she was not afraid of obstacles, poor health or long hours of exhausting work. She was borne along by the power of God.

Her spiritual notes of 1927 contain the following reflection:

My God, in your goodness you have allowed me to begin this year.

Beginning right now, I offer all my prayers and sufferings for the intentions of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist and I want to renew this offering with every beat of my heart. When I am asleep, may each breath I take reinforce my communion and union with you, my God. With every breath I take, I want to say: "I am with Jesus and Jesus is with me." I beg you with all my heart to grant me victory over my principal defect. Help me to live [the virtue of] love the way you want me to, my God.

Blessed Trinity, Virgin Mary, St. Paul, my guardian angel, my holy protectors, bless my resolutions and help me remain faithful to God up to death. May your will be done. (T 1 January 1927).

Maestra Thecla instilled in the first FSPs the profound conviction that if they sought God alone, he, their good Father, would take care of their material needs: "If we allow ourselves to be nourished by the immaculate flesh of our Savior and by his Gospel, then he will give us something to eat and something to wear each day" (January 1932).

AT THAT TIME...



Today, many years later, I still remember the beautiful smile of the Daughter of St. Paul who answered my timid knock on the door of their residence.... I had long admired a similar smile in the book, *The Biography of Sr. Laurence*, which a friend of mine had given me. She had purchased it by chance (but was it really "chance"?) from an Italian sister, Sr. Lidia Meggiolaro, who had been visiting the families of the area on "propaganda." In that little book, I found the news that the Daughters of St. Paul had opened a community in Korea a few months earlier and it also listed their address....

At that time, I was paying regular visits to the Holy Family Sisters because I dreamed of leading a "special" life. Yet when I saw the address of the Daughters of St. Paul, my heartbeat speeded up and I knew I couldn't wait another day to get in touch with them. In fact, that very same day I went to see them.

I was welcomed by Sr. Eulalia D'Etto. The house the sisters lived in did not look very appealing. The windows were covered by faded blankets that served as curtains and the rooms were overrun with mice. But that didn't disgust me. In fact, I wanted to laugh, which was a good thing because when I entered the Institute as an aspirant one of the first things I was told to do was to drown one of the mice that had been caught in the trap....

I didn't pay much attention to the external surroundings because all my attention was focused on the example of the sisters. At that point, they were not able to speak Korean, but they radiated goodness and a vibrant faith. That was enough to make me want to share their life in Christ.

Every Sunday I would drop by the convent to pray with the sisters. One day, Sr. Eulalia told me that Sr. M. Irene Conti would be arriving at any moment from Japan. "If she gives her approval," I was told, "then you can enter our Institute." I pictured Sr. Irene as a tall person with a noble bearing, like Sr. Eulalia. Instead, she turned out to be a tiny woman who emanated great goodness.

Unlike today, I was accepted as an aspirant without first undergoing a "live-in" experience with the sisters and without making a

OUR FOUNDATION IN KOREA



The community of Seoul, Korea was opened in December 1960.

The founding team, made up of Sr. Eulalia D'Etto (Italian), Sr. Veronica Varona (Filipino), and Sr. Cristina Kanemitsu (a Korean who was born in Japan), arrived in Incheon on 13 December. Sr. M. Irene Conti accompanied the group from Tokyo.

The sisters' first home was a small house in Myonsude parish, located in Hukseok-Dong.

For about two months, the three Daughters of St. Paul devoted themselves almost exclusively to a study of the language. On 22 February 1961, Sr. Lidia Meggiolaro arrived from the United States, followed by Sr. Fidelis Ochiai from Japan on 30 March 1961. On 24 February, our missionaries received a visit from the Prime Minister of Korea, Dr. Chang, who was accompanied by his wife and retinue. Dr. Chang, a fervent Catholic, asked many questions about the Pauline apostolate and left the sisters a generous financial contribution. That same day, twenty-five members of the Legion of Mary offered to help our sisters by taking care of a display of books and religious articles every Sunday in the square in front of the parish church. The FSPs opened a small book center in their house, stocking it with titles in Japanese, English, a few devotional books in Korean, and some religious articles. They wrote that the vocation field was wide open and showed great promise.

course of spiritual exercises in preparation for my entrance. I was very happy to be accepted into the Congregation but I was also worried about the reaction of my parents, who were Protestants. I didn't have the courage to tell them about my decision. In fact, I left home without a word to them and without looking back over my shoulder.

With the consent of my parents, I had been baptized a Catholic in 1959 in the Cathedral of Seoul. I was 19 years old at the time and my parents later told me that they had dreamed of seeing me get married in that same church one day....

When I entered the Congregation my father was so angry he threatened to set fire to the convent. Because Sr. Eulalia was worried that he really might do it, she asked the Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, who lived nearby, if they would please hide me. Consequently, for about two weeks I spent my days with those sisters, returning to the FSP convent only at night. Just when it seemed as if the danger had passed, my mother and brother turned up on the doorstep. They looked so sad that Sr. Eulalia suggested I return home with them. I took her advice and spent three months with my family. Finally my father gave me permission to return to the Daughters of St. Paul, on certain conditions. "You can go," he said, "but only for the



two-year aspirancy." My mother added, "Remember you can come home any time you want, even before the two years are up. The door is always open."

My heart was beating rapidly and I was unable to contain my great joy. The next day, I flew with the wings of an eagle to the FSP community of Hukseok-Dong, where I sang a heartfelt "Glory to God" along with the sisters.

Fifty years have gone by since that day and my "two years of aspirancy" are not over yet!

Sr. M. Paola Kim, fsp

PROFESSIONS AROUND THE WORLD

We thank the Lord for the sisters who made their first professions and perpetual professions among the Daughters of St. Paul this June.

PERPETUAL PROFESSIONS

30 June 2011: Seoul - Korea

Sr. Choi Mia Michaela
 Sr. Kim Sun Kyoung Maria Rosa
 Sr. Ko Seung Hyun Cristina
 Sr. Park Ju Young Bibiana
 Sr. Yun Myoung Hee Noela



FIRST PROFESSIONS

25 June 2011: Maputo - Mozambique

Amalia Cossa

30 June 2011: Pasay City - Philippines

Delia Bete
 Christine Mesias

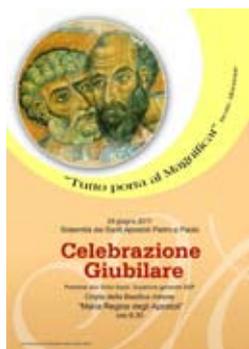
30 June 2011: Kinshasa - Congo

Ntanda Mungongo Catherine

30 June 2011: Nairobi - Kenya

Zimba Agatha
 Tarimo Theodora

JUBILEE CELEBRATION 2011



On 29 June 2011, Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, the Pauline Family gathered in the Crypt of the Queen of Apostles Basilica, Rome, to celebrate the anniversaries of priestly ordination and religious consecration of many brothers and sisters of the PF. Fr. Silvio Sassi, Superior General of the SSP, presided over the Eucharistic Liturgy, in which the major superiors of the various Institutes of the Pauline Family also participated. It was a moment of great joy and hope not only for those celebrating their jubilees but also for all the members of the PF, who praised and thanked the Lord, repeating with our Founder, Blessed James Alberione, that “everything leads to the Magnificat.”

TOBIAS: A MOBILE BOOK CENTER



“Tobias: the Family and the Word on Wheels” is a unique initiative launched by the St. Paul Group and the Forum of Family Associations. This summer the bookmobile will spend a brief period of time in the town squares of 15 Italian cities, offering the people an educational and recreational program geared in particular to the family and its values. A mobile book center, Tobias is truly a “container” rich in content. Its shelves are stocked with over 2000 carefully-chosen titles ranging from Catholic classics to the best of national and international fiction and non-fiction, including an excellent selection of children’s books. In each city it visits, the Tobias staff will hold meetings, presentations, children’s workshops and special events for families.

ITALY: THREE KOREAN COUPLES MAKE THEIR PROFESSIONS IN THE HOLY FAMILY INSTITUTE



8 May was a big day for the Holy Family Institute. On that day, in the Queen of Apostles Sanctuary, Rome, two Korean couples—Ambrogio and Chiara Lee and Francesco Paolo and Maria Juliana Cho—made their *perpetual professions*, while a third couple—Beda and Marta Park—made their *first professions* in this Institute, which sprang from the heart of Blessed James Alberione and is an integral part of the Pauline Family. The three couples spent a year of intensive preparation for this event by studying and reflecting more profoundly on the Pauline spirituality at home in Korea. But they wanted to underscore the importance of the step they were taking by making their professions in Rome, which they had visited on the occasion of the beatification of Blessed James Alberione in 2003.

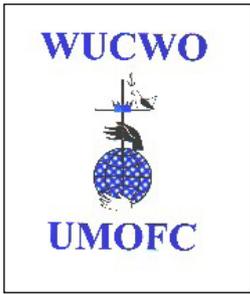
NEW GENERAL GOVERNMENT OF THE PASTORELLE SISTERS



Thirty-two Pastorelle Sisters from all five continents participated in their Congregation’s 8th General Chapter, which was held in Rome, Italy from 29 June to 16 July 2011. During the Chapter, Sr. Marta Finotelli was re-elected as Superior General. We extend our warmest best wishes and the promise of our prayers to Sr. Marta and her new governing team. May the God of Life accompany them and the entire Congregation with an outpouring of his blessings.

WINDOW ON THE CHURCH

WORLD UNION OF CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS



The World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (WUCWO) met in Rome from 28-31 May 2011. Founded a century ago, WUCWO's aim is to promote the presence, participation and co-responsibility of

Catholic women in society and the Church in order to enable them to fulfill their mission of evangelization and work for human development. Today, the Union has over 5 million members scattered in 60 countries on all the world's continents.

The representatives elected by the Union come from Argentina, Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Fiji, France, Gabon, Ghana, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Mali, Mexico, Nigeria, Philippines, Senegal, South Africa, South Korea, Swaziland, Tanzania, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Zambia. WUCWO's work plan for 2010-2014 is characterized by the slogan, *Love in Action*, which was chosen because it sums up the Union's priorities, namely: the formation of the younger generations; special attention to the condition of women in the Mideast (in particular the Holy Land); attention to migrants, and continuation of the effort to sensitize the public to the tragic business of trafficking women and children.

SOUTH KOREA: CATHOLICS ON THE RISE

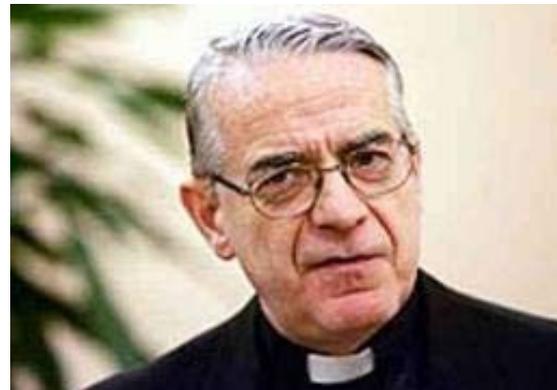


The number of Catholics in South Korea is growing: in fact, 140,644 people were baptized in 2010, bringing the total of Catholics in the country to 5,202,589 (10.1% of the total

population). According to statistics, in the last decade membership in the Church increased 23% with respect to the preceding decade. In 2010, however, the percentage of increase of new members of the faithful was 1.7%, falling short of the 2% mark it reached in the past ten years—a decline that can be attributed in part to the country's falling birth rate.

The South Korean Bishops' Conference said that this decline in baptisms, although slight, should stimulate the Church to greater efforts with regard to evangelization.

SOUTH SUDAN: WILL DEMOCRACY SUCCEED IN THIS NEW NATION?



Fr. Lombardi, spokesperson for the Vatican, dedicated his editorial in the latest issue of *Octava Dies* (the weekly paper of Vatican TV) to the situation of South Sudan, saying: "Will democracy succeed in this new nation? We cannot remain indifferent to newly-emerging situations that could lead to war. We cannot remain indifferent to the sufferings of the countless refugees who fled to the north, then returned to the south and who are now threatened by starvation and illness due to the onset of the rainy season. In addition to this, if we stop to think of the challenge to unite a people divided by tribal loyalties, a people who are abysmally poor from both the economic and educational standpoints; if we stop to think of the need to form a class of leaders, then we can see why the bishops of South Sudan are urgently requesting the help of the international community. There are many signs of hope in the country, but they are all very fragile and need strong and unified support if justice and peace are to triumph, kindling a new light in the heart of Africa."

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY
FOR THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY
ON THE ECONOMY OF COMMUNION



The First International Assembly on the Economy of Communion took place in Sao Paulo, Brazil from 25-29 May. More than 600 people took part in the event, which revolved around the theme, *Protagonists Today for a New Economy*. The Assembly was held to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the project's beginning, which sprang from an idea of Chiara Lubich in 1991 to work to reduce poverty and create a society characterized by greater communion.

JOINING FORCES TO SAVE THE FORESTS



This year *World Environment Day*, organized annually by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) starting in 1972, was celebrated on 5 June in India. It was the first time an Asian country hosted the event. The various initiatives programmed for the Day took place in Mumbai and New Delhi and centered on the theme: *Forests at Your Service*. With a population of 1.2 billion, India is facing major challenges today with regard to uncontrolled urbanization, industrialization and a massive intensification of agriculture. However, the country's current economic boom has stimulated the Indian government to take measures to resolve these issues.

Besides deforestation, problems discussed during the conferences included climate changes, pollution, the planet's dwindling water resources and illegal wildlife trafficking. World Environment Day 2012 will be held in Brazil.

MIETEK PEMPER, COMPILER OF *SCHINDLER'S LIST*, DIES



Mietek Pemper, the Polish-born Jewish Holocaust survivor who helped Oskar Schindler compile his famous List, passed away on 7 June 2011 at the age of 91. Pemper served as a consultant for Steven Spielberg's 1993 film, *Schindler's List*, which drew on Pemper's memories of collaborating with Schindler to save as many Jews as possible during World War II. In March 1943, Pemper was deported to the Plaszow concentration camp in Krakow, Poland. He became the personal secretary of Amon Goth, the commandant of the camp. Through his work, Pemper became acquainted with Oskar Schindler and in collaboration with him compiled a list of 1,200 Jewish laborers (1,000 of them employed by Schindler's factory), designating them as "decisive for the Nazi war effort," thus saving their lives. Pemper's role in the affair did not come to public attention until work on the movie began in 1993.

THE AFRICAN UNION CELEBRATES ITS 48TH BIRTHDAY



The African Union, which was established on 25 May 1963, is celebrating its 48th anniversary this year. A geo-political entity that covers the entire continent except for Morocco, the Union was created to promote the unity and solidarity of the African states and eradicate all forms of colonialism. Today the Union has expanded its objectives and seeks to accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent, achieve peace and security in Africa, and promote good governance and human rights.

**WINDOW
ON COMMUNICATIONS**
THE "NEW TELEVISION"



The United States and many Western European countries have by now switched from analog terrestrial television to digital terrestrial television—a transition still underway in Latin America, northern Asia and the Pacific, and not yet begun in Africa, the Mideast and southern Asia. However, the changeover is inevitable because this new technology offers a huge increase in channels (and consequently a wider advertising market), as well as better transmission and audio/visual reception.

These technological advances, however, are secondary with respect to the great change that is taking place with regard to the use of television on the part of both broadcasters and receivers.

The first innovation, as mentioned above, is the huge increase in TV channels: every national and local broadcaster now has at its disposition a collection of frequencies that contain many more channels than were available through the analog system. Zapping is becoming more and more common as viewers “shop around” for interesting programs. Formerly, people turned on the TV with a more or less specific idea of what they wanted to watch. Today, the choice of programs is rapidly passing into the power of the remote control: a person turns on the TV without knowing what he/she will find and moves from channel to channel until something interesting catches his/her attention.

In short, the viewer is becoming (or at least perceives him/herself to be) the protagonist in constructing a personalized viewing program.

Economy of attention: this new field of study is the result of the dissemination of the new instruments of communication, in which TV still plays a fundamental role. The time view-

ers have at their disposition to watch television is vastly inferior to the avalanche of information and messages being offered. The quantity of content easily available today through TV (and the Internet) is far greater than any human possibility to utilize it. As a result, strategies to “capture” viewers are becoming more and more refined: How can we catch the attention of TV audiences? How can we exploit this attention for our commercial purposes?

A first line of strategic action being pursued by the major TV broadcasters is to offer viewers repeated cycles of programs in categories of major interest such as sports, music, movies, variety shows, entertainment, religion, etc.

In many parts of the world, it is already possible for the viewer to select programs from an archive, without having to wait for a particular program to be aired on a specific day, at a specific time.

All in all, TV today is something entirely different from what it formerly was and thus it requires a new and more profound awareness of the medium. The mechanisms used to capture audiences are becoming always more subtle, frequently playing on sentimentality and the sensational. But although content is abundant, it is often more superficial. Also to be noted is the fact that it is becoming almost impossible today for parents to control what TV programs their children watch.

But before passing judgment on the new TV phenomenon, we should remember that, as Christians, we cannot disregard the command of the Lord: “Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Good News.” Like the other technologies of communication, digital TV is also an extension of that “world” to which we are sent and in which we must be present as “Church-sacrament of salvation.”

Taking as a point of departure my modest experience in a diocese in northern Italy, I would like to offer here several points concerning Catholic broadcasting that merit special attention:

To speak on the level of the people: the language we use should be simple and direct, not the pompous language often associated with the ecclesiastical world.

To situate the content of the program in our local situation: in my experience, this is very important. The Church exists in a specific place, which has its own particular history, culture

and values, but unfortunately these are rarely presented on television. Telling real stories about real people in concrete daily-life situations is perhaps the best “remedy” we can offer to the repetitive format of TV programs, which are often set in mythical times and places or else in no particular time and place.

To avoid “segregating” ourselves: the trend of TV to slot programs into special channels should not restrict us to proclaiming our message via channels that deal solely with religion, where what we have to say is perceived by viewers as almost “inevitable.” We should not be afraid to engage the general public in debate, to “dirty our hands,” to recount the life of faith as something relevant to our city and to the world.

The Liturgy: many people are asking that the Mass be broadcast on TV—something that is already being done by many Catholic channels. Our first concern should be to evaluate what is already available so as to ensure that viewers are being offered good-quality liturgical broadcasts.

Education: this is the most urgent and also the most difficult area on which Catholic broadcasting should focus. Today, the new technologies of communication are a true cultural environment: they not only powerfully influence the flow of ideas but also the way in which people form convictions. In this regard, the Bishops of Italy have not hesitated to use the term “pastoral conversion” to indicate the need to realize that we are in the midst of a revolutionary change affecting every level of society: from the family, to the parish, to the diocese, to movements, to religious communities. We must all become more aware of the fact that “communication” is no longer a sphere of pastoral work—it is the very environment in which we live.

Juan Andrés Caniato

AMAZON: E-BOOK SALES SURPASS THE SALE OF PRINTED BOOKS



In a press release dated 19 July 2010, Amazon.com announced that in the previous three months, Kindle book sales outnumbered the sales of physical books. In fact, for every 100 hardcover and paperback books sold, 105 electronic books were sold. This information is important because it reveals a clear trend: e-books are no longer a “niche” category in the publishing world but a solid publishing reality. Amazon courageously blazed a trail that many considered to be still too “futuristic” and today we can say that its daring decision has been well rewarded.

The company’s success in this area can be reckoned not only by the sale of e-readers and e-books but also by its soaring stock rate, which reflects the trust of its investors, and also by the fact that many big publishing houses are now trying to create their own systems for selling e-books.

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS



As a part of the celebrations organized for World Youth Day (Madrid, Spain–August 2011), the Spanish Foundation “Cronaca Blanca” has selected the winners for the various categories of its International Communications Awards.

The winning entries (from Portugal, Ukraine, Italy, Spain, United States, Guatemala, Cuba, Colombia, Brazil, Argentina and Australia) include a documentary on Peru, a Portuguese news article, two radio programs and a Spanish Internet web site. Each winner will receive €1,000 and a scholarship to pursue studies for a Master’s Degree in Communications at one of Spain’s universities.

The award ceremony will be held in Madrid on 16 August, as a part of WYD’s program of cultural events.



Foto: Emmanuel Alves, fsp

DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL

- Sr. Gisella Codias, age 85 - 05.05.2011 - Alba, Italy
- Sr. M. Raffaella Felisa Magsarili, age 79 - 06.05.2011 - Pasay City, Philippines
- Sr. M. Amabilis Anna Esposito, age 84 - 16.05.2011 - Mumbai, India
- Sr. Sylvia George, age 49 - 23.05.2011 - Pasay City, Philippines
- Sr. Teresa Merlo, age 84 - 23.05.2011 - Alba, Italy
- Sr. M. Adelaide Maria Carandina, age 89 - 02.06.2011 - Albano GA, Italy
- Sr. M. Adeodata Mioko Noguchi, age 70 - 03.06.2011 - Nagoya, Japan
- Sr. M. Bernarda Potrich, age 77 - 11.06.2011 - São Paulo, Brazil
- Sr. M. Speranza Giuseppina Festari, age 92 - 28.06.2011 - Albano GA, Italy
- Sr. Assunta M. Carmen Lopez, age 69 - 01.07.2011 - Pasay City, Philippines
- Sr. M. Vincenzina Dafrosa Guion, age 85 - 01.07.2011 - Pasay City, Philippines
- Sr. Rosangela Palmerina Rantucci, age 95 - 03. 07.2011- Rome, Italy
- Sr. Myriam Fumiko Ichikawa, age 78 – 09. 07. 2011 Tokyo, Japan

PARENTS OF OUR SISTERS

- Sr. Isabel Corona Cisneros (Father, Jesus) of the community of Mexico City CP, Mexico
- Sr. Maria Rosario Agtarap (Father, Benjamin M.) of the community of Langley, Great Britain

PAULINE FAMILY

- Sr. Letizia Maria Turra, sgbp, age 74 - 04.05.2011 - Rieti, Italy
- Sr. M. Elisabetta Vittoria Ragoso, pddm, age 84 - 08.05.2011 - Albano Laziale, Italy
- Br. Mario Giuseppe Omedei, ssp, age 97 - 12.05.2011 - Rome, Italy
- Sr. M. Blanca Gloria Maria Sepulveda, pddm, age 72 - 13.05.2011 - Bogota, Colombia
- Br. Mario Celestino Rizzo, ssp, age 94 - 26.05.2011 - Alba, Italy
- Fr. Antonio Giuseppe Speciale, ssp, age 89 - 08.06.2011 - Rome, Italy
- Br. Julian Fernandez Lucio, ssp, age 81 - 29.06.2011 - Madrid, Spain