

# FSP INFORMAZIONE

4

ENGLISH

## SUMMARY

JULY-AUGUST 2008 – YEAR 75, N. 623

### 1 FROM THE SUPERIOR GENERAL

### 3 THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Activities of the General Government  
The Pauline Year on Our Website ([www.paoline.org](http://www.paoline.org))

### 5 THE CIRCUMSCRIPTIONS

*Argentina-Paraguay*: Book Fair in Asunción  
*Bolivia*: Meeting for Diffusion Center Personnel  
*Brazil*: Pastoral Work for Vocations  
SEPAC: Communications Courses  
*Canada*: Public Recognition of Sr. Jeanne Lemire  
*Colombia*: 60 Years of Pauline Presence  
*Korea*: New Website for Disseminating Digital Data  
*Philippines*: New Strategies for Evangelizing with the Media  
*Germany*: “Catholics Day” in Osnabrück  
*Italy*: Long Distance Vocation Activities  
Communicating via Videoclips  
*Peru*: “Disciples and Missionaries” in Chiclayo  
*Puerto Rico*: Bible Encounters  
*Spain*: Cultural Initiatives  
*Equatorial Guinea*: Visit to Malabo  
❖ Called to Eternal Life

### 10 COMMUNICATIONS

“Read the Sacred Scriptures”

### 11 STUDIES AND NEW EDITIONS

Spirituality and Organized Communication  
The Centrality of the Eucharist in the Pauline Life  
Charism Course: Student Dissertations  
The Apostle Paul: Inspiration and Model

### 12 NEWS FROM THE CHURCH AND WORLD

## SEGRETERIATO INTERNAZIONALE DI COMUNICAZIONE

Casa Generalizia, via S. Giovanni Eudes 25, 00163 Roma

Tel. 06.661.30.360 - Fax: 661.57.208 - E-mail: [sicom@paoline.org](mailto:sicom@paoline.org) - Sito: [www.paoline.org](http://www.paoline.org)

## From the Superior General



**D**earest Sisters,

*The General Chapter strongly urged us to practice **discernment** so as to live our spiritual life, our personal and communitarian commitments, our relationships and the various expressions of our mission more profoundly. It is a call to trustingly open ourselves to the future, taking as our starting point our concrete situation. Each day brings with it new questions and invites us to make new choices. The Spirit, who accompanies every sister and the whole Congregation, is stirring within us the yearning for a new style of Pauline life—one that is based on the Gospel and that clearly witnesses to our identity. The Pauline Year offers us a fresh chance to better center our life on our model, St. Paul the Apostle, and on how he conformed himself to Christ the Master.*

*The cultural revolution in which we are immersed demands that we live the Gospel in a constantly-changing and ever-searching world and this requires a “re-founding” of our personal and communitarian life. We must be always more creative if we are to express the newness of the Gospel in today’s situation. As individuals and communities, we must learn to recognize the “signs of the Word” in history, carefully evaluate our motivations, and discern how to update God’s plan for us in a spirit of faith. This concerted effort can give rise to new ways of expressing our consecrated life as apostles of communication and can generate an abundance of initiatives on both the charismatic and apostolic levels, carried out in fidelity to our foundational charism.*

*Our life is not static but dynamic. It is made up of thoughts, feelings, activities, inclinations, relations with other people, with things, with society and with the world. Our life started with Baptism, faith in Christ, and was enriched by the gift of the Spirit and then the Pauline vocation. These gifts gave rise to a personal and at times mysterious dialogue with God, who urges us to remain in continual contact with his Word, with ourselves, with others, and with the multi-faceted reality around us. This must be done with a docile heart—one that is undergoing a constant interior transformation and thus is able to recognize the paths of God and follow them with fidelity and joy.*

*In this way, discernment becomes our customary approach to life, enabling us to grow to the full stature of Christ (cf. Eph. 4:13), to the point that he is formed in us. However, the journey toward spiritual maturity is not easy and at times it can be ambiguous. Because of this, Paul invites us to put on the armor of God (cf. Eph. 6:11) and to steadfastly follow the path of self-denial, conversion and interior renewal. He also strongly advises us to never quench the Spirit (cf. 1 Th. 5:19), who can reveal himself in the most unexpected ways. Thus attentive listening is necessary so as to wholeheartedly welcome the promptings of the Word of God in and around us. Our Founder, who invited us to continually move forward with a humble and contrite heart, in a spirit of simplicity and trust, reminded us of the Master’s promise: “Do not be afraid. I am with you. From here I want to enlighten.” So every form of discernment should be accompanied by the conviction that God is always present, especially where two or more people are gathered in his name. This experience of faith, lived humbly and sincerely, can help us strive to renew our life and works according to God’s loving plan for each of us, for our community and for the whole Congregation.*

*Discernment is above all the effort to discover the will of God by seeking to determine the Spirit’s movements in individuals and communities. Carried out in prayer, within the framework of a personal and liberating relationship with the Trinity, it is made up of listening, dialogue and discipleship. The Spirit of Jesus, present in the early Church in an extraordinary and visible way, guides the disciples of the Lord of all times to choose the good. Through faith and Baptism, all believers receive the gift of the Spirit, who dwells within us and enables us to live as children of God by means of a purified, ever-ascending journey characterized by always greater freedom in following the Lord. The*

*Spirit of Jesus leads us to live the truth, to remain in the truth, and to read our own life and—to a certain extent—the lives of those who live around us and those to whom we direct our mission in the light of this truth. The search for the will of God is not carried out with an agitated mind and heart; instead, it is an expression of contemplative knowledge: it presupposes the ability to contemplate, to see God in everyone and everything.*

*Discernment is a grace of God but it also requires the human effort of searching. It is a gift that grows and is exercised through our effort to avoid sin and strive for continual conversion and holiness. “This is the will of God, your holiness” (1 Th. 4:3). It consists not only in avoiding evil but also in moving forward, toward something “more,” something better, as Paul urges us: “May your love grow ever richer in knowledge and insight of every kind, enabling you to discern the things that really matter” (Phil. 1:9-10).*

*The Word of God is the wellspring of spiritual discernment. But merely reading the sacred texts is not enough; we must also conform ourselves to Christ to the point that we are able to judge things according to the Spirit. This is the fruit of familiar contemplation of the One who is our constant point of reference, or, if we want to cite our Founder, it is the fruit of an obligation “to place the Word at the center of our life and mission.” It means listening to Christ who, having entered human history through the Incarnation, “speaks the words of God” (Jn. 3:34) using our language, and assumes our humanity so as to share with us his mystery of love, communion an salvation through through the expressions and gestures of human beings. He gave his life on the cross “to gather into one the scattered children of God” (Jn. 11:52) in the community of believers.*

*Discernment has a second wellspring. Besides welcoming and listening to the Word of God, it is also necessary to be faithful to what is real. We could call this fidelity to the Incarnation: God has reached out to us from within the context of human history. The will of God is revealed deep within us, in our concrete lives as women. The Spirit expresses himself in our thoughts, judgments and feelings when we are making the effort to faithfully, generously and honestly follow Christ the Master and make choices in profound harmony with his promptings. To discern means to use our human faculties (mind, will and heart) the way God intended them to be used, so that he can dwell within us.*

*St. Irenaeus wrote: “Wherever the Spirit is, there is the Church.” It is impossible to conceive of a lifestyle according to the Spirit without ecclesial and fraternal communion. Communion is an essential element of discernment. To live in communion with the Church means to seek the will of God in it and with it, in a spirit of faith, hope and love. It also means living in communion with the local ecclesial authority and the authority of the Congregation. But when it concerns the concrete decisions of daily life and our apostolic choices, our point of reference is a face of the Church much closer to us: that of the community in which we live.*

*If we are convinced of our vocation to live in community and of the importance of seeking the will of God together, of being co-responsible for each one’s tasks, then we can overcome all obstacles and carry out a genuine communitarian discernment. We will be able to accept conflicting opinions and protests during our discussions without severing communion. The first fruit of the Spirit is peace. This gift, which comes from on high and which should be diligently sought, transforms the community into a place of spiritual joy and freedom in which each sister feels accepted and encouraged by the others, called to rise above her limitations and grow in fraternal communion, in her rapport with God and others, and in evangelical and apostolic creativity.*

*In this way our duty, whatever it may be, will take on new authenticity since we are aware of being brought together and consecrated by the Word and for the Word so as to witness to the Absolute; inhabited by the Spirit so as to communicate the Mystery of God to everyone we meet along the path leading to fullness of life. Let us hope that more frequent and profound contact with the life and words of Paul during this year dedicated to him will be a favorable time for us to adopt discernment as a style of life and apostolate, as requested of us by our 9<sup>th</sup> General Chapter. Affectionately,*

*Sr. M. Antonietta Bruscato*

# The General Government



## ACTIVITIES OF THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT

### Appointment of Circumscription Governments

#### *Korean Province:*

Chung Sr. Caterina  
Kang Sr. Perpetua  
Kim Sr. Evangelina  
Kim Sr. Generosa  
Lee Sr. Letizia

Provincial Superior  
Councilor  
Councilor  
Councilor  
Councilor

#### *Delegation of Pakistan:*

Ishaq Sr. Magadaline  
Inayat Sr. Meena  
Baronchelli Sr. Daniela

Delegation Superior  
Councilor  
Councilor

### First Professions

#### *Sao Paulo, Brazil - 15 June 2008*

Da Silva Alice Cristina  
De Araújo Maria Vanderlane

#### *Kinshasa, Congo - 30 June 2008*

Myanda Mundadi Christine,  
Kakundi Kyembe Fanny  
Tshiala Mpoyi Helen Nathalie

#### *Manila, Philippines - 28 June 2008*

Alibo Mary Jane  
Lorilla Maria Jose

#### *Mumbai, India - 30 June 2008*

Lobo Stevena

#### *Antananarive, Madagascar - 30 June 2008*

Ramanamihaja Sylviane Elisa  
Randriamihajamanana Virginie  
Rasoarimanana Lala Hortancia  
Ravololoniaina Eva Virginia

#### *Maputo, Mozambique – 30 June 2008*

Sardinha Adelino Esmeralda M. Esperança  
Manguaula Pedro Ivone

#### *Romania- September 2008*

Bulai Ana Maria

#### *Singapore - 28 June 2008*

Chan Lynette

#### *Boston, United States - 28 June 2008*

Bratt Emi

### Perpetual Professions

#### *Sao Paulo, Brazil*

Zanella Sr. Susanna Aparecida -31.08.2008  
Honório Vitorino Sr. Flávia Jeane - 29.06.2008

#### *Bogotá, Colombia – 29 June 2008*

Sanchez Ferro Sr. Rosalina

#### *Seoul, Korea - 30 June 2008*

Kim Yu Mi Cecilia Sr. Speranza  
Kim Sul Hee Sr. Rosaria  
Lee Myoung Hee Sr. Susanna-Serva  
Jeon Nyeon Sook Sr. Pelagia  
Choi Yun Kyong Cristina Sr. Genesis  
Kim Eun Kyung Sr. Stella  
Chung Kyong A Sr. Maria Magdalena

#### *Pasay, Philippines – 29 June 2008*

Gamab Sr. Gemma

#### *Great Britain – 29 June 2008*

Penrice Sr. Elaine

#### *Nairobi, Kenya – 14 June 2008*

Kiragu Sr. Anne Kabura  
Maliatso Sr. Hellen Nechesa  
Omondi Sr. Millicent Atieno

#### *Antananarive, Madagascar – 29 June 2008*

Bodonirina Manitra Sr. M. Sandrine  
Voahangimalala Sr. Francine  
Lalatiana Sr. Florette

#### *Lahore, Pakistan – 30 June 2008*

Safder Sr. Rubina

#### *Lisbon, Portugal – 28 June 2008*

Ferraz Silva Dantas Sr. Sandra  
Antunes Sr. Sofia

#### *Boston, United States – 15 June 2008*

Hyatt Sr. Jennifer Thecla  
Gepitulan Sr. M. Joane Caritas

**Calendar of the General Government**  
July-August 2008

11-16 July	Lublin	<i>Sr. M Antonieta Bruscato</i> <i>Sr. Gabriella Santon</i>	Fraternal Visit
11-16 July	Prague	<i>Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan</i> <i>Sr. Francisca Matsuoka</i>	Fraternal Visit
11-16 July	Bucharest	<i>Sr. Luz Helena Arroyave</i> <i>Sr. Samuela Gironi</i>	Fraternal Visit
1-6 August	Moscow	<i>Sr. Anna Caiazza</i> <i>Sr. Inocencia Tormon</i>	Fraternal Visit
25 August– 5 September	Chile	<i>Sr. Francisca Matsuoka</i> <i>Sr. Gabriella Santon</i>	Fraternal Visit

**THE PAULINE YEAR ON OUR WEBSITE ([WWW.PAOLINE.ORG](http://WWW.PAOLINE.ORG))**

As we already informed our circumscription governments, for the opening of the Pauline Year we will be posting on our Institute's international website ([www.paoline.org](http://www.paoline.org)) several pages that will underscore this special event, which was deeply desired by Pope Benedict XVI and which he himself will inaugurate on 28 June 2008.

At the beginning of June, our Superior General wrote to all the FSPs: "The Church, the Pauline Family and our whole Congregation have welcomed the Pauline Year with joy and immense gratitude. The many projects planned and already underway in every part of the world reveal the enthusiastic response of the ecclesial communities and in particular our Pauline communities to this gift of the Pope. In every corner of the globe where the sons and daughters of St. Paul are present, they are taking the lead in fostering religious, cultural and artistic activities designed to make the Lord's greatest Apostle and disciple known and loved. The publications, courses, radio/TV programs, conferences, performances, concerts and many other initiatives programmed all have a single goal: *to focus attention on Christianity's greatest missionary.*"

We want our web site to be a reference point for us during this year, a place in which to find information concerning the various initiatives and publications realized by our Institute; animation aids prepared by our General Government and individual circumscriptions; material useful for various types of celebrations and meetings organized on the theme of the Apostle Paul; pictures and photographs to which we hold the copyrights, and also bibliographies on Paul (books, video clips, audio material, websites, etc.).

The website will also post the FSP Animation Project for 2008-2009: "*Paul: Splendor of Light*," made up of 8 animation aids to help us penetrate the Apostle's mind and heart and thus attune ourselves more profoundly to his ideal of life and mission.

The titles of the animation booklets are:

0. *Paul, "Splendor of Light," Introduction*
1. *Paul of Tarsus: A Blameless Jew*
2. *The Damascus Event: Seduced by Christ*
3. *"The Gospel lives in me": Paul, Communicator by Vocation*
4. *"My strength lies in my weakness": Paul's Paschal Experience*
5. *"The love of Christ urges us on"*
6. *Paul, Inspired Writer About Love*
7. *Paul and Fr. Alberione: On the Wings of Memory—An Imaginary Conversation*

The Project is accompanied by the explanation of several paintings of Paul, a program for studying the Apostle's Letters, and a CD containing animation material.

# The Circumscriptions



## **Argentina-Paraguay** **Book Fair in Asunción**

Organized by the publishers and book sellers of Paraguay in collaboration with the city and county of Asunción, the 15-day Book Fair was a true celebration of the culture of reading. The Daughters of St. Paul participated in the event with a well-stocked stand centered on the book “The Bible and Us” and the CD “In the Footsteps of Paul,” and they were delighted to see that their display attracted many people.

The Fair also featured a presentation of the booklet “A Continental Mission for a Missionary Church” drawn up by CELAM and published by the Bishops’ Conference of Paraguay. The text outlines the spirit, objectives and initial plan for implementing the guidelines established during the Conference of Aparecida.

## **Bolivia** **Meeting for Diffusion Center Personnel**

Our sisters of Bolivia gathered in Cochabamba from 23-26 May to reflect on new ways to promote the diffusion apostolate. On the last day of the meeting, they were joined by the lay personnel who also staff our book centers.

The meeting was guided by Sr. Elide Pulita from SAL. Fired by true apostolic passion, our sisters rekindled the flame of the Pauline charism within themselves and looked to the future, which offers many new possibilities for announcing the Gospel through the instruments of communication. After evaluating how well our book centers are operating, the participants programmed their future activities, all aimed at carrying out the Pauline mission more effectively by transforming our centers into places of encounter, animation and cultural dialogue. Urged on by passion for Christ and for humanity, our sisters also tried to find new ways to share the Pauline charism with collaborators, friends and acquaintances. All the participants—FSPs and laity alike—deeply appreciated the encounter, which they felt was an important time of formation and an effective way of helping them carry out their apostolic service always more competently.

## **Brazil** **Pastoral Work for Vocations**

Of particular interest among the various vocation initiatives currently underway in the province are the meetings that were held in Belem, Recife e Maringa this past May. Preceded by an intense preparation that encouraged both our sisters and young people to not only pray for these events but also actively participate in them, about 25 young women turned out for these formation sessions centered on helping them discern what the Lord is calling them to do with their lives. All the Province’s vocation teams are firmly convinced that the Lord continues to prepare good vocations for our Congregation: it is up to us to seek them out and guide them so that they will respond generously to his call.

## **SEPAC: Communication Courses**

At the request of the Pontifical Catholic University of Sao Paulo, SEPAC held a course from 5-17 May on the theme, *The Culture of Communication*. Students from various parts of the country participated in the event. The theoretical-practical input on communications included journalism exercises and lessons in how to use the various media. Guest speakers offered valuable insights into the various dimensions of communication, socio-economic power systems, and public and private institutional policies in the field on both the national and international levels. SEPAC’s complete course of specialization in communications involves three different stages. Now that this first stage has been

completed, students interested in pursuing a diploma in the field can sign up for the second one.

## Canada

### *Public Recognition of Sr. Jeanne Lemire*

The Graduates Association of the Theology and Religious Sciences Faculty of Montreal University recently honored several of their alumni. One of these was Sr. Jeanne Lemire, the manager of our FSP Book and Media Center in Montreal, who was singled out for special recognition due to the fact that our book center enjoys the approval and support of many people active and influential in the city's cultural and ecclesial spheres. The multi-purpose hall attached to our book center has become a place for animation activities and the exchange of information and ideas—a place in which “spirituality and culture can meet and dialogue.” The fact that so far more than 3,800 people have participated in



the various events held there seems to confirm that the book center's new configuration (book center—conference hall—coffee bar) responds to the needs of people today. Running such a service calls for creativity, openness and hard work and our sisters of Quebec rejoice in the recognition conferred on Sr. Jeanne and, through her, on our Center.

## Colombia

### *60 Years of Pauline Presence*

Our Colombian Province is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of foundation and the Pauline Year through many initiatives that involve our communities and the Church on both the national and local levels. One important activity is the FSPs' co-management of the diocese's new TV channel “Cristovision,” which we spoke about in a previous newsletter. Cristovision is a modern pulpit for communicating Christ the Master and for helping viewers see the world through his eyes. The initiative was launched by the Archdiocese of Bogota and is supported by the Redemptorists, Augustinians, Dominicans and Daughters of St. Paul, who are part of the channel's Board of Directors and are in charge of some of its programs. Lay volunteers also collaborate with this new means of proclaiming the Gospel in the Local Church.

The channel, whose programming keeps in mind the need to interact with its audience, aspires to be a space that will transmit evangelical, cultural and family values in a way that will make a positive impact on viewers by communicating hope, courage, peace, reconciliation and solidarity. The channel broadcasts its programs via satellite NSS-806 and can be picked up by any TV system. Our sisters are also experimenting with other forms of Pauline presence such as videoclips inserted on YouTube, as well as radio-TV programs being aired on local stations.



## Korea

### *New Website for Disseminating Digital Data*

The Daughters of St. Paul of Korea have initiated a new stage of their online apostolate through the diffusion of products available for a fee: music (in both audio and sheet

form), pictures, and video clips that can help to embellish meditations and Bible readings. They hope their new web site (<http://cum.paoline.or.kr>) will provide a valid service in the world of Catholic digitalized media.

The web site offers visitors a one-minute free sample of music, meditation or Bible reading. Those who set up a credit account for a one- two- or six-month period can listen to any amount of audio material for that specific period of time. The material can be downloaded into a personal computer after the fee for each item is debited from the person's account (see picture).

Some material is offered free of charge, such as various illustrations of the Sunday Gospels (useful for parish catechists, for example) and an audio reading of the daily Gospel in Korean and English. Since the end of 2005, more than 200 books published by our sisters are now available through Booktopia, Korea's largest e-publishing company, which disseminates e-books to all websites dealing with this material. Our sisters will soon be offering other services via their web site to ensure that the Gospel is proclaimed to always more people.



### **Philippines** ***New Strategies for Evangelizing with the Media***

23 FSPs representing various sectors of the Province's electronic media apostolate and pastoral sector (radio, TV, audiovisuals, newspaper, information technology and media literacy education) gathered at the Paulines Communication Center in Pasay for a 5-day meeting on the theme, "Working in Synergy to broaden our presence for effective service in the world of communication." The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and strategize the province's apostolic activities in the above-mentioned fields for the next five years.



Reflecting on the significance of the celebration of World Communications Day in the Church, Sr.

Consolata Manding, director of the Communication Center, underscored the power of the media and its influence on people's lives. She gave a historical presentation of various papal messages for WCD, noting that the theme chosen each year had some connection with world events. She also gave a brief sketch of various Church documents that highlight the importance of the media in evangelization and their significant role in shaping the lifestyles of people and their way of thinking.

Sr. Clothilde de las Llagas, who has been involved in media education for many years, offered suggestions as to how to prepare modules for media education, underscoring the importance of adapting them to each specific audience.

Besides sharing their experiences in carrying out their respective ministries in the various dioceses in which they live and work, the sisters reflected on the strengths and weakness of their apostolic activities, the opportunities that help them fulfill their ministry and the negative influences that pose obstacles to it. Afterward, they drew up a strategic plan for the coming 5-year period and committed themselves "to live and promote Gospel values in order to respond creatively to the needs of the people in line with the priorities of the local Church and of our 9<sup>th</sup> General Chapter, by improving the quality of our

relationships, constantly renewing our zeal for the apostolate and living the evangelical service of authority and obedience.”

### **Germany** **“Catholics Day” in Osnabrück**

“Catholics Day” is a big event, marked by faith, sharing and forums on both secular and religious themes, such as ecumenism, ecology, poverty, etc. This year’s celebration was held in Osnabrück from 21-21 May. More than 60,000 people, young and old, many of other faiths, enthusiastically participated in the prayer and discussion sessions. The FSPs contributed to this event through a stand that offered the crowd various initiatives:

*“Give your face to the Apostle Paul”*: A large cardboard figure of Paul, with the face cut out, attracted many children and adults, who lined up to substitute their faces for that of the Apostle and have their picture taken as a unique souvenir of the Day.

*“Food for the Soul”*: Visitors to the stand were offered little tubes containing “messages” from St. Paul in the form of a small letter, which prompted many people to share with our sisters their feelings about God and about their Faith.

*“St. Paul Quiz”*: An electronic quiz on St. Paul attracted many people, who patiently awaited their turn at the computer to see how familiar they were with the Apostle and his life.

The comic book, *“Paul: Apostle of the Gentiles,”* prepared by our Italian Pauline Vocation Center and translated into German by one of our sisters, also attracted a lot of attention, especially that of religion teachers and children, since the pages of the text were enlarged and used as “wall paper” in the stand. “Catholics Day” enabled our sisters to once more see how thirsty people are for the Word of God and how they joyfully welcomed the chance to explore their Faith more deeply and gather together as a community of believers irrespective of age or culture.



### **Italy** **Long Distance Vocation Activities**

Sr. Silvia Parenzan, mistress of the FSP European novitiate, says that in April she and her novices experienced first-hand how the instruments of communication can bridge even great distances. She writes: “Fr. Samuel, a parish priest in Portugal, asked us to hold a vocation day in his three parishes. Since it was impossible for us to go to Portugal personally, we used a “webcamera” to link up with the parishes via computer. In this way, we were able to provide Fr. Samuel’s flock, especially the young people, with vocation animations and testimonies. It was a truly moving experience—one we believe has opened the door to a new type of vocation work!”

### **Communicating via Videoclips**

Two videoclips on religious themes which our sisters recently “aired” online via YouTube provoked an avalanche of responses. The reaction to the videoclips brought home to our sisters the need to carefully select the messages we want to broadcast and above all to wisely choose the most suitable languages and ways to propose the subjects. The Internet offers the FSPs a wide variety of possibilities for evangelization and we should not be afraid to explore and evaluate these paths. This new experience has made our sisters more aware of the need to find new and convincing ways of explaining the message of salvation and the hope that is in us to others, including those who are “farthest away” both spiritually and physically.

## Peru

### *“Disciples and Missionaries” in Chiclayo*

Vocation initiatives programmed by the Pauline Family of Peru-Ecuador for the Pauline Year opened with a missionary exhibit at the 6<sup>th</sup> *Bi-National Meeting for the Young People of Peru and Ecuador*, held from 1-2 May in the city of Chiclayo, located in northern Peru. The theme of the encounter was, “Young Disciples and Missionaries of Christ.” The Pauline Family’s stand, one of 14 present at the event, was visited by more than 500 young people from Ecuador and the dioceses of Cajamarca, Piura and Chiclayo in northern Peru. Our stand was too small to cope with the great number of young people who flocked to it, drawn by the tantalizing slogan: “A Vitamin for the Spirit in the Company of St. Paul.” Each young person was given a message taken from the Letters of the Apostle and a leaflet. In these and other ways, the Pauline Family is announcing the opening of the Pauline Year. Like our Father Paul, our sisters and brothers joyfully shared with the young people their experiences as disciples and missionaries of the Word. They also helped to create a panel entitled, “Young people are not afraid of sacrifice but of a life without meaning,” used in the Eucharistic Liturgy and for various cultural activities. The PF received a warm welcome at this meeting and returned home with great hope that the many seeds sown will yield abundant fruit.



## Puerto Rico

### *Bible Encounters*

In April, the Daughters of St. Paul of Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic teamed up with a group of lay missionaries to hold a Bible course for catechists and the general public. The FSP Bible Animation Service of Brazil helped to organize the meeting and prepare the animation team, which consisted of 15 people.

About 60 catechists flocked to the book center for the first session of the course, while 35 religion teachers from various Institutes attended a second session. Everyone enthusiastically welcomed the input and took an active part in the various dynamics proposed to study the Word of God more deeply.

In each session, the participants were taught to read the Bible prayerfully—an idea that caught their attention and interest.

An exhibit of Bibles and Bible-related material also gave them the chance to acquire study aids to help them reflect more profoundly on the themes discussed. All the participants manifested a great desire to get to know the Bible better. Our sisters say that this very positive response has prompted them to plan similar initiatives for the future, especially in the light of the Pauline Year and our Founder’s great desire that the Word of God might reach everyone.



## Spain

### *Cultural Initiatives*

Our sisters of this country are continuing their tradition of holding book presentations to promote titles of special interest. In Granada, they recently collaborated with the SSP and with the Jesuit University Center to organize a meeting in which Serafin Béjar pre-

sented his book *“Dios en Jesus” (God in Jesus)*. More than 100 people attended the encounter and many afterward purchased the book. The FSPs of Barcelona also recently presented the latest title in the *“Living Flame”* series published by Pauline Editions. Several of the authors of the series and the director of our publishing house were present for the occasion. Our sisters were very satisfied with these two initiatives and will continue to hold similar encounters to help form the people with the instruments of social communication.



### **Equatorial Guinea** **Visit to Malabo**

In May, FSP Bursar General Sr. Gabriella Santon and the Delegation Superior of Spain, Sr. Letizia Panzetti, visited our community of Malabo, made up of three FSPs: Srs. Teresa, Olga and Marta. The visitors found the sisters well-inserted in the country and hard at work to help the people grow in faith and in the Christian life through pastoral activities related to our apostolate. Our book center is becoming better known among the people, who are now dropping in more frequently. The attached library has become an important meeting-place for teens, who find in it the books they need for their studies. The children’s section was recently enriched with many new titles and now many children are stopping by after school to spend some time reading. The two young volunteers who supervise the library are also part of the newly-founded *“Alberione Group,”* which already counts 25 members—all fervent young men interested in deepening their Christian formation. Our sisters hope that some of these young men will be drawn to the Pauline religious life so as to root our charism even more firmly in this country.

## **CALLED TO ETERNAL LIFE**

### **Daughters of St. Paul**

Sr. M. Salvina Giulia Pipus, age 79 - 30.04.2008 - Rome AP, Italy  
 Sr. M. Gabriella Carmen Munoz, age 79 - 01.05.2008 - Buenos Aires, Argentina  
 Sr. M. Paola Elena Bergadano, age 82 - 05.05.2008 - Alba, Italy  
 Sr. Raffaella Anna Gravina, age 88 - 14.05.2008 - Rome AP, Italy  
 Sr. Francesca Paola Rosaria Macalli, age 79 - 16.05.2008 - Albano, Italy  
 Sr. Franceschina M. Angela Colavecchio, age 94 - 18.05.2008 - Albano TM, Italy  
 Sr. M. Elisa Addolorata M. Comi, age 68 - 19.05.2008 - Albano, Italy  
 Sr. M. Olimpia Caterina Tuninetti, age 88 - 21-05-2008 - Alba, Italy  
 Sr. Elena Rosa Marsiglia, age 89 - 22.05.2008 - Albano TM, Italy  
 Sr. Veronica Santina Glassmann, age 81 - 29.05.2008 - Buenos Aires N, Argentina  
 Sr. M. Leonia Angela Molteni, age 83 - 03.06.2008 - Albano, Italy

### **Parents of our Sisters**

Sr. M. Clara Nishimura (Mother, Maria Shizu) of the community of Tokyo, Japan  
 Sr. Maura Feix (Mother, Florinda) of the community of São Paulo IA, Brazil  
 Sr. Consolacion Ducusin (Mother, Hilaria) of the community of Pasay CP, Philippines

### **Pauline Family**

Sr. M. Agape Maria Saccone, pddm, age 85 - 28.04.2008 – Fresno (CA), USA  
 Sr. M. Elisa Cecilia C. Baggio, pddm, age 83 - 04.05.2008 – Fresno (CA), USA  
 Sr. M. Dominika Janina Gonciarz, pddm, age 69 - 06.05.2008 - Warsaw, Poland  
 Fr. Estanislao Conde Martinez, ssp, age 73 - 01.06.2008 - Madrid, Spain  
 Sr. M. Celsa Celestina Taricco, pddm, age 87 - 01.06.2008 - Sanfrè, Italy



## Communications

### **“Read the Sacred Scriptures”**

This is the title of an important biblical catechesis by Bl. James Alberione dating from the 1920's and printed by the FSPs in 1933—a time in which the Word of God was not habitually used for nourishment by most Catholics. We would like to reflect on the importance of reading the Scriptures now, while the Church is preparing to celebrate a Synod on the theme: *“The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church.”*

Beginning with this work and throughout his entire life, our Founder tirelessly emphasized the urgency of reading the Bible personally, the importance of reflecting on it as a community, and the need to connect the Scriptures to our life and apostolate and read them in this light. He said insistently: “We must read the Bible with immense affection and devotion, like a child far from home reads a letter from his/her father....” Calling the Word of God the “Book of the Spirit,” he often said: “The Holy Spirit must move people to read Bible, fill their hearts with love for it, open their minds to understand it according to the teachings of faith, and give them the grace to put what they read into practice. So let us pray to the Holy Spirit, asking him to give us the gift of understanding.” Addressing himself directly to his sons and daughters, he presented Bible reading as an essential element of pastoral-apostolic work, reminding us: “Those who read the divine Word will learn the language of God, will speak that language and will carry out the apostolate effectively.”

Paul's words in his letter to the Hebrews (4:12) can be readily applied to Fr. Alberione's assimilation of the Word of God: *“The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joint from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”*

The Bible is the book of the believer and of the apostle. It should be read, pondered and used for prayer in the Church, the “home of the Word,” so as to grasp its meaning and allow it to change our heart and life. It is important that the Word form part of the living tradition of the community of faith, whose members should sincerely seek in it the answers to many questions being asked by people today. Like all words, the Word of God is part of the process of communication: it relieves our solitude, satisfies our spiritual hunger and fills our hearts, enabling us to welcome the mystery of the love of God that transforms us profoundly and makes us disciples of the Lord. *“If you make my word your home, you will indeed be my disciples; you will come to know the truth and the truth will set you free”* (Jn. 8:31). It is the Spirit who opens the hearts of believers so as to penetrate the Word of God and make us eloquent witnesses to its liberating power in a world which seems to have lost its passion for the Truth.

The Word is also a wellspring of joy and hope. Those who read and reflect on it will see God at work in their lives, filling them with joy and trust in the present and with hope for the future. This is because the Word makes us receptive to God's plans for us and allows us a foretaste of them through humble acts of faith and simple acts of love.

The recent survey on Bible reading carried out in various countries by the Catholic Bible Federation in preparation for the Synod revealed that people today have great expectations with regard to Sacred Scripture and that they want to “gather around the Word” so as to live its communitarian dimension better and experience more profoundly the sense of “being Church.” The survey also cast light on the connection between the Bible and the Eucharist, and its role in ecumenical dialogue.

It is our duty to listen to the Word of God and allow it to enlighten us so that we can then enlighten others according to the gift we have received. The Word will give us the light we need to know ourselves, the voice to confess our faith, the wisdom to discern the signs of God's presence among us and the strength to eloquently proclaim him through word and deed.

*Sr M. Agnes Quaglioni*

## Studies and New Editions



### ***Spirituality and Organized Communication***

*Sr. Luz Marina Plata*, from Colombia, just finished her studies at the Gregorian University, Rome, where she received a Doctorate in Theology. She brilliantly defended her thesis on a very timely subject, namely, spirituality and “organized” communications in the light of Paul and Alberione. This subject, which has been little explored up to now, directly concerns the Pauline charism because communications is a distinguishing feature of the Pauline spirituality and mission. In fact, it is at the basis of our relationship with God, with our community and with the world to which we are sent. It places us at the heart of contemporary culture and requires of us the constant effort to participate effectively in the evangelizing mission of the Church. In view of this, we must understand and live always more profoundly Jesus Master Way, Truth and Life, whom we are called to communicate, and to strive to achieve, through the Spirit, an interior unity and harmonious fusion of various types of knowledge and life experience.

The mission of communication requires organization to give visibility and effectiveness to our efforts to proclaim the Gospel in a coordinated way and involve our interlocutors in this process. It is a way of getting to know, evaluate, harmonize/synchronize objectives, rules, resources, times and methods not only in view of our activities but also for the life of the entire Institute. Our Founder was deeply concerned about the organizational aspect of the Pauline life and mission because he realized our urgent need to carry out the duties entrusted to us quickly, competently and in the best way possible, seeking to bring the Christian message to as many people as possible. In short, to become “all to all” in imitation of our father and model, St. Paul.

The thesis, divided into 5 chapters, presents the historical context in which the Pauline charism developed; an insight into “Paul, organizer of the apostolate” as revealed in the Letter to the Corinthians; the foundations of Pauline organization; the integration of spirituality and organized communication, and Paul and Alberione as evangelizers in an entrepreneurial culture.

### ***The Centrality of the Eucharist in the Pauline Life***

In March, *Sr. Fiona Caldeira*, FSP, presented a research paper entitled *Eucharist and Pauline Way of Life* to the Sanyasa Institute of Consecrated Life in Bangalore, India in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a diploma in the Theology of the Consecrated Life. The paper consists of three chapters and a brief conclusion.

Chapter I discusses the biblical basis of the Eucharist, taking into consideration the Passover meal in the Old Testament and the Eucharist as presented in the Gospels and Acts of the Apostles. It then glances at the life of St. Paul: his encounter with God, formation, zeal for Christ and for his mission, and Eucharistic experience. The author underscores that the Eucharist is the divine food of the whole family of God; it is the sacrifice that the Church offers the Father on behalf of all humanity.

Chapter II speaks about the Eucharist and Fr. Alberione: the Founder’s early days in the Seminary of Bra; the unforgettable “night between the centuries and its impact on his life and that of the whole Pauline Family; his Eucharistic experience; the Eucharist and the Word and the Eucharist as a source of Pauline life. For Fr. Alberione, everything comes from the Tabernacle and nothing is possible without it.

Chapter III focuses on the Eucharist as the power that undergirds the Pauline apostolate. The author reflects on the Eucharistic identity of the FSPs; the Eucharist and the media apostolate and the need to be Eucharistic people. To reach this point, the members of the Pauline Family must give priority to the Eucharist and center their life and mission on it.

## **CHARISM COURSE: STUDENT DISSERTATIONS**

The nine Daughters of St. Paul participating in this year's Charism Course concluded their studies at the end of May with a presentation of their dissertations, followed by a solemn Mass of Thanksgiving in the Queen of Apostles Sanctuary, Rome. Some of these sisters then returned to their own circumscriptions, while others are preparing to begin new assignments. Our very best wishes that all of them will be able to use to advantage what they learned during this year of grace.

Below is a brief summary of the dissertations of our sisters:

### ***Give Jesus to the World (Diffusion)***

*by Sr. Pushpa Cheeramkunel*

In her paper, Sr. Pushpa emphasizes that dissemination of the Gospel is the core of the Pauline apostolate. It enables us to reach everyone through a global process of evangelization carried out competently and creatively. She also highlights the need for a dynamic view of people and history in using the media to give Jesus to the world so as to carry out in the best way possible the mission entrusted to us by our Founder and by the Church.

### ***"Cosi": Retrospective of a Magazine for Young Women***

*by Sr. M. Grazia Gabelli*

The magazine "Cosi" was launched during a particularly fecund time in society, the Church and the Congregation. In her paper, the author re-examines the history of the periodical and analyzes its content. The dissertation also collects important documentation related to the initiative, together with the testimonies of the sisters who had the courage, faith and zeal to launch this apostolic activity.

### ***Apostolic Organization According to Fr. Alberione in the Light of St. Paul***

*by Sr. Alicia Gama Mendez*

The author begins her paper with the declaration that a life profoundly rooted in Christ the Master is needed to carry out the Pauline mission. Taking as her starting point a reflection on Fr. Alberione's development of thought concerning the Pauline mission from the biblical, theological and charismatic perspectives, she then proceeds to reflect on apostolic organization, pinpointing the elements she feels can support the publishing apostolate of the FSPs. The author says her research is only a first step and that she hopes to study this aspect of our charism more deeply.

### ***Thecla Merlo: Model of Fraternal Relations***

*by Sr. Marta Yolanda Melgarejo*

Sr. Marta Yolanda's dissertation explores the figure of Maestra Thecla as a model for fraternal relationships. She says that Prima Maestra shows us how to give meaning and fullness to life and how to establish a sincere and life-enhancing rapport with every person. Comparing themselves to her, the Daughters of St. Paul can learn to live the virtue of love more profoundly and "do greater good" around them and in the apostolate.

### ***Formation According to Blessed James Alberione, in the Light of St. Paul***

*by Sr. Pauline Mowei*

In her paper, Sr. Pauline reflects more deeply on formation according to the thought of Fr. Alberione, taking as her point of departure the Apostle Paul: how he allowed himself to be formed by Christ and how he in turn formed his disciples. The dissertation then examines how to apply to the formation of the new generation of Paulines the Alberionian dictum "*donec formetur*" (complete transformation of the person in Christ) in the context of Africa today.

### ***Study and 'Studiosità': The Founder's Challenge to the Present Generation of Paulines***

*by Sr. Annie Ponmani*

After re-affirming the Founder's insistence on importance of study and studiosità (the ability to learn from everyone and everything) so as to grow spiritually and apostolically,

the author analyzes the objectives and modes of study from a Pauline perspective and sketches out a possible curriculum for FSPs. In the second part of the paper, she reflects on *studiosità* as a means of giving continuity to study and of helping us carry out our responsibilities always more competently.

### ***“Unifying all branches of knowledge” According to Alberione***

*by Sr. Sandra Maria Restrepo*

Taking as her point of departure several texts of Canon Chiesa and Fr. Alberione (in particular AD 193-194), the author analyzes how to achieve a unification of knowledge with the help of grace and of the various academic disciplines themselves. The goal is to attain an interactive vision that can be applied to the various instruments of communication, especially the Internet.

### ***Proposal of Spiritual Exercises on “Donec Formetur” for Those in Initial Formation***

*by Sr. Mary Glenda J. Sarande*

The author says that the Spiritual Exercises play an important role in the life of our formandeas and in the community. Fr. Alberione himself underscores the spiritual implications of our rapport with God and with others. It is essential that we come to a better grasp the legacy of our Founder so as to reach our common goal: “Christ lives in me.”

### ***Christ in You: the Spiritual Exercises in Daily Life***

*by Sr. Patricia Silva*

Taking as her starting point a summary of the Ignation Method, Sr. Patricia reflects on how to translate the “Pauline method” into the “spiritual exercises of daily life”. She presents in a moving way two people who left a deep imprint on the Pauline charism in Brazil: Sr. Addolorata Baldi and Fr. Giovanni Roatta, both of whom dedicated all their time and energy to helping the FSPs and SSPs of this nation conform, configure, transfigure and renew themselves in Christ the Master Way, Truth and Life. The paper then highlights the timeliness of the Pauline method and emphasizes the need for creative fidelity to the Pauline charism.

## ***New Editions***

### ***The Apostle Paul: Inspiration and Model***

To celebrate the Pauline Year launched by Benedict XVI, the Pauline Family’s Spirituality Center has collected together into a single volume numerous texts of Fr. Alberione on the subject of St. Paul. Our Founder lived his entire life in the light of this great Apostle: he drew inspiration from him; modeled himself on him; wrote about him; preached on his doctrine, writings, passion for Christ and for the Gospel; and emphasized his universal vision as apostle to the Gentiles.

The texts, which cover a 50-year time span, were produced for different occasions and intended for various audiences. The selections, arranged in chronological order, are divided into 6 sections, each furnished with its own presentation.

*The Pauline “Springtime” (1918-1927)*

*A Month with St. Paul (1918-1925)*

*St. Paul: Model of Our Apostolic Life (1947)*

*Prayers to St. Paul*

*Articles and Input from Alberione’s Senior Years*

*Testamentary Directives*

An Afterword by Fr. Silvio Sassi entitled “*The Pauline Family: St. Paul Alive Today*,” offers an original interpretation of the Apostle’s role in the Pauline Family and in its life of faith that can help us translate into daily practice the concepts Fr. Alberione meditated on at length and then passed on to us.

The book is enriched with biblical citations, the names of people and places and a modest analytical index.



## News from the Church and World

### ***New Translation of the Bible in Russian***

In April, the Library of the Spirit in Moscow held a week-long course centered on the translation of the Bible produced by the Russian Biblical Society in the 1990's. A heated discussion took place as to who was the best translator of the Bible into Russian. In the course of the debate it was said: "The Lord himself launched the tradition of translating his Word. As you know, he never wrote anything down. He spoke in Aramaic but the texts of the Bible we have are in Greek, as if he had spoken in that language. The new translation is a popular, not critical edition, whose intent is to help everyone come to better understand the source of their religious education."

### ***Congress for Catholic Communications Faculties in Rome***

The Congress for Catholic Communications Faculties recently held in Rome concluded with the proposal to encourage the exchange of information and ideas among universities and to establish a panel of experts to help the Pontifical Council for Communications, headed by Bishop Claudio Celli. This first meeting, attended by representatives of 43 countries and 45 universities, focused on the identity and mission of centers involved in the formation of future communicators, insisting that the students be provided with not only technical but also anthropological training: "The basic issue is not the technological aspect but the person who uses these technologies." The Prefect for the Congregation for Catholic Education, who participated in the Congress, encouraged the formation of Catholic journalists.

### ***Culture and the Internet in the Church***

In April, the Executive Committee for the European Bishops' Commission for the Media met in the Vatican to discuss the subject of relations between the Church and the Internet. With the help of several experts, the participants in the meeting reflected in depth on the theme of the Plenary Assembly to be held in Rome in March 2009: "The Internet Culture and the Church." During the upcoming Assembly, the European Bishops responsible for the media will analyze the effects of the Internet culture on society and the Church. They will also seek to determine how Christians can influence this culture and what contribution the Internet can make to ecumenical and inter-religious dialogue. "The Church is called to rethink her communication strategies and coordinate her resources better." To reach this goal, the Pontifical Council for Social Communications is striving to foster the formation of pastoral workers in the sphere of communication by remaining in dialogue with university faculties of communication; by becoming more familiar with the situation of Catholic radio stations, and by renewing its efforts to carry out a theological reflection on communications.

### ***A Blog that Offers Guidance to the Youth of Hong Kong***

Catholic religious and professors of Hong Kong recently participated in a meeting centered on the Internet, blogs and facebook so as to provide the city's young people with clear guidelines as to how to use these instruments in a positive, not negative, way. According to the diocesan information bulletin, the blog of Sr. Sania Ho, FMM (pastoral work coordinator of St. Benedict Parish) has become a very effective instrument of evangelization. The blog—a space for prayer, sharing and Bible study—is very popular with young people because it also answers their questions about life and about the many problems facing teens today. During a meeting for pastoral workers, Sr. Sania reaffirmed that today's new technologies, which she uses in her pastoral work, are proving to be very effective instruments of evangelization and formation.

### ***"Religion Today" Festival***

"Religion Today," a traveling cinema festival, is celebrating its 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Through movies, Religion Today seeks to promote a culture of peace and dialogue among the world's religions by acknowledging their differences and by creating a concrete place in which directors and cinema workers can meet to exchange ideas drawn from their personal life experiences. Beginning 16 October, Religion Today will travel to Rome, Trent, Ferrara, Bolzano and Nomadelfia, supplementing an ample schedule of cinema showings with contests, workshops and round table discussions on the movies' themes.

In Rome, the Festival will also add to its program three days of study (24-26 Oct.) organized in collaboration with the Communications Faculty of the Salesian University. The encounter will feature a viewing of the best of the Festival's films and a meeting with the directors, producers and leading figures of the religions represented.