

DEAREST SISTERS...

PAULINE PANORAMA

Calendar of the General Government

The Circumscriptions

- Italy:* Ongoing Renovation of Queen of Apostles Hospital
A Breath of Youthful Vigor Sweeps through the Generalate
- Bolivia:* Biblical Formation
- Philippines:* Poster-Making Contest
First Ongoing Formation Seminar for APCT
- South Korea:* Digital Prayer via iPhones and iPads
- Peru:* "Pauline Atrium"

Our studies

- The Influence of Communication on Religious Life
- Moral Behavior as a Gift

THE PAULINE CART

- Imbued with the Word

THE TEACHINGS OF MAESTRA THECLA

- Lessons Learned from Her Travels Abroad

SHARING OUR STORIES

- The Gift of My Life

THE PAULINE FAMILY

- The Pauline Family and WYD 2011
- Discovering Together the Great Treasure of the Gospel
- Looking Back to Our Beginnings

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Window on the Church

- International Meeting for New Evangelizers
- The Church in Pakistan Celebrates "Mission Year"
- The Splendor of Truth, the Beauty of Charity
- The Missionary Mandate of Jesus: WYD 2013

Window on the World

- 2011: European Year of Voluntary Activities
- Amnesty International Celebrates Its 50th Anniversary
- Commemorating 11 September

Window on Communications

- Communicating Values in a Media-Dominated Culture: The Challenge of the Cinema
- Centenary of the Birth of McLuhan: "Prophet" of the Global Village
- "The Lady": a Film about Aung San Suu Kyi

CALLED TO ETERNAL LIFE



ONWARD!

Dearest Sisters,

I am writing this letter from Brazil, where I am making the Fraternal Visit together with several members of the General Council.

A short while ago in Sao Paulo, we ended our second Continental Meeting for the Apostolate-Economy for the vast American Continent, whose members are engaged in a reflection process aimed at discovering the specific direction in which they should move. The word "move" brings to mind a dynamic and "charismatic" picture of our mission because it expresses a profound apostolic mysticism that nourishes our efforts to attentively and prayerfully interpret the scenario in which we live and work alongside the people of our time. In fact, our service prompts us to continually seek new ways to disseminate the Gospel and help it penetrate society by means of common lines of action that are open to a comparison of ideas and to the maximizing of our personnel, resources, experience and organizational structures.

Above and beyond the prospects that these international meetings have "unleashed", they have reinforced our conviction that none of us can remain on the sidelines when it comes to *redesigning our mission*. Each one of us has a role to play in this process and each one's role must be integrated with those of the others. Fr. Alberione and Maestra Thecla told us many times that *by ourselves we are only twigs but together we are a powerful force* and that *the Pauline cart must be pushed ahead by everyone....* Today, like yesterday, our communion with one another and our apostolic passion infuse us with new vigor and boldness.

We are moving toward a *Global Apostolic Project*. And it would be presumptuous to think that this Project can be realized without taking into account and making the most of everything that was constructed and achieved in faith and poverty.

Our reflections during these international meetings revolve around the diffusion stage

of our apostolate. For us, to diffuse the Word of God is to evangelize. All that we are and all that we possess must be placed at the service of the Gospel. Diffusion is not an "accessory" to the Pauline mission. It is the fundamental moment in which our message and our receivers/audiences cross paths. It is a vital stage of the evangelization process, which initiates with the planning of content and ends with helping it to bear fruit. As Fr. Alberione said: "Books in the stock room are like teachers locked in a box, just like Egyptian mummies. Diffusion is apostolate because it is through diffusion that we reach people directly."

Today, our great challenge is to use the means of communication that young people in particular find so fascinating. We all still have before our eyes images of the hordes of youth joyfully gathered in Madrid to celebrate WYD. "The world needs God," the Pope told the two million young people packed into the Cuatro Vientos Aerodrome. "The world needs the witness of your faith."

This message is also valid for us. More and more, our role is to act as guides for people today, attempting to respond to their deepest needs by providing them with direction and enlightenment according to the teachings of the Gospel and the Church.

We are faced with unprecedented challenges but also with many opportunities for carrying out our apostolate. The cultural transformations underway thanks to technological progress demand that we make profound discernments and courageous choices so as to reach people more effectively through our proclamation of the Good News. But the substance of our message remains unchanged. It is the same yesterday, today and forever: *Jesus Master, Way, Truth and Life*. He is the center of our existence. He is the foundation of our mission, even though the way we proclaim him to a world in continual change must be constantly reformulated and adapted to times, persons and places.

Sisters, in keeping with the urgent solicitation of our 9th General Chapter, let us continually move ahead: "Onward, traveling both the real and virtual roads of today's world to expand the proclamation of the Gospel, so that every person of good will can encounter the Word that saves: Christ the Master, Way, Truth and Life" (cf. *Chapter Document* 2007).

United to you all in affection and prayer,

Sr. M. Antonietta Bruscato
Sr. M. Antonietta Bruscato

Superior General

Recife, 6 September 2011

ITALY

ONGOING RENOVATION OF QUEEN OF APOSTLES HOSPITAL



On 19 July, Queen of Apostles Hospital, Albano, inaugurated its newly renovated surgical wing. The blessing opened with the ceremonial cutting of the ribbon cordoning off the zone by Sr. Antonieta Bruscato, FSP Superior General. After this, the hospital chaplain proceeded to bless the wing and all those present for the occasion: hospital personnel, patients, FSPs and friends—all of whom expressed their satisfaction in the renewed ambient.

The renovation work was undertaken to bring the surgery sector up to par with regard to Italy's new health laws and ensure that the hospital's patients are served as fully and as competently as possible. Coming at a time in which the national health care sector is in crisis, the hospital's latest renovation project has served to boost the hope of personnel and patients alike by focusing attention yet again on the mission of Queen of Apostles Hospital to make the sick and suffering its top priority—a goal in which it has always excelled.

A BREATH OF YOUTHFUL VIGOR SWEEPS THROUGH THE GENERALATE

This summer, many FSP junior professed sisters who will be participating in the upcoming Course of Perfection in preparation for



their perpetual professions next year arrived in Italy to study Italian in view of this event. Three other encounters organized for September 2011 have also contributed to infusing the Generalate community with youthful vigor:

1-8 September: Meeting for the FSP Juniors of Europe

A part of a three-year journey entitled, *Together Toward Apostolic Holiness*, this year's encounter revolved around the theme, "The Pauline Community," and offered our young sisters a precious chance to get to know one another, compare ideas and grow together.

8-11 September: Continental Meeting for Europe and Quebec, Canada

This brief encounter on the subject, *Making a Home for Ourselves Online and the Use of Digital Technology: the Crossmedia at the Service of Mission*, is part of our Institute's journey to redesign the Pauline mission. The objective of the meeting was to share ideas concerning what is already being done in this regard and to reflect on the media languages and the possibilities of collaboration that can foster this journey in Europe and Quebec.

15 September–10 October: Seminar for FSP Missionaries

The process of redesigning our presences throughout the world has triggered a movement of sisters among the Congregation's circumscriptions, bringing to the forefront the fact that an acceptance of cultural diversities, the appreciation of other people's values and customs, and collaboration are all imperatives dictated by the Pauline mission itself. Thus, the General Government organized a formation course aimed at helping FSPs sent to other countries within the last 10 years rediscover and reflect more deeply on the foundations of the missionary dimension of our life. It is hoped that the Seminar will help our young missionaries anchor themselves more profoundly in their new communities, nations and cultures in the spirit of the Apostle Paul, who exclaimed: "Woe to me if I do not evangelize!"

BOLIVIA

BIBLICAL FORMATION

After 17 months of intensive study and work, the biblical course organized by the Daughters of St. Paul in collaboration with the Archdiocese of La Paz came to a successful conclusion. The purpose of the course was



to help the pastoral workers of the various vicariates and parishes of the archdiocese come to a basic knowledge of the Bible. At the end of this formation journey, the participants expressed their sincere appreciation to the organizers, saying that the experience made a deep impact on their lives and has helped to strengthen their commitment to the evangelization of their territory.

PHILIPPINES

POSTER-MAKING CONTEST



To celebrate World Communications Day 2011, the Daughters of St. Paul of Pasay, Philippines organized an original initiative entitled *Family Media Poster-Making Contest*. The families of our sisters' lay collaborators (Paulines Lay Mission Partners) participated enthusiastically in this event, which centered on the WCD theme. Nineteen colorful and well-crafted posters were submitted to the jury, which evaluated them on the basis of originality, relevance to the theme and overall impact. Sr. Clothilde de las Llagas, fsp, who spearheaded the initiative, explained how the digital media (radio, TV, cell phones, the Internet and social networks such as Facebook and Twitter) can affect family interaction and relationships today. First prize was awarded to the poster submitted by the family of Richard and Marlene Mandalupe, who

said that using the digital media properly is an expression of love of the family, of others and of God.

FIRST ONGOING FORMATION SEMINAR FOR APCT



Twenty-two sisters (5 Koreans, 3 Japanese, 2 Pakistani, 11 Filipina) participated in the first Seminar on Ongoing Formation organized by the Asia-Pacific Coordination Team (APCT), held in Manila from 24 July–15 August 2011. The topics treated were: *Donec Formetur* (retreat), *The Pauline Community, a witness and prophetic presence*; *The Pauline Book Center: a new pulpit for evangelization in today's culture*, and *Media Literacy*.

Besides deepening the Pauline charism through listening and input, the participants enjoyed an enriching experience of interculturality and also had a chance to explore the universal dimension of the Pauline charism.

SOUTH KOREA

DIGITAL PRAYER VIA IPHONES AND IPADS



Smartphone software dedicated to religion is multiplying in today's world. In fact, the Daughters of St. Paul of Korea have launched a series of software applications for smartphones so as to offer assiduous users of the new technologies instruments for praying. iPhone and iPad applications are by now the preferred



channels for communicating with others. What are our sisters offering people in this area?

After an initial program entitled *Reflections on the Word*, they launched three other applications: *The Rosary*, *Alberione*, and *Jacob's Well*.

Reflections on the Word: a brief daily meditation on the Word of God, accompanied by music and pictures.

The Rosary: the faithful can pray by listening to and reflecting on each mystery.

Alberione: the life and spirituality of Blessed James Alberione.

Jacob's Well: reflections on the daily Gospel and the *Lectio Divina* for Sundays. *Jacob's Well* is also the title of a monthly biblical magazine published by our sisters.

PERU
"PAULINE ATRIUM"

The FSPs of Lima are using their large and beautiful San Isidro book center to launch a new socio-cultural initiative known as "The Pauline Atrium."

The purpose of this animation activity is to offer participants an opportunity for meditation and dialogue concerning various aspects of faith and culture.



Held on a monthly basis, the initiative will be concretized in seminars, cycles of conferences and congresses open to everyone.

"Our book center is a temple," our Founder said, "and those who staff it are preachers. Light, holiness, joy in Jesus Christ and a Christian life are the fruits to be sought. The service desk is a pulpit of truth."

October-November 2011

Calendar of the General Government

23 Oct. - 23 Nov.	Generalate (Rome)	Month-long course of Spiritual Exercises for the Pauline Family	Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
8-16 October	Frankfurt	Book Fair	Sr. Anna Caiazza
1-30 November	Italian Province	Fraternal Visit	Sr. M. Antonietta Bruscato

THE INFLUENCE OF COMMUNICATION ON RELIGIOUS LIFE



Sr. Roselyne Wafulah W.S. concluded her studies at St. Augustine University, Tanzania with a research report on the *Influence of Communication on Religious Life*, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelor's Degree in Com-

munications. Her dissertation focuses on the experiences of fifty young women religious from four different Congregations in Nairobi during their formation period.

Sr. Roselyne applied the democratic participation theory to support the central argument of her study because it encourages participation in communication. Thus she used interviews, observation and documentary reviews as data-collection methods.

Her report shows that the quality of the communication flow between formators and formandees is a major factor in determining whether or not a young woman perseveres in the religious life or leaves it. It also reveals that the formandee is as open to communication as her formator is.

Sr. Roselyne hopes that the missing gap in her study of the flow of communication between formator-formandee during the formation period and its influence on the religious life will gradually be filled so that all those who enter the consecrated life will find fulfillment in it.

She concludes her research paper by saying that effective communication is vital to the formation process and thus both formator and formandee must do their part to promote this flow, which, if blocked, can lead to conflicts, misunderstanding and faulty communication.

MORAL BEHAVIOR AS A GIFT

This is the title of the thesis presented by Sr. Triphonia Kim at the conclusion of her studies at the Alphonsian Academy, Rome, from which she obtained a License in Moral



Theology. Her innovative thesis was awarded "summa cum laude."

Moral Theology is considered a "frontier discipline" in the Church since it is a point of intersection between the divine and the human, the experience of faith and the experiences com-

mon to every human being. It is not easy to understand the importance of moral behavior in the contemporary world, which is ruled by a relativism that views every moral guideline as an offense to personal freedom. In the light of this, Sr. Triphonia felt it was urgent to approach morality not from the rigid perspective of obligation but by courageously reflecting on *moral behavior as a gift*.

Her guide in this journey was John Paul II, who, in various documents, messages and speeches, confirmed her hypothesis that the human being lives in relationship with others, acts as a unified entity, and becomes and even transcends self through his/her actions. Going beyond the person and his/her moral actions, one arrives at the Blessed Trinity—three Persons who make a reciprocal gift of self to one another.

The human being, created in the image and likeness of "God-who-is-Gift," imitates the Creator through a similar gift of self, even though this gift will never be comparable to the divine one. Nevertheless, the mystery of God's love is at least glimpsed in every form of human self-gift.

Just as human life is physically generated through the self-gift of two persons to each other, so too the upright (moral) life of a person is made possible through a gift of self (behavior) that benefits others by working to promote their good.

From the perspective of gift, the person who makes a gift of self to others helps to "build" the other person. This gift of self is translated into upright behavior on the moral plane.

In this way, human beings concretize the plan of God, which is to manifest the presence and communion of Christ in the members of his Body.



What dwells in the “house” of our life? Thoughts, desires, worries, projects, dreams, problems with relationships, weariness...all these things help us realize that the Word of God still does not occupy the place in us that it should. We push Jesus to the fringe of our life, where he quietly remains, without protest or resistance, waiting for the day we will welcome him back as the Lord and Master of our house. How can we restore this dignity to the Word of God? How can we become a tree that bears fruit in all seasons? (cf. Ps. 1:3) How can we reach the goal pointed out to us by the Apostle of the Gentiles: “It is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me” (Ga. 2:29)? How can we “remember to remember God” since our life is dedicated to proclaiming him? (cf. Dt. 6:12; 8:11) The road is not broad and easy but it is possible to travel it. Possible because those who yearn to reach the heights, those who understand that the Word is an immense gift, also realize that God helps those who ask him to do so and pours out his grace on the humble hearts that listen to him.

In our cities, we inhale on a regular basis not only contaminated air but also thousands of contaminated words that prevent our hearts from finding the Center that gives them balance, energy and enthusiasm. The remedy to this offered us by the Scriptures through the voice of the Church is to *inhale the Word—to fill not only our lungs but our entire being with it*. Only thus will we be able to transfigure our monotonous, lackluster days, making them vigorous and divine. Our true life begins when we establish a rapport with the Word, something that comes about naturally when we follow the itinerary of the *Lectio Divina*. The consecrated life is born from listening to the Word of God and becomes a liv-

ing and glowing “exegesis” of it (cf. VC 94). When the Word dwells in our heart, then our thoughts, words, non-verbal communications and acts of humble service and friendship all help the “sweet perfume of God” to pervade the world. Today more than ever, the Word asks us to choose either superficiality or depth, individualism or fraternity, emptiness or Presence, pride or humility. It asks us to choose to be bearers of nothing or communicators of the All.

It means revealing to the world the *saving Beauty of God* radiating from the face of Christ, the eternal Word of the Father. Human beings are confused by thousands of suggestions as to which route to follow, none of which lead to the Truth. Blessed James Alberione understood this and consequently made the objective of the Pauline Family very clear: to give the Truth in love. He did not mean an intellectual Truth but a Truth to be loved and lived, a Truth that repairs the distorted image of God in the hearts of human beings.

This demanding mission is similar to that of Mary of Nazareth, *a woman completely imbued with the Word*. In Mary, the Word found a home, a “tent,” a fruitful womb, a pristine heart.

God invites us to participate in this great calling every day when he places in our hands the Truth of his Word, which, in our daily *lectio*, becomes Bread for our journey and Light for the future. By attentively and obediently listening to the living Word, meditating on its message, praying it, dialoguing with it, contemplating it and recognizing the paths by which it is moving through human history, we become dwelling places for God and “breezes” that spread the sweet perfume of the Spirit everywhere.



LESSONS LEARNED FROM HER TRAVELS ABROAD

Between 1936-1963, Maestra Thecla made fourteen long journeys abroad by land, sea and air. These trips served to deepen her apostolic fervor. While the first ones were colored by amazement at what she saw, the later ones carved into her heart the profound need of human beings for salvation—a need she felt to the point of suffering. In fact, she wrote from the Philippines in 1949:

I want to share with you a thought that struck me very deeply during this trip: how many souls there are in the world who neither know nor love the Lord! We really need to come out of our shells a little more so as to convince ourselves of this sad reality! When we read the statistics: "so many million people..." it is quickly said. But to see them, even if only in passing through their countries as we did: to see those cities swarming like anthills with people... what an impression it makes! We, who are called to an apostolate so vast that it embraces the whole world, must feel the need to help all these poor souls, to do good to them and contribute to their salvation by both prayer and the entire apostolate. As we say in the chaplet to the Queen of Apostles, we must "feel the needs of poor humanity," of Asia, Africa, the Americas, Oceania and Europe. May all the Daughters of St. Paul feel this need, this love for souls!

Maestra Thecla transformed this anguish of heart into a sense of responsibility and into an awareness that "the entire world is our apostolic field. We must love all people in order to do good to all" (VPC 153).

Her contact with different cultures during her trips enriched her and caused her to reflect on things more deeply. Upon returning to Rome, she would always share with the sisters the things she had discovered on that particular trip because, as she said, there was always

something new to learn. Even a very simple insight could mature with time and be concretized in an apostolic activity (cf. VPC 38, 39, 45, 126).

She spoke enthusiastically about the customs, climate and natural beauty of the countries she visited, but at the same time she always underscored the sufferings and moral miseries of the people. "If only those multitudes of people could know the Lord!" she exclaimed. "It is up to us to help them reach this point!" And she concluded with a deep sigh: "If only we could print sisters the way we print books!"

While in Taipei, Taiwan, she wrote in her personal notebook: "How sad to see these poor people working with great sacrifice in all that water.... Almost all of them are pagans or Buddhists. Lord, have mercy on these souls who don't know or love you." A few days later, in Nagoya, Japan, she echoed that same prayer: "How many souls still don't know you, my God! How sad! Send us many vocations to make you known and loved."

Her grief for the countless people who did not know or love God urged her to infuse a great apostolic spirit in all the sisters.

One of her last decisions (made in October 1963), to open a community in Bolivia, revealed her missionary spirit. The sisters wondered how the Congregation would be able to carry out the apostolate of the editions in a country in which the majority of the people were illiterate. But Prima Maestra banished every doubt, saying firmly:

If the majority of the people do not know how to read, then we will do good through pictures and records. It is necessary to open an apostolic center and make the Lord known in this nation. In Bolivia too the Gospel must be proclaimed in one way or another!

THE GIFT OF MY LIFE



What can I say? I will try to make a kind of summary of this long stretch of my life.

1941: I am a normal teenager. I live in a small town in southern Lombardy, Italy. I am 18 years old, caught

up in the things going on in my family, school, Catholic Action group, etc. In June I received my diploma as an elementary school teacher. Because we are in the middle of war and thus the teacher placement program is suspended, I applied to various institutions for a position as a substitute teacher.

As a result, I am now experiencing what it means to “teach school” rather than “attend school.” This time has been characterized by both disillusionment and hope. I feel at home with the children in my class, who still retain their youthful innocence and spontaneity.

1945: The war ended a few months ago. My thoughts turn to the teacher-placement program that will enable me to get a steady job. In the meantime, some people have asked me: What are you planning to do with your life? I reply: I want to continue to teach school and eventually start my own family. But in my heart, I wonder: Can I joyously give my life to God as a teacher? As an adolescent, I read a book by Maria Sticco entitled, *To Joyously Offer One's Life as a Gift*, and I never forgot it. From time to time over the years, the words of that book would come to mind and help give direction to my life.

1945: End of June. At the end of our Catholic Action meeting, the group assistant, Mariuccia, suggested that I participate in a course of spiritual exercises. The idea did not appeal to me so I reminded her that courses of spiritual exercises were usually not held during the summer. Mariuccia replied, “At the beginning of September, I’m going to Alba, to make a retreat for young women. Why don’t you come with me?” To satisfy her more than myself, I replied, “All right. If that’s what you want.”

July and August went by and on the 4th of September Mariuccia asked me if I still intended to go to Alba with her. If so, we would be leaving in two days. To tell the truth, I had not given the matter a second thought, let alone told my family of this plan. But since I didn’t have anything else programmed, I told my mother: “The

day after tomorrow, I’ll be going to Alba to make a course of spiritual exercises with Mariuccia.” Astounded, my mother asked, “Where on earth is Alba?” I didn’t know myself, so I couldn’t tell her. Mariuccia informed me that it was a small town in the Piedmont region.

Thus it happened that on 6 September Mariuccia Bossi, Mariuccia Fra and I left for Alba in the company of Sr. Priscilla, from the FSP Pavia community. The trip was an adventure in itself because the train system was still not functioning smoothly. The railway tracks were still broken in various places so we had to periodically get off the train and take a bus for a stretch of the way, then catch another train.... This was our procedure the whole way to Alba. Once there, we found a large group of young women waiting for us.

I don’t know what happened to me in those four or five days. I listened to the sermons. I prayed. I reflected. When the spiritual exercises ended, we stayed on for another two days, talking to the sisters, especially about their apostolate. Perhaps Fr. Lamera and Maestra Giovannina Boffa plotted with the Lord. All I know is that on the trip home I had in my purse a sheet of paper detailing all the things required to be accepted into the Institute of the Daughters of St. Paul, a list of the clothing necessary and even the laundry numbers that were to be sewn onto them! The best part of it all was that the two Mariuccias had the same set of instructions in their purses and on the trip home we confided this secret to each other.

Over the next nine months, I went through a lot of uncertainty, struggle, prayer and suffering. Once in awhile I tried to talk to my mother about the decision I was trying to make but she thought I was joking. However, she was alarmed by the letters I was receiving from M. Giovannina and M. Antonietta, and consequently she began to hide any mail addressed to me from Alba.



Sr Fausta Bossi
e Sr Maria
Adeodata Dehò

At that time, the Daughters of St. Paul did not accept candidates over the age of 23 and I was already 22. As the days went by, I little by little realized that God wanted me to say *yes* to the invitation he was extending to me. That invitation *to make a joyous gift of my life to him* cast light on the path opening before me. I now had a goal in life: to reach the two billion people who still did not know the Lord. The Institute I had come to know almost by chance was a teaching Institute. My “classroom” would not contain just thirty students but the whole world. To them I would bring the Gospel, using the most rapid and effective instruments to do this.

But when I told my family that I had made my decision and it was a choice for the rest of my life, my parents were incredulous. At first they tried to dissuade me and when that didn’t work, they tried to get me to at least postpone my entrance. They said they had made many sacrifices to give me a good education. I was their oldest child. I should wait until my three younger sisters and my brother grew up. They pointed out that I didn’t have to become a nun to do good. I could do this by teaching school and collaborating with the Catholic Action movement.

If the Lord had not conquered my heart through his Word and his love, I certainly wouldn’t have had the courage to leave home the way I did when the appointed moment arrived.

1946: The 8th of June. I made some excuse to my family for my trip to Pavia. Once there, I knocked on the door of the FSP community and told the sisters I was ready to leave for Alba. From Pavia, I mailed a letter to my family telling them very simply that I was going to Alba.

It was almost noon when we left for Lodi, the first stage of our journey. Once there, I stopped

by the hospital to see Mariuccia Bossi, who was taking care of her sick uncle. Our quick conversation concluded with Mariuccia saying, “I’m going with you to Alba.” So not one but two “fugitives” left Lodi that day. It was the vigil of Pentecost and everything seemed like a dream. Back home, all our neighbors marveled at our audacity, saying: “Camilla and Mariuccia ran away from home to become nuns!”

Pentecost 1946 marked the beginning of a new life for me: I had begun the journey toward becoming a Daughter of St. Paul! That experience is still in progress. That day, the Lord admitted me to his “school”—a school in which he is the only Teacher, the Way, the Truth and the Life: in short, everything! Such an immense gift cannot be summed up in just a few lines. Under the guidance of Fr. Alberione and Maestra Thecla and inspired by their examples, I began to understand little by little that although I had made *a gift of myself to the Lord*, in reality it was he who had offered me an even greater gift: the Pauline vocation! Correspondence to this gift meant that I had to allow *Christ to live in me!* And everything else? As Paul would say: rubbish!

The Lord completed his gift when obedience called me to work on the Opera Omnia of Fr. Alberione and Maestra Thecla. Their words and examples are a continual “wake up call” for me. And love for the future members of the Pauline Family sustains me in the fatiguing work of studying and transforming hundreds of manuscripts and tapes containing their words into printed texts that can be distributed to everyone.

Lord, I offer you my heartfelt thanks for these 65 years of Pauline life!

Sr. Adeodata Dehò, fsp

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT FOR THE INSTITUTE’S CHARISM AND SPIRITUALITY – SIS



SIS offers the Daughters of St. Paul *deeper studies in this area to foster their spiritual growth* and provides them with instruments that can help them approach *the texts of the Founder, of M. Thecla and the history of the Congregation in*

a critical way. It *coordinates and animates initiatives programmed by the General Government in the sphere of spirituality* and it collaborates with the PF in producing critical editions of *Fr. Alberione’s Opera Omnia*. With the help of an international team of FSPs, it is currently involved in a hermeneutical study of *Maestra Thecla* aimed at helping the Institute’s members come to a deeper understanding of her role as Mother of the Institute and collaborator of Blessed James Alberione in his foundation activities.

SIS is currently staffed by: *Sr. Adeodata Dehò, Sr. Monica Baviera, Sr. Maria Christina Schreil and Sr. Maria Grazia Gabelli.*

Email: sis@paoline.org

THE PAULINE FAMILY AND WYD 2011

HERE IS A RAPID RUN-DOWN OF OUR ACTIVITIES IN MADRID, SPAIN, WHERE MORE THAN 30 FSPS AND SSPS FROM EUROPE AND OTHER CONTINENTS PARTICIPATED IN WYD

Vocation Fair: along with more than 70 other religious Institutes, we participated as the Pauline Family in the Vocation Fair held in the Parque del Retiro. Our stand sported a banner reading, "Tent of the Word," to emphasize the Word of God we proclaim through our mission. In the stand (9 m. x 2 m.) were displayed 5 beautiful panels presenting the Pauline charism. Members of the SSP, FSP, PD, Annunciacionists and a group of *Young Pauline Evangelizers* took turns staffing the stand with great enthusiasm all day long despite the oppressive heat (35° C / 95° F). Our "tent" was a significant point of reference for the young people participating in WYD. From the moment its doors opened at 10:00 a.m., they poured in like a river all day long and far into the night. Our visitors were eager to learn about the Pauline Family and willingly accepted the offer to choose a small scroll with a biblical message written on it in 8 different languages (English, Spanish, Italian, French, German, Romanian, Portuguese and Czech). It was a wonderful opportunity for us to make the Pauline Family known to the younger generation.



Macrofestival of the Consecrated Life: in the Sport Plaza, filled with 17,000 young people, our novices Nikki and Veronica offered everyone their witness of life by means of two songs (one in English and one in Italian), which were heartily applauded by the audience. Later in the program, Srs. Priti and Fiona, along with religious from other Institutes, performed an Indian prayer-dance.

Book Display in the Madrid Seminary: this display attracted the interest of the seminarians and priests of Spain and abroad, as well as other religious groups and communities who stopped by the seminary to participate in the continuous adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The display, which offered books in different languages, gave visitors the chance to get to know the Pauline Family and our charism in the Church.

The SSP **Web Radio Pop-Up** provided day-by-day broadcasting of WYD events and also featured interviews with young people.

The **Prayer Vigil** on 17 August on the theme: *With Jesus Master in the Footsteps of St. Paul*, united the members of the Pauline Family in fervent prayer for youth.

We invite everyone to visit our blog www.llamadosmcs.blogspot.com/

DISCOVERING TOGETHER THE GREAT TREASURE OF THE GOSPEL



In collaboration with the members of the SSP community of Vicenza, Italy, the FSPs of Romania recently held a Bible Mission in St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Bucha-

rest. The purpose of the mission was to help the parishioners discover together the great treasure of the Gospel. The Pauline coordinating team was enthusiastically supported and helped by the pastor of St. Theresa parish and a large group of young Romanians who, after several days of intensive preparation, then served as animators during the mission. In joyfully sharing the wealth of the Gospel with their fellow-parishioners, the youth team discovered the missionary zeal that urged the Apostle Paul to travel the roads of the world. At the end of this grace-filled period, everyone—children, teens and adults—expressed the desire to continue the itinerary they had begun of delving more deeply into the message of the Gospel.

LOOKING BACK TO OUR BEGINNINGS



On Saturday, 20 August 2011, in the Queen of Apostles Sanctuary, Rome, Italy, Fr. Silvio Sassi, Superior General of the SSP, celebrated a Eucharistic Liturgy to officially launch the triennium of preparation for the centenary of founda-

tion of the Pauline Family. The 3-year journey proposes to help us “celebrate the memory” of all the wonderful things the grace of God has accomplished in and with the Pauline Family over the past decades. Other events to celebrate the opening of the triennium were held by the PF on the local level throughout the world. We want to remind everyone



that the various activities and initiatives that have been programmed for this year can be followed on the Centenary’s official website: www.alberione.org/100anni.



WINDOW ON THE CHURCH

INTERNATIONAL MEETING FOR NEW EVANGELIZERS



Representatives from ecclesial groups involved in the new evangelization in the West will gather in Rome from 15-16 October for an international encounter organized by the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization. It is an opportunity for the Church to get to know the dioceses, religious congregations, parishes, movements and associations at work in this field for some time now.

THE CHURCH IN PAKISTAN CELEBRATES "MISSION YEAR"



To celebrate the 60th anniversary of foundation of the Pontifical Missionary Works in Pakistan, the

Local Church in this country has launched a Mission Year. The initiative focuses on the rights, freedom and role of Christians in Pakistani society, as well as on evangelization, interreligious harmony and the struggle against extremism. The Year, which officially opens on 30 September, will be celebrated by all the dioceses in the country.

THE SPLENDOR OF TRUTH, THE BEAUTY OF CHARITY

This summer, the atrium of Paul VI Audience Hall in Vatican City hosted an exhibit encompassing the fields of painting, sculpture, architecture, poetry, music, film, and



jewelry design. The display, which closed on 4 September, was entitled *The Splendor of the Truth, the Beauty of Charity*, and featured the works of 60 contemporary artists. It was organized to celebrate Pope Benedict XVI's 60th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood.

THE MISSIONARY MANDATE OF JESUS: WYD 2013



Pope Benedict XVI has announced the themes of the next two World Youth Days, entrusting the preparation of these important events to the prayers of everyone. "Next year's WYD," said the Pope, "will be held on the diocesan level and will revolve around the theme *Rejoice in the Lord always* (Phil. 4:4), while WYD 2013 will be held on the international level in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and will have as its motto the command of Jesus: *Go forth and make disciples of all nations!* (Mt. 28:19)"

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

2011: EUROPEAN YEAR OF VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES

The EU Council has designated 2011 as the *European Year of Voluntary Activities*—a time in which the 27 member countries are celebrating the activities of all their citizens who



freely dedicate part of their time to helping individuals and society as a whole. It is estimated that about 20% of the continent's population devote some of their free time to volunteer services. The Council document promulgating the decision to celebrate this special year says that the purpose is to encourage volunteers to take a more active role in society in the hope that this "will contribute to showing that volunteering is one of the key dimensions of active citizenship and democracy, putting European values such as solidarity and non-discrimination into action and as such contributing to the harmonious development of European societies." The *European Year of Voluntary Activities* coincides with the 10th anniversary of the *International Year of Volunteers*, established by the United Nations in 2001.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY



A candle surrounded by barbed wire. A flame that "doesn't burn for us but for all the people we were not able to save from prison, as well as all those who were killed, tortured, kidnapped or who have disappeared." A lighted candle is the symbol chosen to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Amnesty International, an international human rights organization that counts over 2,800,000 members in more than 150 countries. Fifty

years after its foundation, Amnesty (which won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977) continues to work for "a world which safeguards the rights of every person sanctioned by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and similar documents." Its mission is expanding and strengthening, in keeping with the motto of its founder, Peter Benenson, who said: "It is better to light a candle than curse the darkness."

COMMEMORATING 11 SEPTEMBER



Ten years have passed since the infamous terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001—an extremely sorrowful day for the United States of America: 102 minutes of terror that changed the world, the priorities of governments and the needs of peoples. The destruction of the Twin Towers by Al Qaeda terrorists caused the death of 2,752 people representing 90 different nationalities. In prayerful remembrance of this devastating event, a program was held on the site of the former World Trade Center on Sunday, 11 September 2011. By order of New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, only poetry readings were included in the program—no official speeches. The Catholic Church also commemorated this sorrowful anniversary by publishing on the Internet the reflections of priests who assisted the families of the victims, as well as resource material for parishes and the messages of bishops. Special prayers were offered for families who lost loved ones in this tragedy, for the victims of violence throughout the world, for national leaders, for all those who serve the human community, and above all for peace.

WINDOW ON COMMUNICATIONS

COMMUNICATING VALUES IN A MEDIA-DOMINATED CULTURE: THE CHALLENGE OF THE CINEMA



The cinema was born in France in 1895 thanks to the creativity of Auguste and Louis Lumière, who, using a cinematograph (a film camera that also served as a projector), produced the world's first film, *The Arrival of a Train at La Ciotat Station*. Among the first ten "movies" they filmed were also *Workers Leaving the Lumière Factory* and a child at play. Hand-cranked through a projector, these 50-second films represented not only the beginning of the cinema but the realization of the human being's long-held dream to create a "parallel reality"—a journey realized over the years first with the help of conjuror's tricks, then special effects and today virtual reality.

Today the cinema shares the limelight with television and the Internet. Thanks to a fusion of instruments, films shown in a theater can also be watched on TV, on DVDs, on one's computer and even on cell phones by downloading them from the Internet. It is clear that we live in a time in which the cinema is carving out a larger and larger place for itself in the "technological jungle." It is a time of change and also of crisis, the end of an era and the beginning of a new one. Who knows where it will all end? But against this background, the content of audiovisuals (cinema, TV, YouTube, etc.) continues to be the primary vehicle for ideas and the molders of consciences and behavior.

Our era is privileged because capillary diffusion of the media unites the world in global communication, dissolving the distances created by time and space. The cinema in particular is a creative instrument that is able to blend poetry, art and music to portray the world in which we live. It is not only "escapist entertainment" but also a powerful instrument for reflection and communication. From its very origins it has sought to recount

the human story and the person's search for the Absolute. It is one of the "places" in which the most important phenomena characteristic of society, culture and customs all converge. If we are what we are above and beyond the normal formation we received from school and life, it is in part due to films, which have portrayed every facet of human life: feelings, intelligence and commitment.

The cinema offers us the opportunity to grow in our daily lives. At the center of the person are gathered all the dimensions of human existence: religious experiences and the affective life, sufferings and joys, birth and death.

The cine-camera is an extraordinary instrument for penetrating and capturing the most mysterious facets of life in their many different expressions. A film can present us with the most noble and uplifting qualities of the human heart, but it can also exalt the most vile and distorted facets of human nature.

Thus the cinema is a form of communication that cannot do without religion, preserving and often transfiguring its vital moral truths through its own unique "language."

So then, what should be the characteristics of a film that truly communicates Christian values?

Fr. Alberione said that "the cinema should offer people only what is useful for them—the things that will teach them to be better human beings, citizens, religious.... It should offer them what is truly good." This was our Founder's dream.

I would like to quote here a beautiful excerpt from an address of Pope Paul VI on 6 May 1967 to writers and artists, which was then quoted word for word by Pope John Paul II in his speech to mass media workers during his apostolic visit to the United States and Canada in September 1987—the first time a Pope spoke to members of the communications industry. He said:

"Twenty years ago, my predecessor Pope Paul VI, speaking to a gathering much like this one, told that creative community in Rome: 'It is a fact that when, as writers and artists [and here we can add directors, actors and cinema producers], you are able to reveal in the human condition, however lowly or sad it may be, a spark of goodness, at that very instant a glow of beauty pervades

your whole work. We are not asking that you should play the part of moralist, but we are expressing confidence in your mysterious power to open up the glorious regions of light that lie behind the mystery of human life.”

Inspired by these words, I like to think of the cinema as a field of light—a way of seeing things that goes beyond the physical to penetrate the mystery of the invisible. As someone writing about the cinema in the 1930’s once said: “Films make visible the invisible.”

The problem of how to present the world of the spirit—the invisible world—in images has dogged the cinema from the very beginning of its story. In some films, religious feelings, spirituality and the sacred nature of things are a clear manifestation of choices made by human beings.

On 18 March 1938, Blessed James Alberione gave two priests of the Society of St. Paul the order to launch the cinema apostolate, saying: “It is necessary to lay down the scissors of censureship and take up the movie camera” because “the power of films surpasses that of the school, of the pulpit and of the press and is making an ever-greater impact.”

Thanks to the extraordinary power of images, the cinema—an instrument that communicates both culture and knowledge—is a universal language that is able to reach hearts and, because of its powerful visual impact, cannot leave a person indifferent. When used with responsibility and respect, the cinema can become a loudspeaker for disseminating the voice of God throughout the world.

Teresa Braccio, fsp

**CENTENARY OF THE BIRTH OF McLuhan:
“PROPHET” OF THE GLOBAL VILLAGE**



The “global village” and “the medium is the message” are two well known expressions coined by sociologist Herbert Marshall McLuhan, who was born on 21 July 1911 in Edmonton, Canada. McLuhan was a key player and probably one of the founders of a humanistic view of communications. He taught us that technology can be an extension of not just the mind and heart but also of the soul.

Noted for classifying the media as “hot” or “cold,” McLuhan owes his fame to his interpretation of the effects of communication on society and on individual behavior. His reflections revolve around a hypothesis that affirms that an instrument of technology has wide-ranging effects on the collective imagination independently of the content it transmits. From this derives his celebrated claim that “the medium is the message.”

**“THE LADY”:
A FILM ABOUT AUNG SAN SUU KYI**



Luc Besson’s film *The Lady* will open the 6th International Film Festival, to be held in Rome, Italy from 27 October–4 November. The movie recounts the extraordinary human-political adventure of Aung San Suu Kyi, the Birmanian pacifist who has been defending human rights in her country for decades. Subjected to house arrest by the Birmanian dictatorship from 1989-2007, which forcibly separated her from her husband and two sons, who live in England, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991. Actress Michelle Yeoh has been banned from Burma (now known as Myanmar) for playing the role of Aung San Suu Kyi in the film.



Foto: Emmanuel Alves, fsp

DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL

Sr. Elizabeth Agius, age 73 - 23.07.2011 - London, Great Britain
Sr. Elza Maria Corrarello, age 78 - 26.07.2011 - São Paulo, Brazil
Sr. M. Pierina Camargo Pires da Silveira, age 85 - 26.07.2011 - São Paulo, Brazil
Sr. M. Donata Farisco, age 86 - 27.07.2011 - Albano GA, Italy
Sr. M. Letizia Ellena, age 94 - 23.08.2011 - Buenos Aires, Argentina
Sr. Luiza Cecilia Sonogo, age 85 - 29.08.2011 - São Paulo, Brazil
Sr. Giuseppina Cipolla, age 80 - 31.08.2011 - Alba, Italy
Sr. M. Nicolina Casula, age 83 - 02.09.2011 - Albano, Italy
Sr Virginia (Gina) Benedetti, age 86 - 07.09.2011 - Rome AP, Italy

PARENTS OF OUR SISTERS

Sr. Anna Shim (Father, Joseph), of the Seoul-Miari community, Korea
Sr. Joan Paula Arruda (Mother, Sally Lou), of the Alexandria, USA community
Sr. M. Claudia Rivera Gomez (Mother, Maria Luisa) – at home - Colombia
Sr. Cicera Maria Da Silva Gomes (Father, Manoel Beixor), of the Recife, Brazil community

THE PAULINE FAMILY

Br. Giuseppe Francesco Torti, ssp, age 84 - 18.07.2011 - Rome, Italy
Sr M. Rosa Narcisa Zamudio Reyes, pdm, age 67 - 18.07.2011 – Mexico City, Mexico
Br. Elbio Rodrigues Dias (Brother Juvenal), ssp, age 79 - 23.07.2011 - São Paulo, Brazil
Sr M. Natalina Renza Argentin, pdm, age 68 - 25.07.2011 - Albano Laziale, Italy
Br. Erminio Aldo Paolo Grossetti, ssp, age 92 - 26.07.2011 - Rome, Italy
Fr. José Ignacio Fernandez De Larrea, ssp, age 80 - 31.07.2011 - Madrid, Spain
Fr. José Savio Pereira (Fr. João Crisostomo), ssp, age 83 - 07.08.2011 - São Paulo, Brazil
Fr. Virgilio Tito Ribeiro Da Silva, ssp, age 82 - 14.08.2011 – Apelaçã, Portugal
Fr. Eliseo Mariano Sgarbossa, ssp, age 81 - 21.08.2011 - Albano Laziale, Italy
Fr. Valeriano Mario Giachino, ssp, age 80 - 23.08.2011 - Los Angeles, USA
Sr. M. Samuela Maria D'Addario, pdm, age 85 - 27.08.2011 - Albano Laziale, Italy