

Sons and daughters of St Paul celebrate close of Pauline Year



Nothing can separate us from Christ

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship or distress, or persecution, or famine or nakedness or peril, or sword? ... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. (Romans 8: 35, 37)

Rejoice in the Lord

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4: 4-7)

Christ lives in me

... it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (Galatians 2:20)

THE Year of St Paul, proclaimed by Pope Benedict XVI to commemorate the 2000th anniversary of the birth of the great Apostle to the Gentiles, will conclude on June 29, 2009.

On Sunday, June 28, a special Mass to mark the closing of the Pauline Year will be celebrated by the Archbishop of Sydney, George Cardinal Pell, at St Mary's Cathedral from 10.30 am.

While the Pauline Year has been significant for the whole Church, it has been especially memorable for the religious and lay people who make up the Pauline Family, founded by Blessed James Alberione.

The priests and brothers of the Society of St Paul, the first of the institutes founded by Fr Alberione (in 1914) and the Daughters of St Paul, who were founded one year later, look to St Paul as their patron and inspiration. They strive, as best they can, to be 'St Paul alive today' through their specific ministry of proclaiming the Good News through the media apostolate.

The congregation was founded in Italy in 1914 and year later Fr Alberione founded an institute of Sisters, the Daughters of St Paul, for a similar mission.

Two other congregations founded by Blessed James Alberione are present in Australia: the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master and the Sisters of Jesus Good Shepherd (Pastorelle Sisters). He also founded the Queen of Apostles Sisters, four aggregated institutes of consecrated life, for priests, laymen, laywomen, and married couples, and the Union of Pauline Co-operators.

St Paul inspires the members of the Pauline Family in a number of ways. St Paul used the written word to convey the Good News of Jesus. He wrote many letters to communities in distant places offering encouragement and enlightenment. Today, members of the Pauline family use the media of communication - press, radio, TV, film and internet - to proclaim the Good News and promote human dignity.

Paulines embrace the universal character of St Paul's ministry. He took the Good News to everyone, everywhere. Likewise Pauline priests, brothers and sisters seek to



CELEBRATION: The community of the Society of St Paul and the Daughters of St Paul are just two of the congregations which celebrated the Pauline Year.

use the mass media to reach everyone, with a special care for those most distant from the Church.

St Paul's ministry was effective because he enlisted the help of many collaborators, both men and women. Today Pauline religious work side by side with lay collaborators, and religious from other institutes, who bring their unique skills and dedication to the media ministry.

In Australia the Society of St Paul is best known for St Pauls Publications in Strathfield and the St Pauls Book Centres in Brisbane and Toowoomba.

The Daughters of St Paul conduct Pauline Books and Media centres in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide, and publish two online magazines, *Echoing the Word*, for catechists, and *Terra Spiritus*, which focuses on spirituality.

This special edition of *The Catholic Weekly* celebrates the special contribution that the members of the Pauline family have made, and continue to make, to the Church in Australia.



Sister Disciples of the Divine Master

Religious women consecrated and committed to following Jesus
MASTER, WAY, TRUTH and LIFE.



Our congregation is in 29 countries and is part of the larger religious family called 'Pauline Family' founded by Blessed James Alberione in 1924.

We look to Mary as the First Disciple, who contemplated in silence, lived in profound joy and apostolic fecundity, honouring her as Queen of the Apostles.

We are inspired by the universal spirit of St Paul who lived in constant union with Christ, "I live now not I, but Christ lives in me" (Galatians 2:20)

We proclaim and give witness to the primacy of God through our Eucharistic, Priestly and Liturgical mission.

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