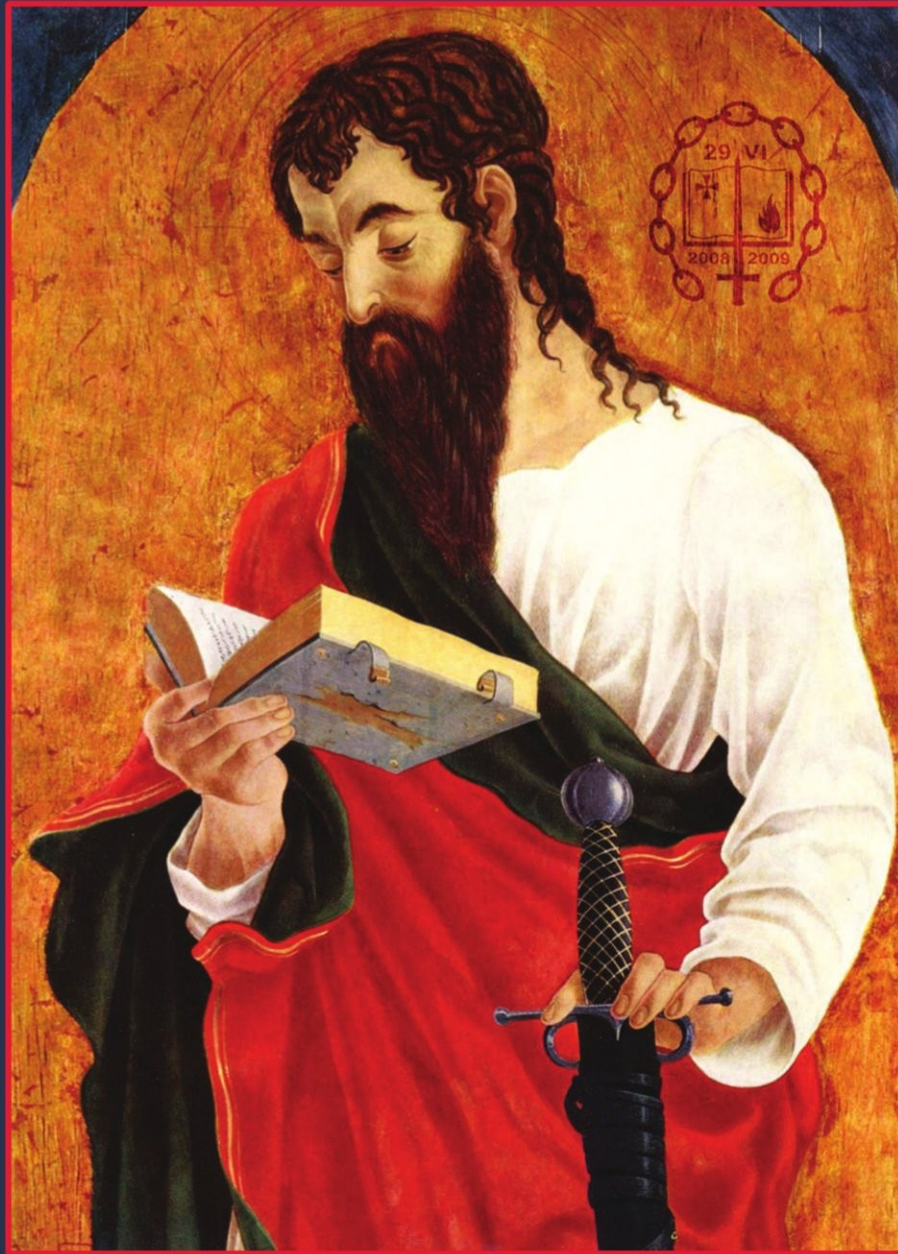


CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA



2008 · THE YEAR OF SAINT PAUL · 2009

PRAYER SERVICE FOR THE YEAR OF SAINT PAUL

PRAYER SERVICE FOR THE YEAR OF SAINT PAUL

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD

SIGN OF THE CROSS

READING FROM SACRED SCRIPTURE

See following page.

SILENT REFLECTION

A priest or deacon may give a reflection at this point.

INTERCESSIONS

With hope, let us lift our voices in prayer to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

For all who serve the Church, may they proclaim to all the joy and hope of salvation in Christ: we pray to the Lord.

℟ Lord, hear our prayer.

For leaders of nations and governments, may they work ceaselessly in resolving conflicts and building just societies: we pray to the Lord.

℟ Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have dedicated themselves to the care of the sick, the poor, and the lost, may God be their strength and joy: we pray to the Lord.

℟ Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who, like Saint Paul, are persecuted for their faith, may their witness to the Truth be exalted one day: we pray to the Lord.

℟ Lord, hear our prayer.

For our parish, (*school, organization, etc.*) may our every prayer and work proclaim that Jesus is Lord: we pray to the Lord.

℟ Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have died in the peace of Christ, that Saint Paul and the whole company of heaven may welcome them into the kingdom of God: we pray to the Lord.

℟ Lord, hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father ...

CONCLUDING PRAYER

God our Father,

the apostle Paul preached the Gospel to all the world by word and example.

By the light of your Holy Spirit, the witness of our lives, and the intercession of Saint Paul, may the Kingdom of God flourish in the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SIGN OF THE CROSS

A priest or deacon concludes the service with a blessing.

READINGS FROM SAINT PAUL

Romans 8:35-39

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? As it is written: "For your sake we are being slain all the day; we are looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Brothers and sisters, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the holy ones greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Ephesians 1:15-23

Therefore, I, too, hearing of your faith in the Lord Jesus and of your love for all the holy ones, do not cease giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him. May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of his power for us who believe, in accord with the exercise of his great might, which he worked in Christ, raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens, far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things beneath his feet and gave him as head over all things to the Church, which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

Philippians 2:1-11

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also everyone for those of others. Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

I, Paul, am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance. The Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the proclamation might be completed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil threat and will bring me safe to his heavenly Kingdom. To him be glory forever and ever. Amen.