

St Frances Cabrini Parish
6673 W. Chatfield Ave.
Littleton, CO 80128



Special points of interest:

- **Celebrate the Year of Saint Paul**
- **Small Community Picnic**
- **Outreach Opportunity**
- **Core Leadership Team**
- **Parish Mission in September**
- **GIFT — coming soon**
- **Around the Table**

St. Frances Cabrini

Small Faith Sharing Communities

June - 2008

CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF SAINT PAUL

The Year of Saint Paul gives us many opportunities to reflect on his life and to apply the zeal he had in his faith to making our small faith communities come alive in the spirit. Bishop Michael Saltarelli of Wilmington, Delaware, in a recent pastoral letter on the year of St. Paul, offered six themes that we can use to foster growth in our communities.

I. Paul's Conversion Experience on the Road to Damascus and our Personal Conversion in the Year of Saint Paul

I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting. Get up and go into the city, where you will be told what to do. (Acts of the Apostles 9:5-6)

St. Paul was involved in the murder of Saint Stephen, the first martyr. Yet it was Stephen's reaction and his forgiveness of his persecutors as he died that must have made such an indelible impression on Saul, and prepared him for the experience of the Risen Lord that he had on the road to Damascus.

St. Paul saw the error of his ways and began to live his life in integrity. We can never underestimate the power of a Catholic life lived with integrity and radiant vitality. How many potential "Saint Paul's" might we have in our communities waiting to come alive in the power of Christ as St. Paul did?

II. Living and Praying Christ in the Year of Saint Paul

It is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me.

(Galatians 2:20)

Bishop Saltarelli talked about how many great saints have built their lives on Galatians 2:20: "It is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me." It can be so easy for us to hear these inspired words over and over again during the course of our lives and never really understand their life changing impact.

The Year of Saint Paul is a time for us in our communities to stand on the shoulders of Catholic saints through the centuries and to live Paul's life-changing words in ways that address the world's need for holiness in the 21st Century.

III. Praying, Studying and Living the Inspired Word of God in the Pauline Year

The Word of God cannot be chained. (2 Timothy 2:9)

Pope Benedict has advised all Catholics to study scripture daily, especially in the practice of the ancient prayer of lectio divina as a means for deepening our communion with God and attaining spiritual insight. Our study of scripture engages our thoughts,



imagination, emotions and desires and allows them time to grow in community.

Bringing attention to the Word of God in our groups reveals to us the fundamental Catholic truth of the road to Emmaus story in the Gospel of Luke. To be authentically biblical is at the same time to be authentically sacramental and Eucharistic. As we study scripture, either on our own or in community, it is an investment in a fuller, more active and conscious participation in our Catholic Mass and sacramental liturgies.

IV. Lifting High the Cross of Christ in the Year of Saint Paul

I was determined that while I was with you I would speak of nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified. (1 Corinthians: 2:2)

Bishop Saltarelli reminds us that the Cross of Jesus Christ is at the center of all that Paul does. He teaches us how to deal with the hardships and grief of life. Paul experienced it all: rejection, calumny, indifference, shipwrecks, imprisonment and, ultimately, martyrdom as symbolized in art by Paul holding a sword.

The Cross influences everything about Paul. He states: "I preach Christ and Him Crucified." The Cross transformed (Continued from page 1) his teaching and allowed him to evangelize others by

(Continued on page2)

A special jubilee year dedicated to St. Paul will run from June 28, 2008, to June 29, 2009 to mark the approximately 2000th anniversary of the saint's birth.

Is not the cup of blessing we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ?

And is not the bread we break a sharing in the body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 10:16



helping them to interpret the meanings of their own sufferings. He also uses a curious phrase: "I boast in the Cross of Christ." (Galatians 6:14) He puts the Cross of Christ above any temptation to egoism or pride. The Cross is the true source of his apostolic effectiveness.

In the Year of Saint Paul, each of us is called to lift high the Cross of Christ and to carry it with Paul's courage, determination and trust in God's providential design.

V. Rekindling a Love for the Eucharist and the Church in the Year of Saint Paul

Is not the cup of blessing we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread we break a sharing in the body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 10:16)

One of the classic Pauline images is that of the Body of Christ as a communion of individuals with specific charisms and talents which build up of the Body. Paul shows that the Eucharist is the source of unity, harmony and communion in the Body. Our reverent reception of the Eucharist is the great spark of missionary activity that leads us, like Saint Paul, to the ends of the earth.

Studying and praying Pauline texts on the Eucharist help us to "rekindle our Eucharistic amazement" and to realize that every Mass has a "cosmic significance."

Every Mass is "celebrated on the Altar of the World." When we rekindle our Eucharistic faith, awe and amazement at the truth of the Real Presence, our marriages and our families are rekindled in Christ. Vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life are rekindled. A missionary spirit, evangelization and effective catechesis at every level are rekindled.

VI. The Universal Call to Holiness and the Universal Call to Mission in the Year of Saint Paul

Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel! (1 Corinthians 9:16)

One of the goals of Pope Benedict XVI in proclaiming the Year of Saint Paul is to have every Catholic hold up a mirror to his or her life and to ask: Am I as determined and as energetic about spreading the Catholic faith as Saint Paul was? Is spreading the faith both by example and by our conversations with our friends even a concern?

May the fire that the Holy Spirit cast down into the heart of Saint Paul, which in turn lit up the earth, inflame our hearts to be vibrant and effective missionaries in the Year of Saint Paul and throughout our lives.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Matthew 5:16 - Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.

Are you or members of your small faith sharing group looking for opportunities to serve those less fortunate? We have the following opportunities coming up.

DENVER RESCUE MISSION

Volunteers from St. Frances Cabrini serves meals at the Denver Rescue Mission every 3rd Thursday of the month. They meet at the Parish at 6:30 p.m. and carpool downtown.

THE DELORES PROJECT

The Delores Project is an overnight shelter housing adult women who might otherwise have to sleep on the street or in circumstances that put them at great risk. Women seeking shelter at The Delores Project are offered a safe, comfortable place to stay while seeking more permanent housing.

Saint Frances Cabrini parish is looking for volunteers to help provide, serve and share an evening meal for the Delores Project on the Tuesday evenings of July 8th and October 14th.

SAMARITAN HOUSE

Samaritan House provides services to over 300

people every day, most of whom can stay for a period of 30-90 days. Samaritan House was built specifically as a shelter in 1986 and is a service of Catholic Charities

They serve about 180 men, women and children every meal. The St. Francis Cabrini Parish serves meals the first Sunday of every month from 4:00PM to 7:30PM.

SECOND SUNDAY OUTREACH

Help is needed to collect and distribute items for the following outreach weekends scheduled at Cabrini:

- July 12-13—Men's underwear, socks and jeans for the St. Francis Center
- August 9-10—School supplies for Guardian Angels School
- September 13-14—Gloves, scarves, jackets, and winter wear for the Samaritan Shelter

Please call the Community Life, Outreach and Assistance office to schedule you or your group for a time to help. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Around the Table—resources for small communities

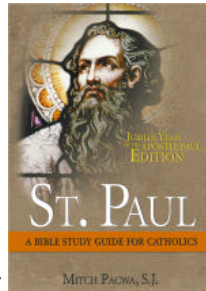
Faith sharing material can be as varied as the members of your group. What works for one group may not work as well for another group. I have heard many positive comments about the Lenten series book as well as a few critiques. Has your group been challenged with what material you would like to use next? Or maybe you have something that worked well for you? As we try to update our resources, we would love to hear from you about what has worked as well as what didn't.

For the year of Paul, there are several new resources that are coming available. Scripture studies we have on order right now include the Ignatius Press Pauline series by Scott Hahn, Curtis

Mitch, and Dennis Walters. These include all the following:

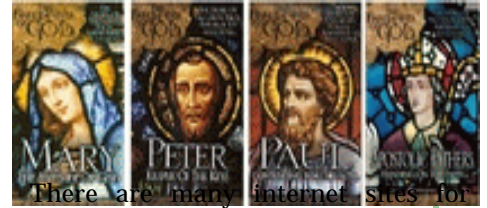
- Paul's letters to the Galatians and Ephesians
- Paul's letter to the Philippians
- Paul's letter to the Romans
- Paul's 1st and 2nd letters to the Corinthians

Also on order is Fr. Mitch Pacwa's Bible Study for Catholics on St. Paul.



If your group

would like to consider a video series, we have available the Footprints of God series, filmed in the Holy Land.



There are many internet sites for small faith sharing communities. The following are sites that your group may find useful.

- www.buenavista.org
- Www.goodgroundpress.com
- www.mplc.org/smallcommunities.htm
- www.renewintl.orgSmallChristianCom.com
- www.sccquest.org
- www.smallchristiancommunities.org

Parish Mission Sept. 7, 8

Make sure to mark your calendars to join the parish community for our Parish Mission this fall. Fr. Francis Pompei, OFM, will lead us in multiple sessions on three themes:

- How Not To Live: Jesus' Way vs. the World's Way
- Set Free: Jesus' Truth vs. The World's Deception
- How To Live: Jesus is the Life vs. The World's Empty Promises

Fr. Pompei will help answer the big questions in our lives. Why so much stress, worry, fear and unhappiness? Why so much violence, emptiness and loneliness? Come find out how Jesus came to tell us why and reveal the truth.

NEW CORE MEMBERS

Tony and Sandy Giuliani, Bill and Arlene Newlin, Gina Ryan, and Diana Province, have all agreed to be a part of the Small Faith Communities Core Team. I am still interested in finding a few more team members who have a passion towards keeping small faith communities alive at St. Frances Cabrini parish.

Please contact Sandi at (303) 953-7765 if you hear the call to serve.



Beginning this fall, Saint Frances

Cabrini will be piloting a new program of inter-generational catechetical formation. This new program, called "Growing In Faith Together" (GIFT) will provide an opportunity for the entire community to join in parish wide catechesis with the goal "that the Church may thrive, not simply survive."

The idea behind the program is to provide opportunities for everyone to learn and live their faith. The ultimate goal of GIFT is to help each and every person to engage more fully in their Catholic faith so that they experience a closer relationship with Jesus Christ.

Look for more information on this program this fall!

**St Frances Cabrini Parish
6673 W. Chatfield Ave.
Littleton, CO 80128**

NON-PROFIT ORG

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT No. 221

Littleton, Colorado

Mail Label Here



SUMMER PICNIC IN THE PARK

We had some great fun last summer so let's do it again. Bring your small faith-sharing community and your family for an evening of fellowship, food and fun.

Music by "That Great Little Band" – A Clown for the Kids –
Live Art by Devin Montagne

When: Friday, August 22nd

Time : 5:30p.m. – 8:30p.m.

Where: Clement Park Shelters 4,5, and 6

What to Bring: Bring a Side Dish to Share

If your last name begins with A-L—Fruit or Des-



sert

K-Z—Salad or Chips

WE NEED YOUR HELP! If you or your small community can help by organizing, setting up, cooking and/or cleaning up in any way, please contact the Community Life Office. (303) 953-7765