



DECREE

Two thousand years ago, St. Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles and co-founder, with St. Peter, of the Church of Rome, was born in Tarsus (modern-day Eastern Turkey). In honor of this historic event, and in order to invite the Christian Faithful to follow his example of discipleship and deepen their involvement in proclaiming the Gospel with total dedication to Christ who today “needs apostles ready to sacrifice themselves... witnesses and martyrs like St Paul” (Pope Benedict XVI, *Homily*, Celebration of First Vespers of the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, Thursday, June 28, 2007), His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI has declared a “a Jubilee Year dedicated to Apostle Paul” (Ibid.), beginning on June 28, 2008 the eve of the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, and continuing through June 29, 2009.

In conjunction with this “Pauline Year”, His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, has graciously “granted and imparted a Plenary Indulgence for the temporal punishment of their sins, once they have obtained sacramental remission and forgiveness for their shortcomings”, to all “Christian Faithful who are truly repentant, duly purified by the Sacrament of Penance and restored with Holy Communion” and “who undertake a pious visit in the form of a pilgrimage to the papal basilica of St. Paul on Rome’s *Via Ostiense* and pray in accordance with the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff” (cf. Apostolic Penitentiary, Decree, May 10, 2008).

His Holiness has also granted that those Christian Faithful who are unable to make a pilgrimage to Rome may obtain the Plenary Indulgence, “under the usual conditions (sacramental Confession, Eucharistic communion, prayer in keeping with the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff) and completely unattached to any form of sin”, “if they participate devotedly in a religious function or in a pious exercise held publicly in honor of the Apostle of the Gentiles: on the days of the solemn opening and closing of the Pauline Year” in their parishes and “on other days determined by the local ordinary, in holy places named for St. Paul” (Ibid.).

In union with the whole Church and in honor of the 2000th Anniversary of the birth of St. Paul and in order to increase our dedication to Christ who is our hope, I invite all the Faithful of the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls to enter into this Pauline Year with great devotion.

The first opportunity to do so in the local parish on the feasts of Sts. Peter and Paul on June 28, 2008 - June 29, 2008, the beginning of the “Pauline Year”, the Conversion of St. Paul on January 26, 2009, and again, Sts. Peter and Paul on June 29, 2009, the conclusion of the “Pauline Year”.

The second opportunity to do so is in making a pilgrimage to a parish named for St. Paul. In the Diocese of Sioux Falls, the following churches are dedicated to the honor of St. Paul: St. Paul in Armour, St. Paul in Iroquois, St. Paul in Marty, St. Paul in White, Sts. Peter & Paul in Dimock, and Sts. Peter & Paul in Pierre. Wherefore, in accordance with the Decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary, I decree that any of the Christian Faithful of the Diocese of Sioux Falls who make a pilgrimage to one of these parishes at any time during this "Pauline Year" may receive this Plenary Indulgence, provided that they fulfill the usual conditions.

To the Christian Faithful who are sick or impeded by a legitimate and relevant cause from making a pilgrimage, this Plenary Indulgence is also conceded, provided that they have the same detachment from sin and a desire to complete the pilgrimage although impeded, and that they unite themselves spiritually to any Jubilee Celebration in honor of St. Paul, offering their prayers and sufferings for the unity of Christians (Ibid.).

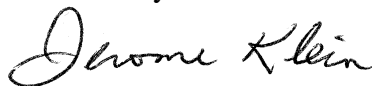
It is my hope that, through the intercession of St. Paul, all in the Diocese of Sioux Falls will come to a greater awareness of the love of Christ and give more credible and effective witness to that love in all that we say and do. In this way, our Diocese will become a stronger, more visible presence in eastern South Dakota and others will be invited to experience the love of Christ through His Body the Church.

Given at the Catholic Pastoral Center, Sioux Falls on May 19, 2008, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, by

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The Most Rev. Paul J. Swain
Bishop of Sioux Falls

Witnessed by



Mr. Jerome Klein
Chancellor