

St. Paul

Apostle of the Church

Beginning June 29, 2008, the Catholic Church will recognize and celebrate the contributions of St. Paul, the author of many of the New Testament books, for a full year. He was much more than just a writer of epistles. He was a teacher, traveler and friend of St. Peter (like friends, they, too, had some disagreements).

“He lived and worked for Christ: he suffered and died for Him,” Pope

Benedict XVI said at the announcement of the Year of St. Paul.



Did You Know...?

St. Paul was descended from Benjamin, the youngest of Jacob's twelve sons (Philippians 3:5).



When St. Paul was a teenager, his parents sent him to Jerusalem to study with Gamaliel, one of the most respected rabbis of his time (Acts 22:3).

St. Paul had at least one sister who lived in Jerusalem. When Paul's enemies planned to ambush and murder him, his sister's son warned his Uncle Paul and the Roman authorities (Acts 23:16).

When the king of Damascus tried to kill St. Paul, the apostle's friends had him climb into a heavy-duty basket, then lowered him from a window in the city walls to safety (2 Corinthians 11:32-33).



Late one night, a teenage boy named Eutychus sat in a window listening to St. Paul preach. Eutychus dozed off, lost his balance and fell three stories. St. Paul brought the boy back to life (Acts 20:7-12).



St. Paul was shipwrecked on the island of Malta (Acts 27 and 28).

St. Paul has four feast days: Jan. 25, The Conversion of St. Paul; Feb. 10, St. Paul Shipwrecked; June 29, Sts. Peter and Paul; Nov. 18, Dedication of the Basilicas of St. Peter and St. Paul-outside-the-Walls.



St. Paul's first convert was Lydia, a businesswoman who sold purple cloth (Acts 16:13-15).

St. Paul is buried in Rome, in the Basilica of St. Paul-outside-the-Walls. His relics lie under the altar in a stone coffin. On the lid is the inscription "Paulo Apostolo, Mart." which means, "The Apostle Paul, Martyr."

— By Thomas Craughwell

Find the names of these friends and disciples of St. Paul.

TIMOTHY LUKE
TITUS LYDIA
BARNABAS PRISCA

D R P J D H T I P U S E J E N C N S
A L Q B W I J C R C P E C C V W H T
C N I B A S P D I R R Z A J F G H Y
P K P U E R P A S L U K E P O N J H
S W U Q W I N D C N X B V A T P R T
X V B O F Y U A A Y A S P N I V W O
K I O D L K H G B P O R T B T A J M
W U C P J H Y U T A E O K Q U L G I
L V R S W A I D Y L S M B Y S I O T

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