

## Fabio's Words

### **Without the Child Jesus there is no Christmas**

During these days close to the celebration of Christmas, perhaps many wonder “What is Christmas?” Let me start by saying what Christmas is not ... Christmas is not watching the snow fall or some reindeer pulling a sled with a man called Santa Claus; nor is it a family dinner, since this can be done at any time of the year, much less ending with drunkenness; it is not giving gifts. **Christmas is the Nativity scene and in it a Child born called Jesus**; Christmas comes from the Nativity birth, which brings life, and that is what the Child Jesus brings us; when are we going to understand that? And why it is so difficult for us to understand that Christmas revolves around the Child God and that without Him there is no Christmas. That is why it is important to have the Nativity scene in each home. It does not have to be the largest and most expensive in the world, it can be simple, of course put in a worthy place in the home, and if you do not manage to buy the Nativity scene at least have an image of the Nativity scene where you can reflect upon the figure of the Child Jesus, who brings us the love of God. Let's make Christmas revolve around Him again. Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of Christmas from a world that is atheistic and indifferent in society, a world in which the most important thing is the commercial and not the spiritual.

I always wonder and now I ask you: What image predominates most in your house during this time, the Nativity scene or the images of Santa Claus in all sizes and styles?

### **The gift for St. Paul the Apostle**

I want to thank all the people that have contributed their gift to the parish. That gift will go to the capital campaign so that we can finish the different projects that we have. Thank you very much, and many blessings.

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

This Sunday ends the time of Advent to start Christmas. We will go from the purple color of preparation to the white of purity, which is what Jesus brings us. The Gospel of St. Luke tells us about the visit of the Virgin Mary in the house of Zechariah and everything that was lived at that moment: two obvious miracles - one of a sterile and elderly woman (Elizabeth) and the other miracle that a virgin woman became pregnant (Mary). The visit of the Virgin Mary brought many beautiful things in the house of Zechariah; in the same way she will do so in your home if you receive her with love.

**Question:** What gift do you need from the Child Jesus, and what is your gift for Him?

**I want to wish you a Merry Christmas, and I hope with all my heart that Jesus is born again in your hearts and families. I love you very much.**

## Palabras de Fabio

### **Sin el Niño Jesús no hay Navidad**

Durante estos días próximos a la celebración de la Navidad, quizás muchos se preguntan “¿qué es la Navidad?” Permítanme iniciar diciendo que no es Navidad... la Navidad no es ver caer la nieve, o unos renos tirando de un trineo con un señor al que le dicen papá Noel; tampoco es una cena familiar, ya que se puede hacer en cualquier momento del año, y mucho menos terminar con una borrachera; tampoco es dar regalos. **La Navidad es el pesebre y en él un Niño nacido llamado Jesús**; Navidad viene de nacimiento, que trae vida, y eso es lo que nos trae ese Niño Jesús; ¿cuándo vamos a entender eso? Y porque nos cuesta tanto entender, que la Navidad gira en torno a ese Niño Dios y que sin él no hay Navidad. Por eso la importancia de que en cada casa se tenga el pesebre. No tiene que ser el más grande y costoso del mundo, puede ser sencillo, eso si puesto en un lugar digno de la casa, y si no alcanza para comprar el pesebre, al menos tener una imagen del pesebre donde se pueda contemplar la figura de ese Niño Jesús, que nos trae el amor de Dios. Hagamos que la Navidad gire nuevamente alrededor de Él. No nos dejemos robar la Navidad de un mundo que se muestra ateo e indiferente en la sociedad, un mundo en el que lo más importante es lo comercial y no lo espiritual.

Siempre me pregunto y ahora les pregunto a ustedes: ¿qué imagen predomina más en su casa para esta época, el pesebre o las imágenes de papá Noel en todos los tamaños y estilos?

### **El regalo para san Pablo el Apóstol**

Quiero dar las gracias a todas las personas que han contribuido con su regalo para la parroquia. Ese regalo irá a la campaña capital para así poder terminar los diferentes proyectos que tenemos. Muchas gracias, y muchas bendiciones.

### **Cuarto domingo de Adviento**

Este domingo termina el tiempo de Adviento para dar así inicio a la Navidad. Pasaremos del color morado de preparación al blanco de la pureza, que es lo que Jesús nos trae. El evangelio de san Lucas, nos habla de la visita de la Virgen María en la casa de Zacarías y todo lo que se vivió en ese momento: dos milagros patentes - uno de una mujer estéril y en edad avanzada (Isabel) y el otro milagro que una mujer quedara en embarazo siendo virgen (María). La visita de la Virgen María trajo muchas cosas bonitas en la casa de Zacarías; de la misma manera lo hará en tu casa si la recibes con amor.

**Pregunta:** ¿qué regalo necesitas del Niño Jesús, y cuál es tu regalo para Él?

**Quiero desearles una feliz Navidad, y espero de todo corazón que Jesús nazca nuevamente en sus corazones y familias. Los quiero mucho.**

Mark your calendars! St. Paul will hold a Ministry Fair on January 12, 2025, in the Parish Hall after all Masses. Below is information on some of the St. Paul ministries in advance of the Ministry Fair.

<b>Ministry</b>	<b>Mission Statement</b>
Cursillo	Cursillo is an encounter with Christ. Its mission is to bring Christ to others by learning how to embrace our vocation as laypersons. It promotes a spiritual revitalization of our world. By living a fully Christian life, we bring Christ to others, including members of our family, workplace, school, etc. The Cursillo Movement provides the tools, the mentality, the strength, and the support to make this natural type of evangelization possible.
Family Promise	Family Promise helps homeless children. We help them by providing meals for the families in their shelter during different weeks throughout the year. Jesus said, "as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Matt 25:40).
Gift Shop	The Gift Shop makes Rosaries, Crucifixes, Missals, Bibles, Statues, and other sacramentals, as well as gifts with inspirational themes to enhance personal and private worship, prayer and devotion, readily available to the St. Paul parish family and visitors.
Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)	The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) of St. Paul is dedicated to welcoming and guiding individuals on their journey of faith into the fullness of the Catholic Church. Rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and inspired by the Holy Spirit, we accompany seekers in discovering God's love, deepening their relationship with Christ, and embracing the sacraments as the foundation of their spiritual lives. Through prayer, catechesis, and community, we foster a transformative process of conversion that invites participants to grow in faith, live as disciples, and share in the mission of the Church. With compassion and respect, we journey alongside inquirers, catechumens, and candidates, affirming their unique call to holiness and their place within the Body of Christ. Guided by the rich tradition of the Church, we strive to build a welcoming and vibrant community where all may encounter the truth, beauty, and joy of the Catholic faith.
Ushers Ministry	The goal of the Usher Ministry is to ensure all attendees feel welcome in the Church. Ushers are usually the first contact with attendees before Mass; therefore, a warm welcome from ushers is necessary to make attendees feel welcome and comfortable. Ushers also assist in helping to ensure the mechanics of the Mass run smoothly.
Welcome Ministry	The Welcome Ministry's mission is to create a welcoming spirit of community for all. For all new and existing parishioners as well as visitors to St. Paul, we will focus on providing warm hospitality that encourages each person to become engaged in all the parish has to offer with ease and joy. The goal is to create a unified parish atmosphere where all feel appreciated and loved.
Youth Ministry in the Mountains	Youth Ministry in the Mountains is dedicated to the continuing formation of Catholic teens in Northeast Georgia through outreach in the community, social activities and Catholic spiritual development. Youth Ministry in the Mountains encourages all Catholic teens in grades 6-12 to join.

¡Marquen sus calendarios! San Pablo llevará a cabo una Feria Ministerial el 12 de enero de 2025, en el Salón Parroquial después de todas las misas. A continuación, se muestra información sobre algunos de los ministerios de St. Paul antes de la Feria Ministerial.

Ministerio	Declaración de Objetivos
Cursillo	El Cursillo es un encuentro con Cristo. Su misión es llevar a Cristo a los demás aprendiendo a abrazar nuestra vocación como laicos. Promueve una revitalización espiritual de nuestro mundo. Al vivir una vida completamente cristiana, llevamos a Cristo a los demás, incluidos los miembros de nuestra familia, lugar de trabajo, escuela, etc. El Movimiento de Cursillos de Cristiandad proporciona las herramientas, la mentalidad, la fuerza y el apoyo para hacer posible este tipo natural de evangelización.
Promesa Familiar	Promesa Familiar ayuda a niños sin hogar. Les ayudamos proporcionando comidas a las familias en su refugio durante diferentes semanas durante todo el año. Jesús dijo: "Cada vez que lo hicisteis a uno de estos mis hermanos más pequeños, a mí me lo hicisteis" (Mateo 25:40).
Tienda de Regalos	La tienda de regalos hace rosarios, crucifijos, misales, biblias, estatuas y otros sacramentales, así como regalos con temas inspiradores para mejorar el culto, la oración y la devoción personales y privados, fácilmente disponibles para la familia y los visitantes de la parroquia de St. Paul.
Orden de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos (OICA)	La Orden de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos (OICA) de San Pablo se dedica a acoger y guiar a las personas en su camino de fe hacia la plenitud de la Iglesia Católica. Arraigados en el Evangelio de Jesucristo e inspirados por el Espíritu Santo, acompañamos a los buscadores a descubrir el amor de Dios, profundizar su relación con Cristo y abrazar los sacramentos como fundamento de sus vidas espirituales. A través de la oración, la catequesis y la comunidad, fomentamos un proceso transformador de conversión que invita a los participantes a crecer en la fe, vivir como discípulos y compartir la misión de la Iglesia. Con compasión y respeto, caminamos junto a los investigadores, catecúmenos y candidatos, afirmando su llamado único a la santidad y su lugar dentro del Cuerpo de Cristo. Guiados por la rica tradición de la Iglesia, nos esforzamos por construir una comunidad acogedora y vibrante donde todos puedan encontrar la verdad, la belleza y la alegría de la fe católica.
Ministerio Ujier	El objetivo del Ministerio Ujier es asegurar que todos los asistentes se sientan bienvenidos en la Iglesia. Los ujieres suelen ser el primer contacto con los asistentes antes de la misa; Por lo tanto, es necesaria una cálida bienvenida por parte de los ujieres para que los asistentes se sientan bienvenidos y cómodos. Los ujieres también ayudan a garantizar que la mecánica de la Misa funcione sin problemas.
Ministerio de Bienvenida	La misión del Ministerio de Bienvenida es crear un espíritu acogedor de comunidad para todos. Para todos los feligreses nuevos y existentes, así como para los visitantes de St. Paul, nos enfocaremos en brindar una cálida hospitalidad que aliente a cada persona a participar en todo lo que la parroquia tiene para ofrecer con facilidad y alegría. El objetivo es crear una atmósfera parroquial unificada donde todos se sientan apreciados y amados.
Ministerio Juvenil en las Montañas	El Ministerio Juvenil en las Montañas está dedicado a la formación continua de adolescentes católicos en el noreste de Georgia a través de la divulgación en la comunidad, actividades sociales y desarrollo espiritual católico. El Ministerio Juvenil en las Montañas anima a todos los adolescentes católicos de 6º a 12º grado a unirse.

## St. Paul the Apostle Parish Pilgrimage with Fr. Fabio

Use this site to sign up! <https://totallyyourspilgrimages.com/2551-italy-jubilee/>

or visit [www.MEDJ1.com](http://www.MEDJ1.com) Then at the top hover over pilgrimages, click on Parish Pilgrimages, and scroll down to find the link to the pilgrimage.



**“To enjoy the fullness  
of life and obtain peace,  
You must return to God”**



909 S. IL Route 83 Suite 201 Elmhurst, IL 60126 • Phone: (630) 279-8424 • Website: [www.MEDJ1.com](http://www.MEDJ1.com) • Email: [info@MEDJ1.com](mailto:info@MEDJ1.com)



## 25 Year Jubilee – Italy with Chaplain Fr. Fabio

Trip#2551: Mar 31 – April 11, 2025 (12 Days) • \$3,795

- March 31 Depart Atlanta International Airport (ATL).
- April 1 Arrive in Rome. Experience the **25 Year Jubilee** and enter through the **Holy Doors of Mercy!** Visit Tre Fontane, Our Lady of Revelation, and St. Paul Outside the Wall. Overnight in Rome (4 nights Rome).
- April 2 General **Audience with Pope Francis**, St. John Lateran, St. Mary Majors, Holy Stairs, Mass at the Church of the Holy Cross, and more.
- April 3 Visit St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican Museum (optional) and more.
- April 4 Visit the Colosseum, lunch and shopping on your own, Pantheon, Tomb of St. Catherine of Sienna, and Trevi Fountain.
- April 5 Depart Rome for Monte Cassino (St. Benedict & St. Scholastica), visit St. Philomena Shrine, and Mass at St. Michael's Cave (2 night in San Giovanni Rotondo).
- April 6 Spend the day at Padre Pio in San Giovanni Rotondo – English office visit, tomb, museum, Mass, lunch and shopping.
- April 7 Depart for **Eucharistic Miracle** in Lanciano Mass, lunch, depart for Manoppello; Veronica's Veil and Shroud of Turin Exhibit (overnight near Manoppello).
- April 8 Depart for Holy House of Loreto – Mass and lunch on your own. Depart for St. Joseph of Cupertino visit. Depart for Assisi with visit to the Porziuncola that St. Francis built (2 nights Assisi).
- April 9 Visit Basilica of St. Francis – mass and basilica tour, visit church of St. Clare. Lunch and shopping on your own, see the tomb of **Blessed Carlo Acutis**.
- April 10 Depart for Orvieto – visit the Duomo of the **Eucharistic Miracle**, lunch on your own (overnight near Rome airport).
- April 11 Depart for USA.

**Price: \$3,795 - Land Only: \$2,895 Included:** Air Fare, Transportation, Lodging, and 2 Meals daily.

**Not included:** Tips of \$105, single room \$750, and baggage fees if airline does not include.

**Deposit \$200 to register. Second payment of \$1,200 is due November 4, 2024.**

**Final balance including tips is due Jan 13, 2024.**

**Other departure cities are available for a fee, please call us for additional airfare price.**

**Latecomers are encouraged to call and try to get on the trip.**

**Payment Includes:** Airfare, Hotel, Transportation, Bus, two meals daily, and Taxes.

**Not Included:** Tips-per person, Covid testing if required, insurance, lunches, alcoholic beverages, baggage fees, single room if requested, souvenirs & visa fees.

Printed price reflects a 3% cash discount.

**Priest on every trip.** Daily Mass & Rosary. Prices based on double occupancy & Chicago departures.

### Pilgrimage Form:

Print Clearly: include name (as is spelled on valid passport), address, phone and options preferred with your \$200 deposit.

(Include with deposit a copy of Passport photo page.)

Sign up by mail Checks payable to:  
Totally Yours Co.  
909 S. IL Route 83  
Elmhurst, IL 60126  
All credit cards accepted.

### Refund Policy:

Cancellations from departure date based on scheduled payments.

Before 210 days.... Full Refund (less Airfare bought)  
209-180 days, total less \$200  
179 - 120 days.... less \$500  
119 - 45 days....50%  
44 - 3 days....10%

\*If airline tickets have been purchased, the ticket cost will be fully deducted before the refund is deducted. Limited number of Priests Free. Religious Brothers and Sisters 33% off. Extra for single room if available.

### Travel Insurance & Visas:

For travel insurance, contact Travel Guard insurance at: **800-826-5248**

Be sure to give them the Group Code: 70558

US passport is required for travel.

**Non-US citizens** must contact our office at least 90 days before the pilgrimage for obtaining a visa. \$110 for assist plus direct embassy fee applies. (It is the responsibility of the traveler to obtain a Visa.) \*Pilgrimage Prices, Dates, and Locations are subject to change without notice.

Totally Yours Co. has a Limited Liability Policy.

**Disclaimer:** Totally Yours Co. offers special Catholic Spiritual Pilgrimages through a revocable license.

Offensive, immoral, or disruptive behavior is prohibited by any person on the pilgrimage. Additionally, Totally Yours reserves the right to decline admission to any person whose actions or conduct threaten the peaceful, undisturbed experience which pilgrims seek from their experience. Totally Yours Co. is not responsible for: acts of God, acts of terrorism, war, weather related events, or any other event beyond our control. For more details see Totally Yours Co. Liability Disclaimer & Assumption of Risk.

## Two Adult Faith Formation Opportunities!



### **Luke—The Story of Salvation Fulfilled**

Facilitated by Jane Brown – Beginning January 19 (English)

Sundays 11:00am – 12:15pm in Our Lady of Grace Education Building

**And**

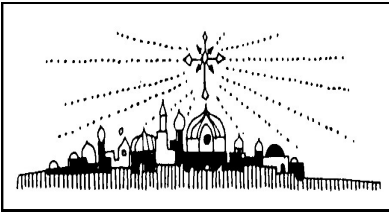
### **Church History – 2000 years in 3 sessions!**

Session 1 – January 19 – The Early Church and the Great Heresies

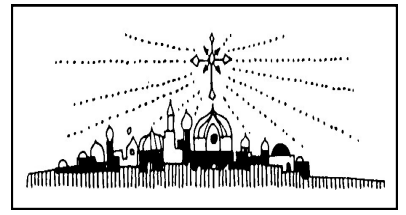
Session 2 – January 26 – The Middle Years – The Rise and Influence of the Monastic Movement

Session 3 – February 2 – The Modern Era – The Rise and Effect of the Reformation

All 3 sessions will take place in the Parish Hall at 5:00 pm and facilitated by Deacon Rich  
(English)



**Saint Paul The Apostle Catholic Church**  
**Our Calendar of Liturgical Celebrations**  
**2024-2025**



***Tuesday, December 24—Vigil of The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve)***

5:00PM Mass in English / 7:00PM Mass in Spanish

\*NO 12:15PM Daily Mass\*

***Wednesday, December 25—The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)***

10:00AM Mass in English / 12:30PM Mass in Spanish

\*NO 12:15PM Daily Mass / NO 7:15PM Weekly Mass\*

***Tuesday, December 31— Vigil of Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Eve)***

7:00PM Bilingual Mass

\*12:15PM Daily Mass\*

***Wednesday, January 1, 2024—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
(New Year's Day)***

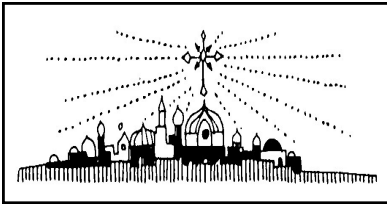
10:00AM Mass in English / 12:30 PM Mass in Spanish

\*NO 12:15PM Daily Mass / NO 7:15PM Weekly Mass\*

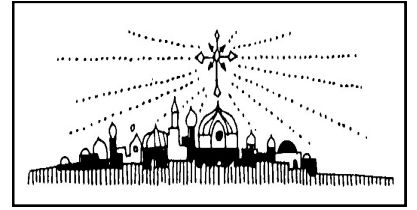
Holiday Office Hours—Closed from December 23, 2024 to January 1, 2025

Office reopens on Thursday, January 2, 2025 at 9:00AM

***We wish you and your loved ones Happy and Blessed Holidays!***



**Iglesia de San Pablo El Apostol**  
**Calendario de Celebraciones Litúrgicas**  
**2024-2025**



***martes, 24 de diciembre—Nochebuena***

5:00PM Ingles/ 7:00PM Español

\*NO habra misa de 12:15PM\*

***miercoles, 25 de diciembre—La Natividad del Señor (Navidad)***

10:00AM Misas en Inglés / 12:30PM Misa en Español

\*NO habra misa de 12:15PM / NO habra misa de 7:15PM

***Martes, 31 de diciembre—Vigilia de la Solemnidad de María, Madre de Dios***

7:00PM misa bilingüe

\*misa de 12:15PM\*

***miercoles, 1 de enero del 2024—Solemnidad de María, Madre de Dios  
(Año Nuevo)***

10:00AM Misas en Inglés / 12:30PM Misa en Español

\*NO habra misa de 12:15PM / NO habra misa de 7:15PM

Horario Navideño de Oficina—Cerrado del 23 de Diciembre, 2024 al 1 de Enero,  
2025

La oficina reabre el jueves , 2 de enero del 2025 a las 9:00AM

**¡Le deseamos a usted y su familia paz y bendiciones y una Feliz Navidad!**