



Center for Spiritual Development

Daily Reflections

Image by Christine Sponchia

ST. PAUL'S PASSION

By Sr. Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ

Today's First Reading

Brothers and sisters: I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh, I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his Body, which is the Church, of which I am a minister in accordance with God's stewardship given to me to bring to completion for you the word of God, the mystery hidden from ages and from generations past. But now it has been manifested to his holy ones, to whom God chose to make known the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; it is Christ in you, the hope for glory. It is he whom we proclaim, admonishing everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. For this I labor and struggle, in accord with the exercise of his power working within me.

For I want you to know how great a struggle I am having for you and for those in Laodicea and all who have not seen me face to face, that their hearts may be encouraged as they are brought together in love, to have all the richness of assured understanding, for the knowledge of the mystery of God,

Reflection

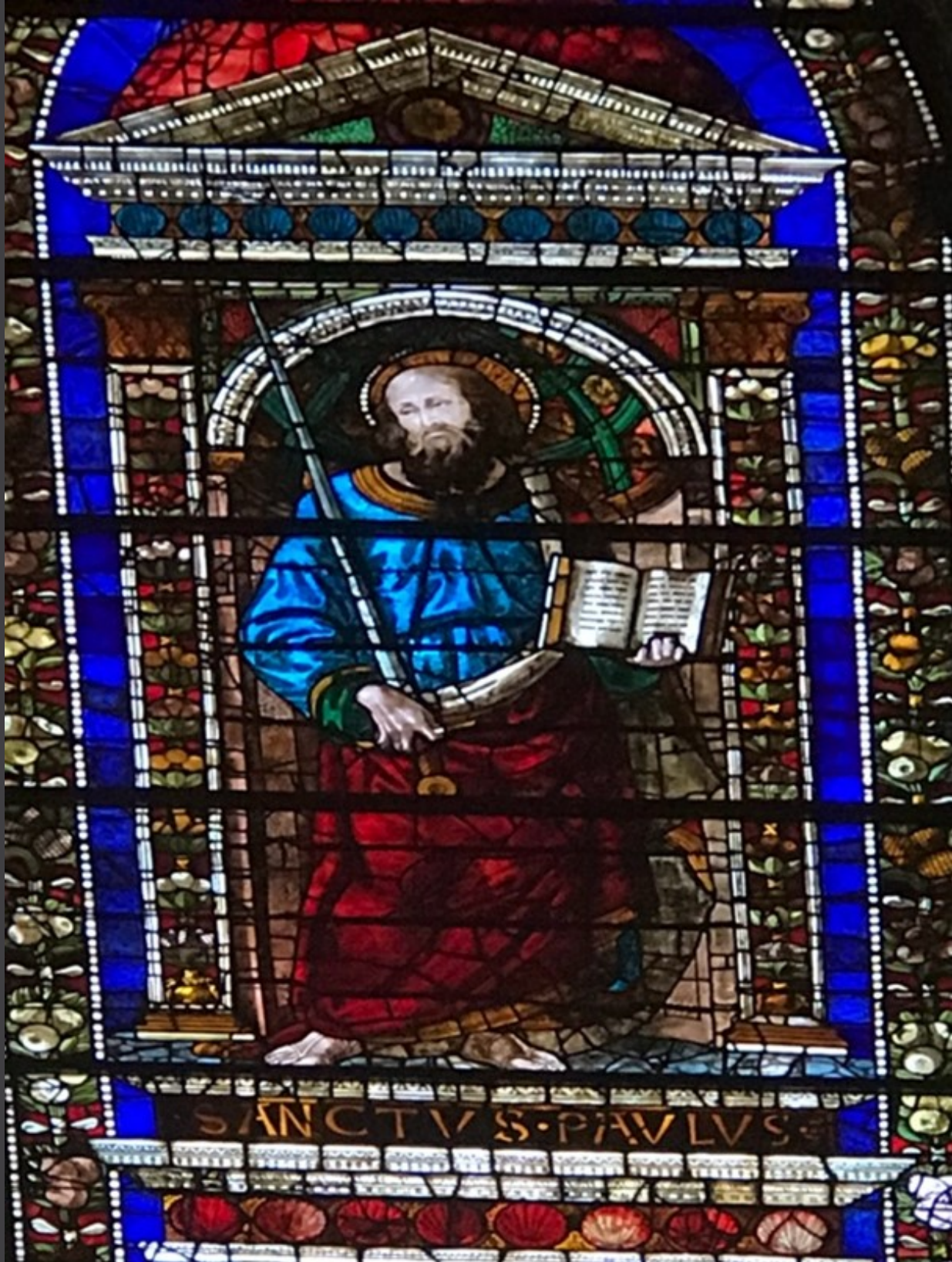
St. Paul has always been an inspiration in my life because of his story of conversion and his dogged determination to spread the Good News even at his own peril. I share this prayer to honor his influence in my own life and I hope something in it speaks to you.

St. Paul Inspires

St. Paul, your passion for mission continues to inspire the faithful from generation to generation. Let us give voice to the love that dwells deep within us, a wellspring of energy that transforms our being and ignites a burning desire to serve.

St. Paul, you summoned others to gather in love, reminding the people (and us) that they have the “richness and assured understanding for the knowledge of the mystery of God, Christ, in whom are hidden the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”

St. Paul, we walk in faith as you once did, open to God’s unfolding mystery in our life and time. May we trust as you trusted, proclaim boldly as you proclaimed, and live fully our life as disciples. We do so knowing that peril might befall us though God will remain with us, always.



Basilica of San Maria Novella in Florence, Italy
Photo by Sr. Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ

For Pondering

- How does God's mystery unfold through you?
 - Who inspires you in your faith journey?
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For Prayer

*O God who calls each of us by name,
may our impact upon others be gentle, loving, and inspirational.
May we embrace Your mystery unfolding within us
and all of creation.
Let us go forth with bold faith to proclaim the Good News!
Amen.*

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