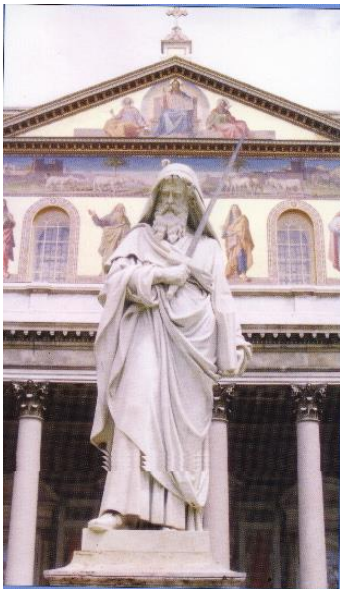


Cost

Cost 2020: \$750.00 for the 6 day retreat
\$50.00 deposit confirms the booking.
For a shorter stay the cost is \$125.00 per
night

All tariffs are negotiable

In 2004 I published "*New Testament Letters Volume 1: Saint Paul: an introductory commentary*" (Chevalier Press, 02 9662 7894). The book is available for purchase from the secretary's office. Cost: \$50.00 (769 pages).



Application Forms available from:
the website:

<http://towersretreat.org.au>

or

The Administrator
St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre
PO Box 19A
Douglas Park 2569
Ph. 02 4630 0233

Email: contact@towersretreat.org.au

Keynote Presentations available

Go to my website homepage

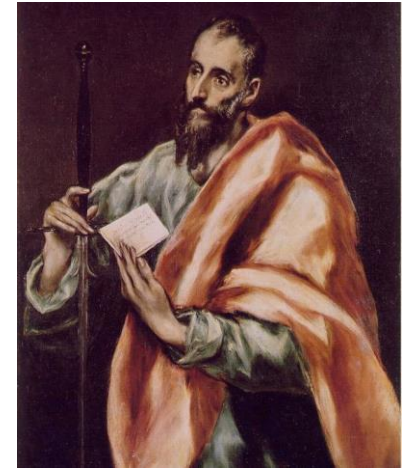
www.mbfallon.com

Go to the left menu and click on
New Testament, then on Paul.

Scroll down to '4. Paul's
Letters:Retreats'.

The intention is to record the
presentations and to make these
available also on the same site.

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians



Saint Paul: El Greco

**St Mary's Towers
Douglas Park**

**Presenter:
Fr Michael Fallon msc**

**6 day Guided Retreat
October 16-22, 2020**

The final sentence in Paul's Letter to the Ephesians reads: 'Grace be with all who have an undying love for our Lord Jesus Christ' (Ephesians 6:24).

Paul speaks of 'undying love'. Perhaps, in view of this being his farewell to the Gentile communities of the East before he leaves for Rome and the West, Paul speaks of their love as 'undying' because he is thinking of eternity and our undying communion with Christ when we are raised into glory with an immortal body like his.

Perhaps he is thinking of Christ now living in this state, untouched by death, and he is reflecting on the truth that Christian love, even now, causes us to transcend death, because it is our share in the risen life.

If Paul is writing from prison in Caesarea, and if this letter is intended as a summary of his gospel and as a final gift to the Gentile Christians in the East, it could have no more fitting conclusion.

We are frequently conscious when reading Paul of his passionate concern for the unity and the catholicity of the Christian community, but nowhere else does he argue the case for both so compellingly. Nowhere else are we as aware of Paul the teacher insisting on the importance of knowing that a church, rich in diversity and all-embracing in its love, is at the heart of God's eternal design for the human race.

If it was his imprisonment that gave him the space, and if it was

the thought of leaving his missions in the East that gave him the motivation, and if it was the freedom from controversy or the need to attend to the questions and problems of a particular church that gave him the opportunity to reflect upon and share this conviction, we can only thank God's providence. For what we have in the extraordinary power, clarity and beauty of this letter is a most precious gift from the brilliant mind and most loving heart of this faithful apostle of Christ.

