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The Spirituality Committee of the  
Catholic Bar Association presents  
a Book Review of

## SAINT PAUL

By Pope Benedict XVI

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Catholic Lawyers Guild of Kansas City

Today we celebrate the Feast of Ss. Peter and Paul, commemorating their respective deaths on this date circa 64 A.D. The former was crucified upside-down; whereas the latter, being a Roman citizen, was afforded a swifter death by decapitation. The blood they spilled, along with those of all the First Holy Martyrs, whose feast day we celebrate today, fertilized the seeds of the Early Church.

In his book on Saint Paul, the late Pope Benedict XVI explores the life and legacy of the most prolific of the Apostles. It reads as much a pensive meditation by a trained theologian as it does a historical inquest

into the subtler aspects of St. Paul's biography. Pope Benedict XVI accomplishes his objective to "enflesh" the man who has been so shrouded in mystery over twenty centuries by shining light in the more obscure dimensions of his life.

As much in death as in life does St. Paul inspire the faithful with his perennial teachings and his tireless dedication to evangelization and spreading far and wide the message of the Gospel. As Catholics, we should follow his example of fidelity to God that does not sacrifice—indeed, it greatly strengthens—compassion for neighbor. As lawyers, we should imitate his orthodox adherence and surrender to Truth in the face of ridicule, ostracization, and even death.

*Saint Paul* by Pope Benedict is widely available in paperback, hardcover and electronically.