

On January 25th we will celebrate the conversion of a religious fanatic who was bent on destroying the Christians of his day. He was a fanatic who took great pride in his religious righteousness. A fanatic who felt that his attacking the Christians was God's will. That fanatic was St. Paul. January 25th also marks the close of the Octave of Christian Unity, a time of conversion of minds and wills. It has been set aside as eight days of prayer that the Church will be one. It is an invitation to all Christians for reflection, prayer, study and dialogue.

Over these eight days I invite you to join together with women and men from your parish or neighborhood, people who seek to find the unity that Christ desires for the Church. The Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission has again made available on the internet a way for us to join in the significance of these eight days, this octave (you will find it at www.archdiocesasantafe.org). This site contains helpful materials for you to gather in prayer, to study the documents on Church unity, to join in song and to share in fast and feast as ways to discover what makes us truly one, truly the Church.

Please set aside time before January 18th to find ways to find ways that you can foster ecumenism with friends, co-workers, relatives. The Octave of Christian Unity is something each one of us can do to foster ecumenism, but we need to take the time. May the witness of St. Paul, his conversion to the Faith, show us the way to be One, for it was Christ's own prayer for us –“that all may be one.”

BOX

The Octave of Christian Unity January 18-25, 2006	
Day	Theme
I	Study Day: What does the Catholic Church Teach us about Ecumenism?
II	The Word of God Makes Us One
III	Day of Fast
IV	Sing a New Song to the Lord
V	Christ Be Our Light
VI	Day of Personal Prayer
VII	Ecumenical Prayer and Pot Luck
VIII	We Believe: Creed & Conversion
More information & details on line at http://www.archdiocesasantafe.org/	