

from the children of Christ at Christ Our Hope Church in Westpoint
to our well-beloved Bishop, Dan:

Christmas Eve
A.D. 2013

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Remembering the words of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the 25th Chapter of St. Matthew's Gospel, from the 31st to the 40th verse, namely,

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

We, the undersigned, by these presents petition you to sponsor, to grant us authority to found, and to take under your protection the Order of St. Paul in Chains, according to the Sixteenth Chapter of Acts, to dedicate ourselves and all those who join us to carry the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his Holy Sacraments into prisons and jails.

Our membership is open to all baptized Christians who vow to take the Gospel with the Lord's Supper and Holy Baptism into jails and prisons for the inmates at least four times a year in person, or, if providentially hindered from entering places of imprisonment themselves, to pray faithfully for God's blessing on our work, his mighty protection, and grace to fulfill our vow.

The Order of St. Paul in Chains will have no property or headquarters, except in the hearts of its members.

The Order of St. Paul in Chains will raise no money, although its local members may take donations for their own ministry such as Bibles for inmates, supplies for worship services, and whatever else is needful to the ministry's needs.

In its worship services the Order of St. Paul in Chains will offer Holy Baptism and Holy Communion to all inmates at the Table of Christ without regard to denomination.

If you grant our request, we will devise and present for your approval a suitable rule for the order.

Respectfully yours in Christ,

Franklin + Sunday
J. David Green
Justin Sanders
Wendy Spivey

John R. Ben
James Peader
M. H. Hall