

## Novena for Paolo Fourth Day

### From the Epistles of Saint Paul

For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. 21 I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing! [...]

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

*Gal 2:19-21, 5:1*

### From the Surat Al-Baqarah (The Cow)

لَا إِكْرَاهَ فِي الدِّينِ قَدْ تَبَيَّنَ الرُّشْدُ مِنَ الْغَيِّ فَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ  
بِالطَّاغُوتِ وَيُؤْمِرْ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدْ اسْتَمْسَكَ بِالْعُرْوَةِ الْوُثْقَى لَا  
أَنْفِصَامَ لَهَا وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ

There shall be no compulsion in [acceptance of] the religion. The right course has become clear from the wrong. So whoever disbelieves in Taghut and believes in God has grasped the most trustworthy handhold with no break in it. And God is Hearing and Knowing.

*Translation Salih International*

## Words from Paolo

“The first priority should be to protect the freedom of opinion and the freedom of expression in the Syrian civil society, because without it, it is impossible to pursue other objectives on which depends the national pacification.”

*Open Letter to Kofi Annan, May 2012*

Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing  
And rightdoing there is a field.  
I'll meet you there.

When the soul lies down in that grass  
The world is too full to talk about.

(Rumi)