

June 29, 2009



[The Vatican](#) has designated the Cathedral of Saint Paul to be the first national shrine in honor of the [Apostle Paul](#). This will be the first national shrine in the State of Minnesota and the only national shrine in North America dedicated to honor Saint Paul.

According to canon (church) law, "The term shrine signifies a church or other sacred place to which the faithful make pilgrimages for a particular pious reason with the approval of the local ordinary (bishop)."

As Twin Cities Archbishop Nienstedt pointed out to the Vatican in his request for the shrine designation, tens of thousands of people already visit the Cathedral every year. Of course with the new designation, the Cathedral staff is expecting the numbers of visitors to increase further.