

Dear friends:

Like many others, we have been concerned and saddened by the increasing climate of confrontation in the Church we love. We believe that much of the trouble began with miscommunication and misunderstanding, but has moved beyond to a spirit of distrust and judgment. We are deeply discouraged at the prospect of hurtful collisions between parties who may have ceased trying to listen and understand with as much good will as the gospel suggests.

Believing in the power of fasting and prayer, we have chosen Saturday, September 11, as a day for us to fast and pray for understanding and reconciliation within the Church. We invite any and all who share our concerns to fast with us on that day. We are not suggesting a fast so that our own points of view may prevail. We recognize that our own perspectives are imperfect and believe that God can lead us to greater understanding. Rather, we will be praying that the spirit of charity, which Christ has promised to those who prayerfully seek it, may be more abundantly present in all of our dealings as brothers and sisters.

In making this invitation, we are acting only as concerned individuals. We represent no group, nor do we plan to form a group. We make absolutely no claim of Church sponsorship of our actions, nor do we mean to imply criticism of any individual or point of view. For us, this is one attempt to do something positive.

Sincerely,

  
Paul Anderson

  
David Alfred

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