



JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMS OF HOPE

WELCOME TO JUBILEE YEAR 2025!

“Hope does not disappoint”

- Romans 5:5

WHAT IS A JUBILEE YEAR?

A jubilee year is a time of joy, repentance, and forgiveness. As the etymology of the word denotes, every jubilee year calls for rejoicing, especially in the goodness of God. Just as a person might celebrate a milestone birthday with particular solemnity, so does the Church rejoice at appropriate moments in time. In the Catholic Church, ordinary jubilee years occur every quarter century. The Holy Father can also inaugurate an extraordinary jubilee year, which Pope Francis did in 2016 under the title the “Jubilee Year of Mercy.”

In the papal bull, *Spes Non Confundit*, Pope Francis inaugurated the Jubilee Year of 2025, which he named the Jubilee of Hope.

During a jubilee year, Christians cooperate with the bounty of divine grace as they strive to enter through the door of salvation, which is Jesus Christ. During

this time, the Church invites the faithful to benefit from her “treasury of grace,” won by the merits of Christ. This principally occurs through conversion in the Sacrament of Penance and the remission of the temporal punishment due to sin through plenary indulgences, applied either for oneself or for others (such as deceased relatives or friends).

WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF THE JUBILEE YEAR?

In the Old Testament, the Jewish people celebrated a jubilee year every 50 years, as recounted in the Book of Leviticus (Lv 25:8-13). God intended the jubilee as a time to re-establish his chosen people’s right relationship with Himself. The jubilee included the forgiveness of debts, the return of misappropriated land, liberty for captives, and a fallow period for agriculture.

In 1300, Pope Boniface VIII inaugurated the first jubilee year, or holy year, for the universal Church. The frequency of holy years changed over time: at first, they were celebrated every 100 years; later, in 1343 Pope Clement VI reduced the gap between jubilees to every 50 years, and in 1470 Pope Paul II established that jubilees would be celebrated every 25 years.

WHAT IS A HOLY DOOR?

In the Catholic tradition, the holy door represents the path to new and eternal life, which was opened to humanity by Jesus, who is himself the door to salvation. In 2025, Pope Francis will open five holy doors beginning with the holy door at the Basilica of St. Peter at the Vatican and concluding with the other papal basilicas in Rome and an Italian prison. Cathedrals will not have special holy doors as they did in 2016 during the Jubilee of Mercy. Nevertheless, diocesan cathedrals and other “jubilee sites” will serve as places of pilgrimage and pious visits for the faithful, who can gain the same plenary indulgences under the normal conditions.

“We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire...”

- Pope Francis’ letter announcing
Jubilee 2025

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or go to provd.io/jubilee



WHAT IS AN INDULGENCE?

An indulgence is the remission of temporal punishment due to sin, which is won by the merits of Christ and dispensed through the treasury of grace, which is the Church. An indulgence is applied partially or fully for oneself or for another.

When a person celebrates the Sacrament of Penance, that person obtains forgiveness for his sins. This includes having contrition for one's sins, confessing those sins to a priest, receiving absolution, and promising to make satisfaction (through an assigned Penance). Although one's sin may be absolved and a person is free of eternal punishment, some effects of sin still remain. Those effects require additional satisfaction. Consider a helpful analog: in the natural order, if I steal my neighbor's bike, he might forgive me, which makes us friends again. But in order for our relationship to be fully restored, I need to return the bike to my friend. In the same way, we must return to God what belongs to him—right praise and worship, which we have sullied by our sins.

The Church therefore teaches that all who die in God's grace and friendship, but are still imperfectly purified—while assured of their eternal salvation—must undergo purification after death in order to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church calls this temporal punishment Purgatory. A partial indulgence remits some of the temporal punishment due to sin, whereas a plenary indulgence remits all of the temporal punishment due to sin.

An indulgence is a favor befitting the magnanimity and goodness of God who never ceases to pardon. We are not “owed” indulgences; they are gifts from the treasury of the Church for the benefit of the faithful.

HOW CAN I OBTAIN A PLENARY INDULGENCE?

Although several pious actions (such as praying before the Blessed Sacrament for thirty minutes or reciting the Holy Rosary in a church) render one disposed to receive a plenary indulgence during any time, there are several more opportunities to benefit from a plenary indulgence during the Jubilee Year of 2025.

In order to obtain a plenary indulgence, **one must perform some “indulged action,”** such as a pious visit, pilgrimage, or work of mercy as determined by the Church (these actions are listed below), **and also fulfill the following conditions:**

1. Receive Holy Communion
2. Receive the Sacrament of Penance before receiving Holy Communion (usually within 8 days), or after receiving Holy Communion (if one does not labor under mortal sin—again, usually within 8 days)
3. Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father (typically, by saying an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be; though any simple prayer suffices)
4. Be properly disposed through detachment from all sin, both mortal and venial



YOU CAN OBTAIN INDULGENCE(S) BY COMPLETING INDULGENCED ACTIONS

Indulged Actions include:

MAKE A PILGRIMAGE

The faithful will be able to obtain the Jubilee Indulgence if they undertake a pious pilgrimage to any of the Jubilee sites (e.g., one of the four major basilicas in the city of Rome, one of the three basilicas in the Holy Land, or the Cathedral Church or another church designated by the local Ordinary). **In the Diocese of Providence, the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul, Providence, will serve as the local Jubilee site.**

Upon making the pilgrimage, the faithful can:

1. Participate in any Holy Mass, including, but not limited to: Jubilee Mass, Votive Mass for Reconciliation, or a Mass for the conferral of the sacraments of Christian Initiation or the Anointing of the Sick
2. Participate in a celebration of the Word of God; the Liturgy of the Hours (office of readings, lauds, vespers); the Via Crucis; the Holy Rosary; the recitation of the Akathist hymn; a penitential celebration, which ends with the individual confessions of the penitents.

MAKE A PIOUS VISIT TO A SACRED PLACE (SUCH AS OUR CATHEDRAL)

The faithful can obtain the jubilee indulgence if, individually or in a group, they devoutly visit a Jubilee site (such as **the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul**, Providence), and for a suitable period of time:

3. Engage in Eucharistic adoration and meditation
4. Conclude adoration with an Our Father, the Profession of Faith, and invocations to Mary, the Mother of God

In the Diocese of Providence, the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul, the local Jubilee site, offers Eucharistic adoration every Sunday from 12 noon-1 p.m., at which time Sunday Mass commences. Adoration is also offered on the First Friday of each month beginning at 12:30 p.m.

The Cathedral offers the Sacrament of Penance Monday-Friday 11-11:45 a.m., Saturday afternoon from 4-4:45 p.m., Sunday morning from 9-9:45 a.m., Sunday afternoon from 12-12:45 p.m., Sunday evening from 5-5:45 p.m. and by appointment by calling 401-331-2434.

PERFORM WORKS OF MERCY AND PENANCE

The faithful will also be able to obtain the Jubilee Indulgence if they visit, for an appropriate amount of time, their brothers and sisters who are in need or in difficulty (the sick, prisoners, lonely elderly people, disabled people), thus making a pilgrimage to Christ present in them. The faithful can repeat these visits throughout the Holy Year, acquiring a plenary indulgence each time.

PARTICIPATE IN A MISSION, SPIRITUAL EXERCISE OR FORMATION ACTIVITY

The faithful will be able to obtain the Jubilee Indulgence if, with a devout spirit, they participate in “popular missions, spiritual exercises, or formation activities on the documents of the Second Vatican Council and the Catechism of the Catholic Church,” held in a church or another suitable place, according to the mind of the Holy Father.

WHAT IF I AM HOMEBOUND?

The faithful who are truly repentant of sin but who cannot participate in the various solemn celebrations or pious visits for serious reasons (especially cloistered nuns and monks, the elderly, sick, prisoners, and others who provide continuous care for the sick), can obtain the Jubilee Indulgence under the same conditions if, united in spirit with the faithful taking part in person, they recite the Our Father, the Profession of Faith, and other prayers in conformity with the objectives of the Holy Year, in their homes or wherever they are confined, offering up their sufferings or the hardship of their lives.



PARTICIPATING IN THE JUBILEE YEAR IN THE DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE

VISIT THE JUBILEE SITE IN RHODE ISLAND

Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903 (GPS: 30 Fenner St.).

401-331-2434 | providencecathedral.org

ADORATION AT THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

1. Sundays from Noon to 1 p.m.

2. First Friday of each month beginning at 12:30 p.m. with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; 2 p.m. Recitation of the Holy Rosary; 2:45 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet; 3 p.m. Reposition

CONFESSION AT THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

3. Monday through Friday 11 - 11:45 a.m.

4. Saturday afternoon 4 - 4:45 p.m.

5. Sunday morning 9 - 9:45 a.m.

6. Sunday afternoon 12 noon to 12:45 p.m.

7. Sunday evening 5 - 5:45 p.m.

8. Or by appointment by calling 401-331-2434

HOW TO GAIN AN INDULGENCE DURING THIS JUBILEE YEAR

1. Perform an indulgenced action:

- Pious visits to jubilee sites (e.g., Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul)
- Pilgrimages to jubilee sites (e.g., Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul)
- Works of mercy and penance
- Formation or Spiritual Exercises

2. Go to Confession

3. Receive Holy Communion

4. Pray for the Intentions of the Holy Father

5. Remain detached from venial and mortal sin

For a deeper understanding of the Jubilee of Hope information above, as well as videos, prayers, resources, and more for this Holy Year, we invite you to read the Jubilee 2025 Q&A from the Diocese of Providence's Office of Divine Worship at <https://provd.io/jubilee>.

READ MORE ONLINE: Scan the QR code



or go to provd.io/jubilee

