

WHAT IS A JUBILEE?

A Jubilee year is a practice rooted in Jewish tradition; every 50 years, a special year was called that emphasized the providence and mercy of God. The Catholic Church has adopted this practice by having ordinary Jubilee years every 25 years. These years provide Catholics with an opportunity to reflect upon specific themes that are meant to renew faith and to draw people into deeper relationship with God and with one another. In speaking of this Jubilee's theme, "Pilgrims of Hope," Pope Francis writes in the Bull of Indiction, "May the witness of believers be for our world a leaven of authentic hope, a harbinger of new heavens and a new earth (cf. 2 Pet 3:13), where men and women will dwell in justice and harmony, in joyful expectation of the fulfilment of the Lord's promises." The 2025 Jubilee opened in Rome on December 24, 2024, and in our diocese on December 29, 2024. It will close on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6, 2026.



Other Pilgrimage Sites in the Diocese of Venice



Epiphany
Cathedral
310 Sarasota
Street, Venice



St. John XXIII Parish
13060 Palomino Lane,
Fort Myers



St. Paul Parish
1330 East Oak
Street, Arcadia



Our Lady of
Perpetual Help
Retreat Center
3989 South Moon
Drive, Venice



St. John the Evangelist Church
625 111th Ave N
Naples, FL 34108
239.566.8740
sjecc.com

Jubilee 2025 St. John the Evangelist Naples, FL



THE JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE

An essential part of a Jubilee celebration is a pilgrimage. For the 2025 Jubilee, the Holy Father has asked all bishops around the world to designate their cathedral and other sites in their dioceses as pilgrimage destinations, where the faithful may gain the Jubilee indulgence and unite themselves spiritually with the Holy Father and those making a pilgrimage to Rome, the typical Jubilee pilgrimage destination. A pilgrimage is an outward expression of an eternal reality. When we move ourselves from one place to another, we remind ourselves that we are on a journey to Heaven, and that our lives here on Earth are a journey of continual conversion toward God and His Will. The difficulties that we may face in our pilgrimage travels (bad weather, fatigue, lack of sleep, for example) remind us of the difficulties that we encounter on our way to eternal life. Ultimately, though, these difficulties can be for our good and for the good of others, if we offer them to God in a spirit of acceptance and patience.



The following conditions must be met in order to obtain a plenary indulgence:

- 1) **Detachment from all sin**, including venial sin (if detachment is imperfect, a partial indulgence is granted)
- 2) **Receiving Holy Communion** (ideally the day that you do the indulgenced work, but 20 days before or after is sufficient)
- 3) **Going to Confession** (again, ideally the day you do the work, but within 20 days is sufficient)
- 4) **Praying for the intentions of the Pope** (typically with an Our Father and a Hail Mary)

HOW TO OBTAIN THE JUBILEE INDULGENCE

While there are opportunities for gaining the Jubilee indulgence all over the world, the Diocese of Venice offers the following local options for the prescribed work:

- 1) **PILGRIMAGE**: Make a pilgrimage to any of our five diocesan Jubilee sites and, while there, take part in one of the following: Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours (Office of Readings, Morning Prayer, or Evening Prayer), the Stations of the Cross, the Rosary, or a communal penance service with individual Confession.
- 2) **PIOUS VISIT**: Make a pious visit to any of our five diocesan Jubilee sites and, while there, engage in Eucharistic Adoration or prayerful meditation for a suitable length of time, finishing with an Our Father, the Creed, and any prayer to Mary.

3) **SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE**: If you are unable to travel to a Jubilee site for serious reasons (illness, age, imprisonment, being cloistered, being a caregiver, etc.), you can obtain the indulgence by making a “spiritual pilgrimage,” uniting your prayers and intentions to those taking part in pilgrimages and reciting an Our Father and a Creed.

4) **WORKS OF MERCY OR PENANCE**: Take part in any of the following works of mercy or penance: participating in a mission, spiritual exercise, or similar formation activity related to the documents of Vatican II or the Catechism; carrying out an act of charity on behalf of the souls in Purgatory; visiting the sick, imprisoned, elderly, or disabled; fasting from futile distractions or unnecessary consumption one day a week; giving to the poor; engaging in charitable and justice initiatives. The Jubilee indulgence can be granted between December 29, 2024 and January 6, 2026. An indulgence can be applied to yourself or to someone who has died, but it cannot be applied to another living person.

