

Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope



Some key aspects for parishes

- ❖ A **JUBILEE** – or Holy – Year is marked **every 25 years** by the Universal Church as a time of dedicated prayer so as to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.
- ❖ The theme for the Jubilee Year is '**PILGRIMS OF HOPE**'. This theme invites us to recognise the Christian hope that is at the centre of our faith, a hope we carry with us into every experience of our life. It also encourages each of us to be messengers of hope in our very troubled world.
- ❖ Time line: **24 Dec 2024 – 6 January 2026**
- ❖ The Jubilee Year 2025 opened in Rome on Christmas Eve, 24 Dec, with the opening of the **HOLY DOOR** in St Peter's Basilica by Pope Francis after the celebration of Mass in St Peter's Square. Further doors were opened at the basilicas of St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major and St. Paul Outside the Walls in Rome.
Unlike in the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, holy doors opened in Rome in this Jubilee.
- ❖ The opening of the Holy Year was marked universally and also in a liturgy celebrated by our Diocesan Bishop Vincent Zungu, at St Augustine's Cathedral in Gqeberha, on **FRIDAY, 10 JANUARY**.
- ❖ At parish level the launch of the Jubilee Year 2025, **Pilgrims of Hope** will be observed and celebrated on the Solemnity of the Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ on the **12th of January**. The Jubilee candle received from St Augustine's Cathedral would be welcomed, received during the entrance procession and placed in a suitable place where it is clearly visible.
- ❖ The **JUBILEE LOGO** is rich in meaning. A poster with an explanation can be seen on page 2
- ❖ Pope Francis has offered a **PRAYER** in anticipation for the year, see below on page 3.
- ❖ A **HYMN** has been composed for the year. One can search for it on YouTube. See page 3.
- ❖ As with other jubilee years, a **PLENARY INDULGENCE** will be granted following participation in pilgrimages to designated pilgrim sites in the course of the Holy Year.



Jubilee of Hope Logo

The cross of Christ is the hope that cannot ever be abandoned because we are always in need of it, especially in the most difficult moments.

The Cross, in the shape of a sail, is transformed into an anchor that imposes itself over the waves in motion. A universal symbol of Hope.

The figures represent humanity from the four corners of the World. They are embracing each other to illustrate the solidarity between the peoples, as the first holds onto the cross.

The rough sea is a reminder of the difficulties of the pilgrimage of life. Often, personal events as well as those of the world, press on us more intensely, demanding a greater hope.



DICASTERY FOR EVANGELIZATION
SECTION FOR FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS
REGARDING EVANGELIZATION IN THE WORLD

The Jubilee Prayer:

Father in heaven,
may the faith you
have given us
in your son,
Jesus Christ,
our brother,
and the flame of charity
enkindled in our hearts
by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the
blessed hope for the coming
of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the
seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform
from within both humanity
and the whole cosmos in the
sure expectation of a new
heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil
vanquished, your
glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of
Hope, a yearning for the
treasures of heaven.

May the same grace spread
the joy and peace of our
Redeemer throughout the
earth.

To you our God, eternally
blessed, be glory and
praise for ever. Amen.

Pope Francis



The Jubilee Hymn:

Like a flame my hope
is burning,
may my song arise to you:
Source of life that has
no ending,
on life's path I trust in you.

Ev'ry nation, tongue,
and people find a light
within your Word.
Scattered fragile sons and
daughters find a home in
your dear Son.

Like a flame.....

God, so tender and so
patient, dawn of hope,
you care for all. Heav'n and
earth are recreated by the
Spirit of Life set free.

Like a flame.....

Raise your eyes, the wind is
blowing, for our God is born
in time.

Son made man for you and
many who will find the way
in him.

Like a flame.....

How to obtain the Jubilee Indulgence



Firstly, meet the following conditions:

<p>1.</p>  <p>Detachment from all sin, even venial</p>	<p>2.</p>  <p>Sacramental confession Holy Communion One Our Father for the intentions of the pope</p>
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The conditions in number 2 can be fulfilled a few days before or after performing the works below to gain the indulgence, but it is appropriate that Communion and the prayer take place on the same day that the work is completed.

Complete one of the following six works:

 <p>Undertake a pious pilgrimage to one of the Diocesan Sacred Sites and completing one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. devoutly participating in Holy Mass or the Anointing of the Sickb. a celebration of the Word of God;c. the Liturgy of the Hoursd. the Way of the Cross;e. the Marian Rosary;f. a penitential celebration, which ends with the individual confessions of the penitents.	 <p>Carry out a corporal or spiritual work of mercy</p>
 <p>By devoutly visiting one of the Diocesan Sacred Sites</p> <p>For a suitable period of time, engage in Eucharistic adoration and meditation, concluding with the Our Father, the Apostles Creed, and the Hail Mary.</p>	 <p>Participate in Missions, Spiritual Exercises or formation activities,</p> <p>with a devout spirit, on the documents of the Second Vatican Council and the Catechism of the Catholic Church, held in a church or other suitable place.</p>
 <p>Those who are sick or cannot participate for serious reasons, can obtain the Jubilee Indulgence</p> <p>If, united in spirit with the faithful taking part in person, they recite the Our Father, the Apostles Creed and the Jubilee Prayer, offering up their sufferings or the hardships of their lives.</p>	<p>Sacred destinations of pilgrimage for the Jubilee 2025 in the Eastern Cape:</p> <p>See next page</p>

Except from Bishop Zungu's Pastoral Letter 2025 dated 17 Dec 2024:

Our Holy Father Pope Francis encourages us to become Pilgrims of Hope by undertaking pilgrimages to various holy sites: Churches, shrines, places of spiritual importance both locally and abroad, depending on our means.

Here in our Catholic diocese the following places have been established by the Bishop as sacred destinations of pilgrimage for the Jubilee Year:

- ❖ **St Augustine's Cathedral and St Luke's Retreat Centre in the deanery of Port Elizabeth;**
- ❖ **Immaculate Conception and St Pius Retreat Centre in the deanery of East London;**
- ❖ **Sacred Heart on Albert Street in Qonce (King William's Town),**
- ❖ **St Patrick's in Makhanda (Grahamstown) and the**
- ❖ **Church of the Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven in KwaNojoli (Somerset East) for Border/Midlands deaneries respectively.**

We are called to sow the seeds of hope and to build peace in our hearts, homes, families, church communities, workplaces, neighbourhoods, country, continent and in the world at large.

“Those who go on pilgrimage seek above all to keep their eyes fixed on the goal, to keep it always in their heart and mind. To achieve that goal, however, they need to concentrate on every step, which means travelling light, getting rid of what weighs them down, carrying only the essentials and striving daily to set aside all weariness, fear, uncertainty and hesitation. Being a pilgrim means setting out each day, beginning ever anew, rediscovering the enthusiasm and strength needed to pursue the various stages of a journey that, however tiring and difficult, always opens before our eyes new horizons and previously unknown vistas” (Message of Pope Francis for the 61st World Day of Prayer for Vocations, 21st April 2024)

May God bless all of you in every step of the way as Pilgrims of Hope, builders of peace and bearers of Good News.

Yours in Christ

Bishop Vincent Mduduzi Zungu OFM