

“PILGRIMS OF HOPE” 2025 JUBILEE YEAR



Program for parish
and deanery councils

devised by the archdiocesan
Jubilee Committee





“PILGRIMS OF HOPE” 2025 JUBILEE YEAR

Tables of Contents

Jubilee Year overview	4
Instructions for program	5
Jubilee events: Calendar	6-9
Jubilee events: Reconciliation services	10
Jubilee events: Marian Pilgrimage	11
Jubilee events: Archdiocesan Jubilee Mass	12





“PILGRIMS OF HOPE” 2025 JUBILEE YEAR

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 that 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

Franciscus





“PILGRIMS OF HOPE” 2025 JUBILEE YEAR

What is a Jubilee Year?

A jubilee year is proclaimed by the Pope, generally every 25 or 50 years, usually with a particular theme attached to it. During that year a variety of events, initiatives and activities are celebrated, such as pilgrimages to holy sites, devotions, etc. Since the 1300s, jubilees have been a continuing tradition in the Church.

The notion of a jubilee dates all the way back to the Book of Leviticus. There, jubilee years are described as being celebrated every 50 years by the ancient Israelites, during which slaves and prisoners would be freed, debts would be forgiven and God would manifest His mercy in particular ways.

The Church continues to emphasize these themes of God’s mercy, reconciliation and conversion in its jubilee years.



The theme for the 2025 Jubilee Year

The Holy See has announced that this Jubilee Year 2025 will have as its theme “Pilgrims of Hope”. This theme calls us to reflect on how we can exemplify the theological virtue of hope even amidst a world as troubled as our own.

As Pope Francis stated in his Bull of Indiction announcing this Jubilee Year: “By his perennial presence in the life of the pilgrim Church, the Holy Spirit illumines all believers with the light of hope. He keeps that light burning, like an ever-burning lamp, to sustain and invigorate our lives... Christian hope does not deceive or disappoint because it is grounded in the certainty that nothing and no one may ever separate us from God’s love.”



“PILGRIMS OF HOPE” 2025 JUBILEE YEAR

Program for parish and deanery councils



Over the course of the 2025 “Pilgrims of Hope” Jubilee Year, the Catholic Church is proposing a multitude of individual jubilee celebrations.

In this program, we have provided a number of these jubilees that may be most appropriate for our archdiocese, alongside some suggestions of what you can do to commemorate these jubilees.

Please review this program with your council(s) and consider which ones are most relevant to your parish and/or deanery. If they feel inspired to do so, parishes are encouraged to celebrate as many of these jubilees as possible. We ask that all parishes organize at least two jubilee celebrations, and all deanery councils plan at least one jubilee celebration as a deanery.

By providing this program, we hope parishes and deaneries will be able to choose, based on their own resources and capabilities, what is most practical for them in celebrating this jubilee year.



Jubilee Events



Jubilee of Artists (Feb. 15th-18th)

- If your parish or deanery has parishioners with artistic talents, perhaps this jubilee can be commemorated to honour them. You may also reflect on the role of art and beauty in the Catholic faith.

Jubilee of Volunteers (March 8th-9th)

- Our parishes rely extensively on volunteers. We encourage deaneries/parishes to host volunteer appreciation events on this jubilee. This can include a special prayer service, potluck, etc.

Jubilee of the Sick & Healthcare Workers (April 5th-6th)

- We encourage parishes to honour the healthcare workers in their communities on these dates. Pastors may wish to include a reflection on a related theme: 'How our faith helps us through sickness and struggles in health', 'The Church's teachings on euthanasia and other modern medical practices', etc.

Jubilee of Teenagers (April 25th-27th)

- Young people represent the future for each parish, and this jubilee may be commemorated to honour the young people in your parish, especially teenagers who may be soon preparing for graduation and adulthood. A special prayer or event could be offered at this time.

Jubilee of Workers (May 1st-4th)

- A special event in honour of the employees of your parish could be celebrated during this week, or perhaps a special prayer and reflection could be offered on the dignity of work as understood by Catholic social teaching.

Jubilee Events



Jubilee of Confraternities (May 16th-18th)

- We encourage parishes or deaneries to come together for an event around this jubilee in honour of their CWL, KofC, and other fraternal organizations in their churches.

Jubilee of Families, Children, Grandparents and the Elderly (May 30th-June 1st)

- This Jubilee in honour of families and the generational bonds between children, parents and grandparents can be a special occasion to hold an event or offer a special prayer service for families.

Jubilee of Ecclesial Movements, Associations and New Communities (June 7th-8th)

- This jubilee can be a time to honour the ministries and communities within your parishes and deanery, whether that be prayer groups, Bible study groups, etc.

Jubilee of Sport (June 14th-15th)

- Sports can be a way to bring people together to learn new skills, build bonds and have fun. Since this jubilee is taking place during the summer, it could serve as a way for your parish or deanery to offer a day of outdoor activities for families, while also encouraging prayer and faith through sport.

Jubilee of Seminarians (June 23rd-24th)

- This jubilee may be a special time to pray for vocations and spread awareness about the joys of religious life, and the people from our archdiocese who are discerning such a vocation. As Archbishop Pettipas often notes, we ask our children what they want to be when they grow up, but we rarely ask them, “What does God want you to be when you grow up?”

Jubilee Events



Jubilee of Priests (June 26th-27th)

- This jubilee can serve as a way for parishes to honour their pastors, both current and past, in special ways, or to bring all priests of the deanery together for a special appreciation event.

Jubilee of Youth (July 28th-August 3rd)

- Making our parishes a welcoming space for the youth is of vital importance. The Jubilee Committee has suggested that a “Day in the Deaneries” be held around this jubilee, similar to the “Days in the Diocese” events of World Youth Day. We hope deanery councils can brainstorm a way to bring youth together from all parishes for such an event or rally.

Jubilee of Consolation (Sept. 15th)

- The Vatican describes this jubilee as a time to invite “All those who are experiencing a time of pain and affliction, due to illness, bereavement, violence or abuse.” This may be a way for parishes to honour those who are suffering by hosting a special healing service or related prayer service.

Jubilee of Catechists (Sept. 26th-28th)

- This day honours all those who work and volunteer with religious education and formation, such as in Catholic schools, OCIA programs, sacrament preparation, Bible studies and other related courses affiliated with the church. A special event or prayer service could be held to honour those dedicated to such efforts.

Jubilee of Migrants/Jubilee of Missions (Oct. 4th-5th)

- This jubilee honours both missionaries and migrants/refugees. The archdiocese is planning to hold an archdiocesan jubilee event at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in McLennan around this jubilee. (*see page 12*)

Jubilee Events



Jubilee of Consecrated Life (Oct. 8th-9th)

- This jubilee may be a way to honour the consecrated women and men of religious orders that serve in the archdiocese, both today and throughout its history.

Jubilee of Marian Spirituality (Oct. 11th-12th)

- This jubilee honours devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Parishes and deaneries can incorporate special Marian devotions during this time, marking a special occasion to pray the Rosary, have a Marian procession, or find some other way of honouring the Blessed Mother.

Jubilee of the World of Education (Oct. 31st-Nov. 2nd)

- This jubilee can be a time to celebrate with the Catholic schools in your parish community or wider deanery and honour the students, teachers and staff who serve in Catholic education.

Jubilee of the Poor (Nov. 16th)

- Serving the poor is a central command given to us by Jesus Christ. This jubilee can be a way for parishes or deaneries to bring their people together for a special act of outreach to the poor - volunteering at a local soup kitchen, gathering meals for a food bank, or other charitable acts. A special prayer service to pray for the poor and vulnerable (locally and globally) would also be appropriate.

Jubilee of Choirs (Nov. 21st-23rd)

- Music ministries serve as a powerful way to draw our hearts closer to God during the Mass. This jubilee can be a way for parishes to honour those involved in music ministry (or other liturgical ministries) with a special event or prayer.

Jubilee Events

Reconciliation services



A key theme during Jubilee Years is that of reconciliation and God's mercy. The sacrament of reconciliation and our trust in God's mercy are central sources of hope for us as Catholics. Therefore, setting dates and preparing meaningful reconciliation services during Advent and Lent, or at other times, is greatly encouraged during this Jubilee.

Another possible option is the "24 hours for the Lord". This is a Lenten initiative started by Pope Francis, encouraging all dioceses around the world to offer confessions and reconciliation on the Friday of the fourth week of Lent. This year's "24 hours for the Lord" is on March 28th, and it is one way to encourage reconciliation through this Jubilee Year. The Vatican provides resources related to the service in the lead-up to the Lenten season.

Inviting parishioners to a time of Eucharist Adoration should also be considered by parishes and deaneries as special ways they can commemorate the Jubilee Year, by offering people the space to be with Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament and offer our prayers and praise to Him.

For parishes with a significant Indigenous presence, the honouring of the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation or another initiative related to reconciliation with Canada's First Nations should especially be considered during this Jubilee Year.

Jubilee Events

Marian Pilgrimage for the Jubilee Year



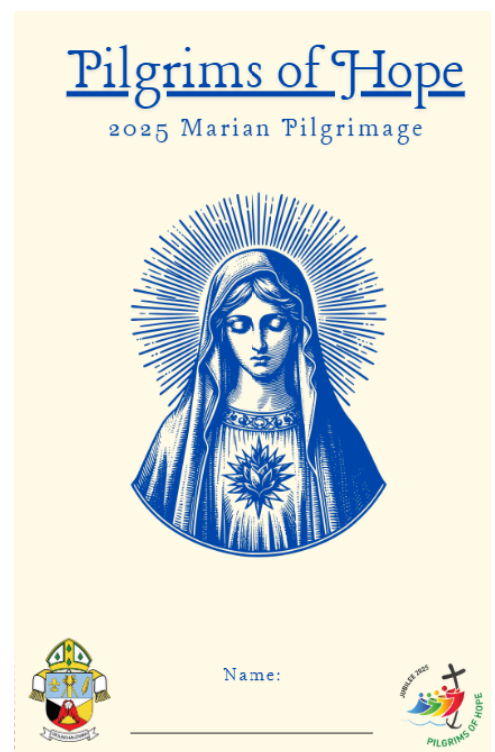
Throughout the Jubilee Year, we are encouraging faithful of the Archdiocese to embark on a Marian Pilgrimage of sorts.

The “Pilgrim’s Passport” provides a special prayer chaplet, reflecting upon the ways Mary exemplifies the virtue of hope. We encourages persons in the archdiocese to offer these prayers at the various Marian churches, Marian grottos and/or any Marian statues or icons in our churches around the archdiocese. (All Marian churches and grottos are identified in the passport).

We assume that just about every church in our archdiocese has at least one statue or icon of Mary, so in this way, we ensure every church is a part of this pilgrimage and all persons can participate.

Please distribute the Pilgrim Passports and share this information with your parishioners.

Through the intercession of Mary, may we all act as “Pilgrims of Hope” this Jubilee Year.



Jubilee Events

Archdiocesan Jubilee Celebration



For the Jubilee Year, we are hoping to bring the people of the archdiocese together for one major archdiocesan Jubilee celebration and Mass at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in McLennan. It will take place on Saturday, Oct. 4th, 2025 beginning with a Mass at 4:00 pm.

This event will have a threefold purpose: 1) It will commemorate the anniversary of the dedication of the St. John the Baptist Cathedral in McLennan, 2) It will be a way to honour together the Jubilee of Missions, and 3) It will be a commemorative event for the archdiocesan pilgrimage held throughout the Jubilee Year.

October 1st will mark the 78th anniversary of the dedication of the cathedral, and this celebration will be in-part a way to honour this anniversary.

Since it takes place during the Jubilee of Missions (Oct.4th-5th), this event will honour many of the missionaries that served the archdiocese over the decades. It will also include a reflection on how the lay faithful and priests in our missions are “pilgrims of hope”.

Finally, all attendees that bring their pilgrim’s passport to the Mass will receive a blessed Miraculous Medal as a keepsake for the Jubilee Year. Before Mass, we will pray together the “Mary: Exemplar of Hope” prayer chaplet as an archdiocesan family.

We hope to see as many of our priests and parishioners as possible for this special Jubilee celebration in McLennan!