



JUBILEE YEAR OF  
**MERCY**

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**MERCIFUL LIKE THE FATHER**



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

## **WHAT IS THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY?**

Pope Francis announced an extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy, saying he wants to make it evident that the Church's mission is to be a witness of compassion. "Let us not forget that God forgives and God forgives always," Francis said. "Let us never tire of asking for forgiveness. I am convinced that the whole Church — which has much need to receive mercy, because we are sinners — will find in this jubilee the joy to rediscover and render fruitful the mercy of God, with which we are all called to give consolation to every man and woman of our time." Traditionally, every 25 years the Pope proclaims a holy year, which features special celebrations and pilgrimages, strong calls for conversion and repentance, and the offer of special opportunities to experience God's grace through the sacraments, especially confession. Extraordinary holy years, like the Holy Year of Mercy, are less frequent, but offer the same opportunities for spiritual growth. The jubilee will begin on Dec. 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, and the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council. It will end on Nov. 20, 2016, on the feast of Christ the King. The biblical theme the Pope has chosen for the jubilee year is "be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." ([dioceseofraleigh.org/content/pope-francis-announces-extraordinary-holy-year-mercy](http://dioceseofraleigh.org/content/pope-francis-announces-extraordinary-holy-year-mercy))

## **7 WAYS TO LIVE THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY**

1. Visit and pray at the Pilgrimage sites.
2. Practice as many of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy as possible.
3. Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the 24 Hours for the Lord, and more frequently throughout the Holy Year.
4. Pray the Jubilee Year of Mercy Prayer.
5. Memorize the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.
6. Research the Patron Saint of your Parish or School. Who were they? How did they practice Mercy?
7. Attend Jubilee days and events on the calendar as your schedule allows.

## **INDULGENCES**

A plenary Indulgence is granted by visiting and praying at a designated pilgrimage site the Apostles Creed, the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Jubilee Year of Mercy Prayer remembering the intentions of the Holy Father, going to confession, and receiving Holy Communion at Mass. One also receives an indulgence in the practice of the works of mercy along with prayer, confession, and the reception of Holy Communion at Mass. "A Jubilee also entails the granting of indulgences. This practice will acquire an even more important meaning in the Holy Year of Mercy... In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God forgives our sins, which he truly blots out; and yet sin leaves a negative effect on the way we think and act. But the mercy of God is stronger even than this. It becomes indulgence on the part of the Father who, through the Bride of Christ, his Church, reaches the pardoned sinner and frees him from every residue left by the consequences of sin, enabling him to act with charity, to grow in love rather than to fall back into sin... Let us live this Jubilee intensely, begging the Father to forgive our sins and to bathe us in his merciful 'indulgence.'" (Misericordiae Vultus, n.22.)

## LETTER FROM THE BISHOP

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Please join me in living the Jubilee Year of Mercy, called by the Holy Father, Pope Francis. The Jubilee Year is an opportunity for every Catholic in our Diocese to receive the Mercy of God in a special way and then to be "Merciful like the Father." (Lk. 6:36)

The Jubilee Year of Mercy starts on December 8, 2015 with the opening of the Holy Door in Rome. In our Diocese, the opening of a Holy Door at the Cathedral and at several other Pilgrimage sites throughout the Diocese will be on December 13, 2015. The year ends on November 20, 2016 with the closing of the Holy Doors.

This guide contains everything you need to celebrate this favored time in the life of the church. Please spend some time reading it. Talk with your family about taking time in the coming year for pilgrimage and practice.

Let me highlight two things:

First, I have designated 12 Pilgrimage Sites for the Year of Mercy. Paired with these sites is either a Spiritual or Corporal Work of Mercy. I encourage you and your family to visit these sites and practice the works of Mercy. Partial and plenary indulgences can be earned for both pilgrimage and/or practice. See the map for all the details.

Secondly, the 24 Hours for the Lord take place from Noon on March 4 until Noon on March 5. Every deanery in the Diocese will be offering 24 hours of continuous confessions. Please plan to receive this wonderful sacrament of mercy during this special celebration as well as throughout this year.

Let's pray for each other as we embark on this mission of mercy together with the Holy Father and whole Church. May the intercession of Mary, the Mother of mercy, draw us ever closer to the Sacred Heart of her Son, Jesus.



+Jaime Soto  
Bishop of Sacramento

## 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

24 Hours for the Lord will be celebrated throughout the Diocese from Friday, March 4, 2016 at Noon to Saturday, March 5, 2016 at Noon. In every Deanery, the sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered continuously for the full 24 hours. All Catholics are encouraged to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this time. Reconciliation will also be offered more often throughout Lent at most parishes in the Diocese. More information can be found on the Diocesan website at: [scd.org](http://scd.org)

# JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

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## WORKS OF MERCY

### CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the sick
- Visit the imprisoned
- Bury the dead

### SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

- Admonish the sinner
- Instruct the ignorant
- Counsel the doubtful
- Comfort the sorrowful
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Forgive all injuries
- Pray for the living and the dead

Sacred Heart,  
Fort Jones

Our Lady Of Mercy,  
Redding

Sacred Heart Parish,  
Susanville

Abbey Of New  
Clairvaux,  
Vina

St. Patrick's Parish &  
Mt. St. Mary Academy,  
Grass Valley

Holy Rosary  
Catholic Church,  
Woodland

Christ The King  
Passionist Retreat Center,  
Citrus Heights

St. Patrick Catholic Church  
Placerville

Cathedral Of The  
Blessed Sacrament,  
Sacramento

St. John Vianney Parish,  
Rancho Cordova

Good Shepherd  
Catholic Church,  
Elkgrove

St. Dominic's  
Catholic Church,  
Benicia

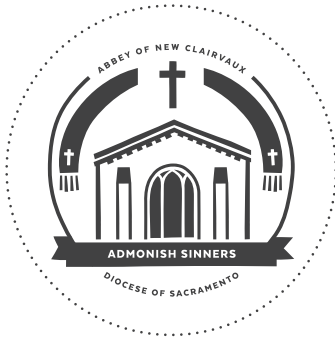


FOR MORE INFO VISIT: [SCD.ORG](http://SCD.ORG)

**RECEIVE A STICKER  
WHEN YOU VISIT A SITE OR PRACTICE A WORK OF MERCY.**

They are available from the sites themselves or your parish office. Once received, place each sticker on the corresponding location found on this legend. Plenary indulgences are also available for your visits and practices. See *Indulgences* on the other side for more information.

**PILGRIMAGE SITE LEGEND**



**Abbey Of New Clairvaux**  
Sutter-Buttes Deanery  
26240 7th St, Vina  
newclairvaux.org



**Cathedral Of The Blessed Sacrament**  
City Deanery  
1017 11th St, Sacramento  
cathedralsacramento.org



**Christ The King Passionist Retreat Center**  
West Placer Deanery  
6520 Van Maren Ln, Citrus Heights  
christthekingretreatcenter.org



**Good Shepherd Catholic Church**  
Southern Suburbs Deanery  
9539 Racquet Ct, Elk Grove  
gscccg.org

**Loaves and Fishes**

1351 N C St, Sacramento | sacloaves.org



**Holy Rosary Catholic Church**  
Yolo Deanery  
301 Walnut St, Woodland  
holyroary.com



**Our Lady Of Mercy**  
Shasta Deanery  
2600 Shasta View Dr, Redding  
olmredding.net



**Sacred Heart Parish**  
Siskyou Deanery  
101 Carlock St, Fort Jones



**Sacred Heart Parish**  
Ridge Deanery  
120 N Union St, Susanville  
sacredheartsusanville.org



**St. Dominic's Catholic Church**  
Solano Deanery  
475 E I St, Benicia  
saintdominicsbenicia.org



**St. John Vianney Parish**  
American River Deanery  
10497 Coloma Rd, Rancho Cordova  
sjvparish.com



**St. Patrick Catholic Church**  
Gold Country Deanery  
3109 Sacramento St, Placerville  
stpatpv.org



**St. Patrick's Parish & Mt. St. Mary Academy**  
Mother Lode Deanery  
235 Chapel St, Grass Valley  
saintpatrickgrassvalley.dreamhosters.com

You can also order a lanyard and set of beautiful collectable pins of the pilgrimage sites from the Diocesan website [scd.org](http://scd.org).