

Pilgrims of Hope,

Welcome to Jubilee 2025!

In his papal bull, *Hope Does Not Disappoint*, Pope Francis officially declared the year 2025 to be a Jubilee Year for the Church. As with past Jubilees, we are invited to make this year one of seeking an intense experience of God. The pope challenges us to reflect on God's creation with awe, observing with patience the changing seasons in our lives.

This Jubilee Year, Pope Francis reminds us that we are "pilgrims of hope" because the Holy Spirit has filled our hearts with love. To be a pilgrim in the Church means that we journey toward holiness, seeking to gather many with us along the way. As with any Jubilee Year, we seek freedom from that which traps us into sin. We seek reconciliation with one another by making amends. And we also strive to care for creation so that every person may have access to the fruitful resources of our common home, Earth. As pilgrims we can bring the hope of Christ to others by the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, each month the Church will celebrate special events to honor a unique audience or ministry that brings hope into the world. Through our website, we will provide free resources to celebrate Jubilee 2025. Our resources have been developed for teachers, catechists, and families to use with children in the classroom, on parish grounds, or at home. We invite you to visit our dedicated site each month to discover how we can be pilgrims of hope together.

May the sign of opened doors celebrate the hope of Christ in our hearts,

RCL Benziger

