

# DECLARATION

Protocol #PTD2024-8

As Bishop of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee and in communion with our Holy Father Pope Francis and the universal Church, I call upon the Church of Northwest Florida and the Emerald Coast to celebrate this Jubilee Year 2025 which began with the opening of the Holy Doors of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on Christmas Eve. It is my hope that together as members of the Church we may recognize this unique opportunity to fulfill the theme of this special year and be "Pilgrims of Hope." That theme was introduced by our Holy Father in his papal bull entitled "Spes Non Confundit" or "Hope Does Not Disappoint" which was drawn from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 5:5.

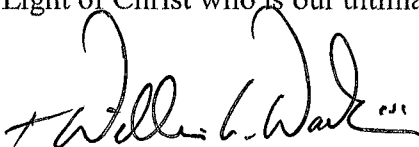
Commemorating its Jewish roots, a Jubilee year gives special attention to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the restoration of relationships with God. This year will be an opportunity to receive a special jubilee indulgence which can remove the residual effects of sin by reliance on the promises and grace of Christ.

Pilgrims are invited to visit Rome's Christian landmarks: the catacombs; seven pilgrim churches – the basilicas of St. Peter, St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran, St. Paul Outside the Walls, St. Lawrence, Holy Cross and St. Sebastian; and twelve other Roman churches that have been designated as "jubilee churches." For those who will celebrate the jubilee here in our home parishes and communities, I have designated "Jubilee churches" in our Diocese so that everyone has an opportunity to experience a genuine and personal encounter with our Lord Jesus who is our Hope!

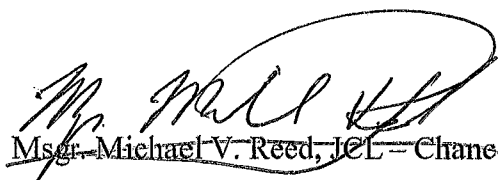
By virtue of this declaration, I have designated the following as "Jubilee Churches" which are ready to welcome pilgrims and all visitors to receive the graces which this special year has to offer:

1. The Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Pensacola – 1212 East Moreno St.; (850) 438-3131; shc.ptdiocese.org
2. The Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Tallahassee – 900 West Tennessee St.; (850) 222-9630; cocathedral.com
3. Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel; 19 North Palafox St.; Pensacola, FL; 32502; (850) 438-4985; stmichael.ptdiocese.org
4. St. Patrick Catholic Church; 27 Sixth St.; Apalachicola, FL; 332320; (850) 653-9453; stpatricksmass.com
5. St. Rita Catholic Church; 137 Moll Drive; Santa Rosa Beach, FL; 32459; (850) 267-2558; saintritaparish.org
6. St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church; 27 Shadow St.; Quincy, FL. 32353; (850) 627-2350; stthomasquincy.com

With Pope Francis and the universal church let us fill our lives and this year with many signs of hope – with a desire for world peace; greater openness to life; commitment to responsible parenthood; outreach to poor, sick, young, elderly, migrants, prisoners and people who are experiencing difficulties in their day to day lives. May we be the beacons shining forth the Light of Christ who is our ultimate HOPE!



Most Reverend William A. Wack, CSC  
Bishop of Pensacola-Tallahassee



Msgr. Michael V. Reed, JCL – Chancellor

# GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR INDULGENCE

**Introduction:** The Jubilee Year is a time of grace and renewal, and the indulgence is intended to encourage the faithful to engage deeply with their faith. The Holy Year will be marked by various events, including pilgrimages to significant sites, which serve as opportunities for spiritual growth and the experience of God's mercy.

1. **Sincere Repentance:** Individuals seeking an indulgence must approach with a sincere heart, expressing genuine contrition for their sins. This includes a desire to turn away from sin and a commitment to amend one's life. <sup>1</sup>
2. **Sacrament of Reconciliation:** The Sacrament of confession is essential. Participants are encouraged to confess their sins, as this sacrament is a means through which God's forgiveness is experienced. The act of confession is not only a personal encounter with God's mercy but also a prerequisite for receiving the indulgence. <sup>2</sup>
3. **Eucharistic Communion:** Receiving Holy Communion is another requirement. This act deepens the relationship with Christ and is a vital part of the spiritual preparation for receiving the indulgence. <sup>3</sup>
4. **Prayers for the Pope:** It is customary to pray for the intentions of the Pope. This can be done through specific prayers or by offering personal intentions, reflecting the unity of the Church and the communal aspect of faith. <sup>4</sup>
5. **Performing Indulged Acts:** Specific acts designated by the Church during the Jubilee Year must be performed. These acts may include visiting designated Jubilee Churches, participating in special liturgical celebrations, or engaging in acts of charity and service to others. <sup>5</sup>
  - a. **Visiting Jubilee Church(es):** Pilgrimage to designated Jubilee Churches is a significant act. Each diocese typically designates specific churches where the faithful can receive the indulgence by visiting and participating in the liturgical celebrations held there. <sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Spes non confundit* – Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025; 23; May 9, 2024 – Pope Francis

<sup>2</sup> Ibid; 5

<sup>3</sup> Ibid; 6

<sup>4</sup> Ibid; 10

<sup>5</sup> Ibid; 23

<sup>6</sup> Heb 10: 1-10

- b. **Participation in Sacraments:** Engaging in the sacraments, particularly the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, is essential. These sacraments are not only acts of personal devotion but also communal expressions of faith. <sup>7</sup>
- c. **Acts of Charity:** Engaging in acts of charity, especially towards the poor and marginalized, is encouraged. This reflects the Church's call to live out the Gospel through service to others, embodying the spirit of the Jubilee. <sup>8</sup>
- d. **Prayers for Peace and Unity:** Specific prayers, particularly those for peace and unity within the Church and the world, may also be included as acts that can lead to the granting of indulgences. This aligns with the Jubilee's themes of reconciliation and renewal. <sup>9</sup>
- e. **Participation in Liturgical Celebrations:** Attending special liturgical celebrations, such as Masses or prayer services organized for the Jubilee, is another way to gain indulgences. These events are often designed to highlight the themes of mercy and forgiveness central to the Jubilee Year. <sup>10</sup>

**Conclusion:** The acts that grant indulgences during the Jubilee Year 2025 include visiting designated Jubilee Churches, participating in the Sacraments, performing acts of charity, praying for peace and unity, and attending special liturgical celebrations. These practices are intended to foster a deeper relationship with God and a greater sense of community among the faithful, reflecting the overarching themes of mercy and reconciliation that characterize the Jubilee.

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<sup>7</sup> Ps 40:2, 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11

<sup>8</sup> Mark 3: 31-35

<sup>9</sup> Ibid

<sup>10</sup> Ps 40:2, 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11