



Jubilee 2025

Pope Francis has opened the Holy Year (Jubilee) at the Vatican on December 24th this year and close it on January 6, 2025, and grant plenary indulgences for Catholics who desire to receive it. Please see the explanation of the plenary indulgences on separate page.

Conditions to receive plenary indulgence in normal circumstance.

- Travel to Rome and pass through Holy Doors or visit and pray at the Pilgrimage Sites in the diocese of Austin.
- Going to Confession and Receiving Holy Communion
- Prayers for the intention of the Holy Father
- Perform a Work of Mercy or Penance: Visit the sick, prisoners, elderly and disable people at homebound, abstain for one day of the week from futile distractions (TV, video games, social media, etc), donating to the poor or voluntary activities that are of service to the community.

Conditions for those who are homebound due to sickness or elderly who live in nursing home that unable to come to the pilgrimage sites during the whole year.

- Recite the Our Father, the Creed, Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Celebration of the Word of God on that day or Liturgy of the Hours.
- Offering up their suffering to the Lord on the Cross

Pilgrimage Sites: Bishop Vásquez has designated the following parishes and university centers Pilgrimage Sites during the Year of Jubilee beginning Dec. 29, 2024, through January 6, 2026.

- St. Mary Cathedral, Austin
- Holy Cross Parish, Austin
- Holy Vietnamese Martyrs Parish, Austin
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Temple
- Our Lady of Wisdom University Parish @ Texas State University, San Marcos
- Santa Cruz Parish, Buda
- St. Joseph Parish, Bryan
- St. Mary Church of the Assumption Parish, Waco
- St. Mary Catholic Center @ Texas A&M University, College Station
- St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Lampasas
- University Catholic Center @ University of Texas, Austin

Plenary Indulgences - General Conditions

The following "General remarks on Indulgences" from Gift of the Indulgence summarizes the usual conditions given in the Church's law (cf. Apostolic Penitentiary, Prot. N. 39/05/I):

1. This is how an indulgence is defined in the Code of Canon Law (can. 992) and in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (n. 1471): *"An indulgence is [not a forgiveness of sin but] a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints"*.
2. In general, the gaining of indulgences requires certain prescribed conditions (below, nn. 3, 4), and the performance of certain prescribed works
3. To gain indulgences, whether plenary or partial, it is necessary that the faithful be in the state of grace at least at the time the indulgenced work is completed. [i.e. one must be a Catholic, not excommunicated or in schism.]
4. A plenary indulgence can be gained only once a day. In order to obtain it, the faithful must, in addition to being in the state of grace:
 - have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin;
 - have sacramentally confessed their sins, even venial;
 - receive the Holy Eucharist (it is certainly better to receive it while participating in Holy Mass, but for the indulgence only Holy Communion is required);
 - pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff.
5. It is appropriate, but not necessary, that the sacramental Confession and especially Holy Communion and the prayer for the Pope's intentions take place on the same day that the indulgenced work is performed; but it is sufficient that these sacred rites and prayers be carried out within few days before or after the indulgenced act. Prayer for the Pope's intentions is left to the choice of the faithful, but an "Our Father" and a "Hail Mary" are suggested.
6. One sacramental Confession suffices for several plenary indulgences, but frequent sacramental confession is encouraged in order to obtain the grace of deeper conversion and purity of heart. A separate Holy Communion and a separate prayer for the Holy Father's intentions are required for each plenary indulgence.
7. For the sake of those legitimately impeded, confessors can commute both the work prescribed and the conditions required (except, obviously, detachment from even venial sin).
8. Indulgences can always be applied either to oneself or to the souls of the deceased, but they cannot be applied to other persons living on earth.