

Most Reverend David Laurin Ricken, DD, JCL



By the Grace of God and the Authority of the Apostolic See  
Bishop of Green Bay

## DECREE

Jesus Christ is the source of hope. In the fullness of God's unlimited mercy, our Holy Father Pope Francis has declared a Jubilee Year 2025 – *Pilgrims of Hope*. We are now called to become *Pilgrims of Hope* encouraged to be deeply attentive of God's endless mercy and forgiveness.

This spiritual gift of this Holy Year will begin with the opening of the Holy Door of the Basilica of St. Peter's on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024.

This Jubilee officially opens within the Diocese of Green Bay on January 6, 2025, at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

The Jubilee Year will formally conclude on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord on January 6, 2026.

With the guidance of the letter from his Holiness Pope Francis of May 13, 2024, according to which an indulgence is granted to the faithful on the occasion of this Jubilee Year of Hope, I designate the following as sacred places of pilgrimage in the Diocese of Green Bay:

*St. Francis Xavier Cathedral - Green Bay, Wisconsin*

*The Shrine of Our Lady of Champion - Champion, Wisconsin*

*St. Pius X Parish - Appleton, Wisconsin*

Thus, a plenary indulgence might be obtained by devoutly visiting any of the Jubilee pilgrimage sites listed in this Decree.

An indulgence is a powerful gift to the souls of believers. Indulgences aid in healing the brokenness caused by our sins in this world and reduce, or completely eliminate, the temporal punishment due to our sins. Indulgences may be obtained for oneself or for the souls of the deceased. One plenary indulgence may be received each day. However, the faithful who have carried out an act of charity on behalf of the souls of Purgatory, if they receive Holy Communion a second time that day during Eucharistic celebration, can obtain the plenary indulgence twice on the same day, applicable only to the deceased. To obtain a plenary indulgence, those members of the faithful who are truly repentant of their sins and moved by a spirit of mercy are to:

- Visit one of the designated churches or shrines.
- Receive the Sacrament of Penance.
- Receive the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.
- Be truly free from all willful attachment to sin.
- Make a Profession of Faith (Recite the Nicene or Apostles' Creed).
- Pray for Pope Francis' intentions for the Church and for the world (Recite the Our Father).

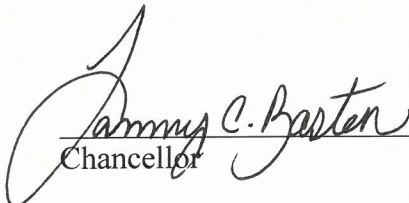
The Sacrament of Penance and the Sacrament of the Eucharist may be received several days before or after performing the prescribed act.


Additionally, for those who cannot participate in the various solemn celebrations, pilgrimages, and pious visits for serious reasons (especially cloistered nuns and monks, elderly, and infirmed) may obtain the indulgence by living their lives with faith and joyful hope and by receiving holy communion. For those who are incarcerated they may receive the indulgence by praying in their prison cells or prison chapel.

Furthermore, since the experience of hope becomes visible in the witness of concrete signs as Jesus Himself taught us, those members of the faithful who perform any of the spiritual or corporal works of mercy, shall surely obtain the jubilee indulgence.

As Christians, hope will not disappoint as it is grounded securely in God's abiding Love. May this Jubilee be a time of renewed hope that awakens in hearts the hope of salvation in Christ.

Given at the Chancery on *The Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God*, January 1, 2025.

  
Chancellor

  
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