



## Decree

### Plenary Indulgence for the Ordinary Jubilee 2025

In the Bull announcing the Ordinary Year of Jubilee 2025, the Holy Father Pope Francis calls on all Christians to become *pilgrims of hope* at a time when “humanity is confronting yet another ordeal, as many people are prey to brutality and violence” (*Spes non confundit*, art. 8). During the Jubilee Year, the Holy Door will once more be flung open to invite everyone to a more intense experience of the love of God, and one way of discovering the unlimited nature of God’s mercy is through the gift of the Indulgence, an expression of the fullness of God’s forgiveness which knows no bounds (*Spes non confundit*, art. 23). The Indulgence is, therefore, a Jubilee grace.

In conformity with the *Decree on Granting of Indulgence during the Ordinary Year 2025 called by His Holiness Pope Francis*, issued by the Apostolic Penitentiary on 13 May 2024, I, Canon Paul Cummins, Diocesan Administrator of the Diocese of Plymouth, hereby make the following decree in which I repeat the relevant details of the norms established by the Apostolic Penitentiary in the said decree and in the *Enchiridion Indulgentiarum* issued on 16 July 1999, and determine the designated places of pilgrimage for the Diocese of Plymouth.

All the faithful, truly repentant and moved by charity, who receive sacramental absolution and Holy Communion, and who pray for the intentions of the Holy Father, will be able to obtain a plenary indulgence with remission and forgiveness of all their sins, which can be applied in suffrage to the souls in Purgatory, in the following ways:

#### 1. Pilgrimage and Prayerful Visits

By undertaking a pilgrimage or making a prayerful visit to these designated places within the Diocese of Plymouth:

- the Cathedral Church of St Mary and St Boniface, Plymouth
- the Church and Shrine of St Cuthbert Mayne, Launceston
- the Church and Shrine of St Boniface, Crediton
- the Church of the Holy Trinity, Dorchester



Whilst there, the faithful must do one of the following: participate in Holy Mass or in a celebration of the Word of God; pray a part of the Liturgy of the Hours (ie Office of Readings, Morning or Evening Prayer), the Stations of the Cross, the Marian Rosary; recite the Akathist Hymn; or participate in a Penitential Celebration which ends with the celebration of individual confession.

Those who cannot participate in pilgrimages or pious visits for a serious reason (especially cloistered religious, the elderly, the sick, prisoners and those who, because of their work in hospitals and other care facilities, provide continuous care to the sick) can obtain the Jubilee Indulgence under the same conditions if, united with those taking part in person, they recite the Our Father, the Profession of Faith and other prayers in conformity with the objectives of the Holy Year in their own homes or wherever they are confined (eg in the chapel of the monastery, hospital or prison), offering up their sufferings or the hardships of their lives.

## **2. Works of Mercy and Penance**

The faithful can obtain the Jubilee Indulgence by participating in popular missions, spiritual exercises (retreats), or formation activities focussed on the documents of the Second Vatican Council and the Catechism of the Catholic Church, held in church or another suitable place, according to the mind of the Holy Father

The faithful are also encouraged to carry out both the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy in the service of their brothers and sisters. Therefore, the faithful can obtain the Jubilee Indulgence if they visit, for an appropriate amount of time, their brothers and sisters who are in need or in difficulty (eg the sick, prisoners, lonely elderly people, people living with disability), as a pilgrimage to Christ present in them, under the spiritual, sacramental and prayer conditions noted earlier.

The Jubilee Indulgence can also be obtained through concrete and generous initiatives which put into practice the spirit of penance. In particular, the penitential nature of Friday can be rediscovered by abstaining for at least one day of the week from useless distractions, whether real or virtual (eg the use of media and/or social networks), and from superfluous consumption by way of fast and abstinence.



Alternatively, this concrete work of penance can be carried out by donating a proportionate amount of money to the poor, by supporting works of a religious or social nature (eg the defence and protection of life in all its phases, young people in difficulty or migrants in search of a better life for themselves and their families), or by dedicating a reasonable proportion of one's free time to voluntary activities in service to the community or to other similar forms of personal commitment.

### **Norm regarding a Second Plenary Indulgence on the Same Day**

Only one plenary indulgence can be obtained per day (cf *Enchiridion Indulgentiarum*, art 18§1). However, the faithful who have carried out an act of charity on behalf of the souls in Purgatory, if they receive Holy Communion a second time that day within the context of a Mass, can obtain a plenary indulgence twice on the same day, applicable only to those who have died. As the Holy Father states: "The Jubilee Indulgence, thanks to the power of prayer, is intended in a particular way for those who have gone before us, so that they may obtain full mercy" (*Spes non confundit*, art. 22).

This decree will remain in force until the end of the Jubilee Year on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, 6 January 2026.

May this Year of Jubilee be a time of abundant blessing and grace for the faithful of the Church, living and dead, and for those whose lives are touched and changed by our prayers and actions prompted by our witness to the Gospel as Pilgrims of Hope.

Given, at St Boniface House, on 1 February 2025

Canon Paul Cummins  
Diocesan Administrator

Canon Kristian Paver  
Chancellor

