

Further Ideas

Can you make your parish, home or school a focal point for celebration, prayer and catechesis, sharing the joy of the Jubilee? Can you commit to praying the Jubilee Prayer regularly during this Year?

More ideas can be found on our website, but you could try the following for starters:

- Hold a Jubilee celebration or party;
- Arrange talks on the Jubilee themes;
- Hold extra times of Adoration and Reconciliation, or create a Jubilee prayer-focus;
- Have a parish or school project during 2025;
- Bless and serve your community.

Or submit your own ideas for others to try them!

Some Useful Links:



Archdiocese of Birmingham Jubilee Page
www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year

Bishops' Conference of England & Wales
www.cbcew.org.uk/jubilee-2025

Official Jubilee Website
www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html

Kenelm Youth Trust
www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk/rome-2025

CAFOD
www.cafod.org.uk/pray/jubilee-2025

Hearts in Search of God: Walking Pilgrimages
www.pilgrimways.org.uk

Contact:

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THE ARCHDIOCESE of BIRMINGHAM
OFFICE for MISSION
"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..."



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the
Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

Franciscus



JUBILEE YEAR 2025



"PILGRIMS OF HOPE"



THE ARCHDIOCESE
of BIRMINGHAM

Celebrating the Jubilee Year 2025

Pope Francis has chosen the theme for the Jubilee Year to be 'Pilgrims of Hope'. The Jubilee Year recalls the 'jubilee' of Israel: a year for land to be rested and debts to be cancelled, when God called people to be reconciled with one another and, most importantly, with Him.

Echoing this ancient call, the Church takes up the announcement of Jesus Christ in the Scriptures:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the Year of the Lord's favour."

This proclamation encapsulates the Church's mission to announce the Good News in both word and action, and is captured in our Diocesan Vision:

"Our Vision is to be a Catholic diocese which is faithful to the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ, full of missionary disciples who work together co-responsibly in vibrant communities of faith, joyful in their service of God and neighbour."

In this Jubilee, our diocesan family is focused on a radical renewal of love for God and neighbour. There are many ways we can celebrate and proclaim the 'year of the Lord's favour' in our homes, parishes and schools. This leaflet, and our diocesan website, point to a growing number of resources you can use to spread the wonderful message of hope in this Holy Year.

With every blessing,

+ Bernard

+ Bernard Longley
Archbishop of Birmingham



When is the Jubilee?

The Year will run from the opening of the Holy Door at St Peter's Basilica on Tuesday 24th December 2024 to the Solemnity of the Epiphany 2026.

Archbishop Bernard will celebrate Mass for the Solemn Opening of the Jubilee Year at St Chad's Cathedral on Sunday 29th December 2024. A calendar of dates and events can be found on the diocesan website.

What is a Jubilee?

Jubilee Years - also known as Holy Years - began in 1300AD, and occur every 25 years. Jubilee Years can be called at other times, such as the Year of Mercy in 2016. These Years, the Church explains, are years "of reconciliation between adversaries, of conversion and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation, [...] and consequently of solidarity, hope, justice, commitment to serve God with joy and in peace with our brothers and sisters."

Indulgence for the Jubilee

To help us during the Year, a plenary indulgence can be gained not only by making a pilgrimage to a Jubilee church, but also by devotedly performing one of the acts prescribed by the Church.

Jubilee Churches in our Archdiocese

- **St Chad's Cathedral** – Shrine of St Chad
- **St Anne's Church** – Shrine of Our Lady of Caversham
- **Our Lady of Lourdes Church**, Hednesford – Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes
- **St Michael's Church**, Penn, Wolverhampton – Shrine of Blessed Carlo Acutis
- **The Immaculate Conception & St Egwin Church** – Shrine of Our Lady of Evesham
- **Harvington Hall**, near Kidderminster
- **Bl Dominic Barberi Church & St John Henry Newman's College**, Littlemore, Oxford

Please contact the church before your visit – details can be found on the diocesan website.

Living as Pilgrims of Hope

We are all pilgrims on our journey towards the Lord. There are many opportunities to deepen our life of faith and relationship with God. Look out for Jubilee resources, courses and devotionals from our diocese and the Bishops' Conference. Particularly look out for the Jubilee Companion booklet which will be coming soon.

Pope Francis is also encouraging us to rediscover the ancient practice of pilgrimage during 2025. All are invited to join our diocesan pilgrimages (Walsingham, Lourdes, Hednesford and Harvington), the KYT young adults' pilgrimage to Rome, or visit a Jubilee church to obtain the plenary indulgence.



Sharing Hope

We instinctively understand Jubilees to be celebrations of the good things that we share. And Jubilee Years are about the Good News!

Consider opportunities to share the unifying and liberating message of the Jubilee with parishioners, neighbours, schools, and the wider community. What special events or anniversaries are happening in 2025 that you can link to the Jubilee, and turn into extra-special celebrations?

For example, attend one of our annual diocesan Masses, such as the Mass for Marriage, Guild of St Stephen Mass or Ethnic Chaplaincy Mass.