

Office of the Chancellor

January 9, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May the Lord give you hope and a Blessed Jubilee Year 2025!

To signal the beginning of the Jubilee Year, it has become a tradition to open the Holy Doors in St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican and in the other major papal basilicas in Rome; St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major and St. Paul outside the walls. The Holy Doors symbolize Jesus Christ himself as the door of our salvation. Every Jubilee Year presents the opportunity of gaining plenary indulgences or the total remission of temporal punishment due to sin. We can apply these indulgences to ourselves but we can also offer it for the souls in purgatory.

The different ways to obtain indulgences for this Jubilee Year is described in detail in the decree of granting of indulgence during the ordinary Jubilee Year 2025. ***For more detailed information see [Decree on the Granting of Indulgence during the Ordinary Jubilee Year 2025 called by His Holiness Pope Francis](#)***.

The Holy Doors for this ordinary Jubilee 2025 is reserved to the Major Basilicas in Rome, however, the Bishop of our Diocese, Most Rev. Gregory Bittman has designated pilgrimage sites in every region (deanery) of our diocese so the faithful may have an opportunity to go on pilgrimage locally and gain plenary indulgences for themselves or for the faithful departed.

The Pilgrimage Sites in the Diocese of Nelson are as follows:

1. North Okanagan – Seton House of Prayer and Retreat Centre, Kelowna BC
2. South Okanagan – Christ the King Parish, Oliver BC
3. West Kootenays – The Cathedral of Mary Immaculate, Nelson BC
4. East Kootenays – Stations of the Cross, Radium BC

In order to obtain any of the plenary indulgences indicated in the decree on Granting of Indulgences for the Jubilee Year 2025, the following conditions must be fulfilled:

Detachment from all sin, even venial.

Sacramental confession, Holy Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the pope. These three conditions can be fulfilled a few days before or after performing the works to gain the indulgence, but it is appropriate that Holy Communion and the prayer take place on the same day that the work is completed.

A single sacramental confession is sufficient for several plenary indulgences, but frequent sacramental confession is encouraged in order to obtain the grace of deeper conversion and purity of heart.

For each plenary indulgence that is sought, however, a separate Holy Communion and a separate prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father are required.

The prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father is left up to the choice of the individual, but an Our Father and Hail Mary are suggested.

Everyone is encouraged to avail themselves of this graced time and opportunity to deepen our spiritual lives, remove everything, especially sin, that hinders our relationship with Christ and look forward in hope to eternal life.

In short time on this earth, the Jubilee Year gives us the necessary time to prepare for the endless time of eternity.

Sincerely in Christ our Lord,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Fr. Cerlouie F. Jimenez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Very Rev. Cerlouie F. Jimenez, Chancellor