



TOWARD THE
2025 JUBILEE YEAR

YEAR OF PRAYER

YOU ARE CALLED TO BE
"PILGRIMS OF HOPE"

Year of Prayer – a Journey to the Jubilee

Pope Francis has dedicated 2024 to the Year of Prayer in preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year.

He has called on the faithful to “pray more fervently to prepare ourselves to live properly this grace-filled event and to experience the power of hope in God.”

The Holy Father said this year is dedicated “to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church, prayer in the world” and has asked the faith-filled to be “Pilgrims of Hope”.

It is not a Year marked with particular initiatives, but a time to rediscover the value of prayer and the need for daily prayer in our Christian life.

Pope Francis said; “I am happy to think that the year preceding the Jubilee event, 2024, will be dedicated to a great ‘symphony’ of prayer. First of all, to recover the desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and adore him.”

The Jubilee of 2025 was announced by Pope John Paul II at the end of the Great Jubilee in 2000.

A Jubilee is a special year of grace and conversion, involving prayer, pilgrimage and sacramental repentance.

It will begin on 24 December 2024 with the opening of the Holy Door at St Peter’s Basilica and end on 6 January 2026. Diocesan Churches around the world will hold celebrations to open the Holy Year locally on 29 December.

Through a series of concrete rituals, acts and commitments, the goal of a Jubilee year is to inspire and encourage holiness of life among the faithful and therefore to strengthen

the Church’s witness to God’s loving mercy in and for the world.

The “Pilgrims of Hope” theme for the 2025 Jubilee was chosen by chosen by Pope Francis.

In our Diocese of Broken Bay, Vicar General, Very Rev Dr David Ranson has prepared a series of video meditations on the various aspects of Christian prayer.

In his Introduction to the series, Fr David speaks of Hope as the virtue built on faith and expressed in love. Fr David asks how are we to understand prayer, what is the true nature of Christian prayer, how might we nourish and develop our life of prayer?

“This year provides us with the opportunity to ponder and engage these questions so that this vital element of our Christian discipleship might breath life again into the coals of our heart and be fanned into flame,” Fr David said.

“In this series we will explore various dimensions of Christian prayer



including *Prayer as Desire; Prayer of Heart and Silence; The Prayer of Jesus; The Prayer of the Body of Christ and The Prayer and the Word of God.*”



Other Meditations will be *Our Prayer of Intercession; Schools of Prayer and Discernment* and a final *Overview Reflection.*

All will become available on the Diocesan website but also on the Diocese YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/brokenbay1>



Fr David Ranson, Vicar General of the Diocese of Broken Bay and Parish Priest of Our Lady of Dolours, Chatswood, has prepared a Meditation Series for the Year of Prayer.