



DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Please join me in living the Jubilee Year of Mercy, called by the Holy Father, Pope Francis. The Jubilee Year is an opportunity for every Catholic in our Diocese to receive the Mercy of God in a special way and then to be “Merciful like the Father.” (Lk. 6.36)

The Jubilee Year of Mercy starts on December 8, 2015 with the opening of the Holy Door in Rome. In our Diocese, the opening of a Holy Door at the Cathedral and at several other Pilgrimage sites throughout the Diocese will be on December 13, 2015. The year ends on November 20, 2016 with the closing of the Holy Doors.

Let me highlight two things:

- First, I have designated 12 Pilgrimage Sites for the Year of Mercy. Paired with these sites is either a Spiritual or Corporal Work of Mercy. I encourage you and your family to visit these sites and practice the works of Mercy. Partial and plenary indulgences can be earned for both pilgrimage and/or practice. See the map for all the details.
- Secondly, the 24 Hours for the Lord take place from Noon on March 4 until Noon on March 5. Every deanery in the Diocese will be offering 24 hours of continuous confessions. Please plan to receive this wonderful sacrament of mercy during this special celebration as well as throughout this year.

Let's pray for each other as we embark on this mission of mercy together with the Holy Father and whole Church. May the intercession of Mary, the Mother of mercy, draw us ever closer to the Sacred Heart of her Son, Jesus.

Respectfully,

+Jaime Soto
Bishop of Sacramento