

PRESENZA AGOSTINIANA



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JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Disalced Augustinian Spirituality in the Jubilee Year

OAD AND THE JUBILEE
Disalced Augustinians
in the Jubilee Year

WHAT IS THE JUBILEE?
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PEREGRINANTES IN SPEM
Pilgrimage and
Holy Doors

Editorial

The Jubilee and Christian Hope



Dear Readers,

the Jubilee of 2025 stands as an event of extraordinary importance for the Church, a year of grace inviting every baptized person to rediscover hope as a foundational virtue of Christian life. This theme, chosen by Pope Francis, is rooted in the certainty that God is always close to humanity, accompanying it with love and mercy.

The celebration of this Holy Year is not limited to a liturgical moment but is a spiritual journey that touches every aspect of life. Through pilgrimage, confession, and the opening of the Holy Doors, the Jubilee invites us to experience profound reconciliation and renewal.

This issue of *Presenza Agostiniana* explores various aspects of the Jubilee: its significance for the Discalced Augustinians, the biblical and historical elements that characterize it, the event calendar, the meaning of pilgrimage and the Holy Doors, the value of prayer, and the technological innovations that will guide pilgrims on this journey of faith.

May the Jubilee of 2025 represent a time of spiritual renewal for all, an opportunity to strengthen hope, and a deep commitment to the service of God's Kingdom

.Happy reading!

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St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City at sunset,
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OAD and the Jubilee

Discalced Augustinians in the Jubilee Year

Fr. Diones Rafael Paganotto, oad - @freidiones



The Jubilee 2025, with its central theme of hope, offers an extraordinary opportunity to reflect on the contribution of different religious families to the life of the Church. Among these, we Discalced Augustinians bring a unique perspective, rooted in the spirituality of Saint Augustine and our specific charism: «Joyfully serving the Most High in spirit of humility».



1. The Dimension of Hope

In the context of the Jubilee 2025, Augustinian spirituality aligns perfectly with the theme of hope. For Saint Augustine, **hope** is a virtue born of faith and nourished by love. He states: "Hope is trust in God's promises" (*Sermo* 158,1).

This Jubilee thus becomes a favorable time to renew trust in God and live more intensely the promise of eternal life.

2. Community and Mercy

One of the most distinctive aspects of our Discalced Augustinian spirituality is the value placed on community. Saint Augustine emphasizes that true communion arises from

mutual mercy: "Love and do what you will" (*In Epistolam Ioannis ad Parthos* VII,8). This principle guides our spirituality in creating welcoming communities where fraternity and empathy become a tangible witness to the presence of God.

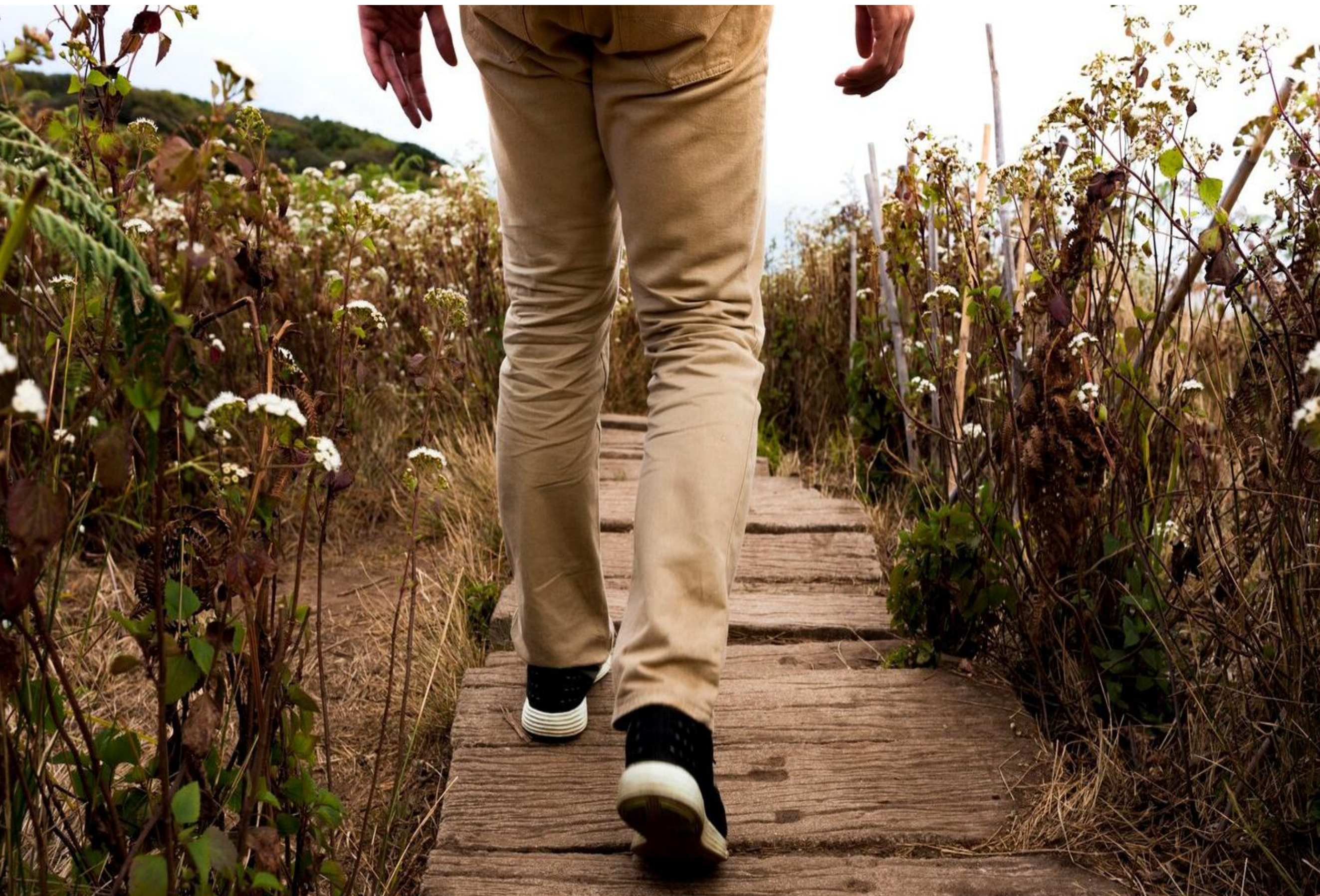
During the Jubilee, this vision translates into a special focus on the pilgrims who will come to Rome, offering them moments of welcome, prayer, and reflection, in keeping with the Jubilee tradition of opening the Church's doors to all.

3. The Door of Mercy

The symbol of the Holy Door, open throughout the Jubilee period, strongly resonates with Augustinian spirituality. Indeed, Saint Augustine writes: "Christ is the door through which we enter into life" (*Sermo* 112,1). This is a powerful image of divine mercy,



inviting everyone to enter into communion with God. Throughout the year, our confreres will place greater emphasis on Eucharistic celebrations, confessions, and various community moments, helping pilgrims cross this door with **renewed hearts**.



4. The Example of Saint Augustine

The works and life of Saint Augustine offer an inspiring guide for living the Jubilee. His conversion, recounted in the *Confessions*, is a universal invitation to inner transformation. His famous phrase, “Late have I loved you, beauty so ancient and so new” (*Confessiones* X,27), resounds as a call to rediscover God in every season of life. Our spirituality calls us to help the faithful reflect on their journey of personal conversion, following the Augustinian example of embracing the Gospel after a path of reflection and search.

5. Pilgrimage and Renewal

Pilgrimage is a central element of the Jubilee and a symbol of the Christian life. For all the faithful, and particularly for us Discalced Augustinians, pilgrimage represents the journey toward God, sustained by hope. During the Jubilee, every baptized person is invited to undertake their personal path of spiritual renewal, with moments of prayer and reflection, guided by the model and teachings of Saint Augustine.

Our spirituality offers a valuable contribution to the Jubilee 2025, inviting the faithful to live this extraordinary time with open and trusting hearts. Through prayer, community, and personal reflection, we are called each day to embody the message of hope and mercy at the heart of the Holy Year, making Saint Augustine’s thought and teaching relevant for our times.

What is the Jubilee?

Biblical and Historical Roots

Fr. Leandro Xavier Rodrigues, oad - @leandro_xr



In this year of 2025, we have the joy of celebrating the Holy Year, the Jubilee in the Church—a year of grace that invites us to walk confidently in the Lord's love as pilgrims of hope. For this reason, it is important to understand the origins of the Jubilee celebration, its biblical significance, and how it has been celebrated by the Church over the years.

1. The Jubilee: Origins in the Old Testament

In the Old Testament, the word **jubilee** seems to derive from the Hebrew term **yobel**, which referred to the instrument used to announce the beginning of the "Day of Atonement." This instrument, made from a ram's horn, held profound symbolic and liturgical significance.



In the ancient Greek version of the Bible, traditionally known as the *Septuagint*, the word *yobel* is translated with the term **áphesis**, which means remission, liberation, or forgiveness.

This term becomes highly significant in the Gospel and in understanding the mission of Jesus; in fact, when Luke writes his Gospel in Greek, he

uses the word *áphesis*, and the term *jubilee* is never found in the entire New Testament. This terminological choice led to a subsequent shift in perspective on the Jubilee celebration...

from a cultic and ritualistic fact

beginning of the celebrations of the Jubilee Year with the sounding of the ram's horn on a specific date, linked to the solemnity of the "Day of Atonement»



to an ethical, moral and existential concept

forgiveness of debts, liberation of slaves, which would ultimately be the practical meaning of the jubilee

The theme of the Jubilee, therefore, shifted from liturgical language and acts to ethical and social language and experiences. This aspect could also be relevant in today's context to avoid reducing the Christian Jubilee to mere celebration, transforming it instead into a **model of Christian living**, not just a rite, but an element that can profoundly impact the life of God's people.

According to the Book of Leviticus, the Jubilee was to be proclaimed every **fifty years**, which was the additional year following seven weeks of years (cf. Lev 25:8-13). During this year, fields were not to be cultivated, thus giving the land a year of rest; debts were forgiven, and lands were returned to their original owners; freedom was restored to those who had fallen into misfortune and ended up in slavery.

It is unlikely that this ideal was ever fully realized, but more than its concrete implementation, it was primarily about a desire to restore the proper relationship with God, among people, and with creation. This included the remission of debts, the return of land, and the rest for the earth.

2. The Jubilee of Jesus: Year of Grace

The beginning of Jesus' public life is set by the evangelist Luke in the synagogue of Nazareth, on a Sabbath. It was his turn to read and comment on a passage from the prophet Isaiah (Is 61:1-2). With those words, Jesus presented himself as the one sent by the Father to inaugurate a Jubilee, "a year of grace":

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Luke 4:18-19

In Jesus' words, the Holy Year becomes a **paradigm for the life of a Christian**, who recognizes the suffering as the recipients of Christ's and the Church's mission. The year of grace mentioned by the Lord includes some fundamental actions, such as bringing the Good News to the poor; proclaiming liberty to captives; restoring sight to the blind; and setting the oppressed free. These words were, in fact, realized through acts of liberation and conversion in the daily encounters and relationships of Jesus.



3. The “Ordinary” Jubilee of the Church

The first Jubilee was proclaimed by Boniface VIII in **1300**, also called the "Holy Year," as it is a time to experience the transformative holiness of God. The Pope proclaimed the Jubilee with the aim of strengthening the Church's spiritual authority and promoting Christian devotion, granting a **Plenary Indulgence** to pilgrims who traveled to Rome and visited the Basilicas of St. Peter and St. Paul.



Boniface VIII



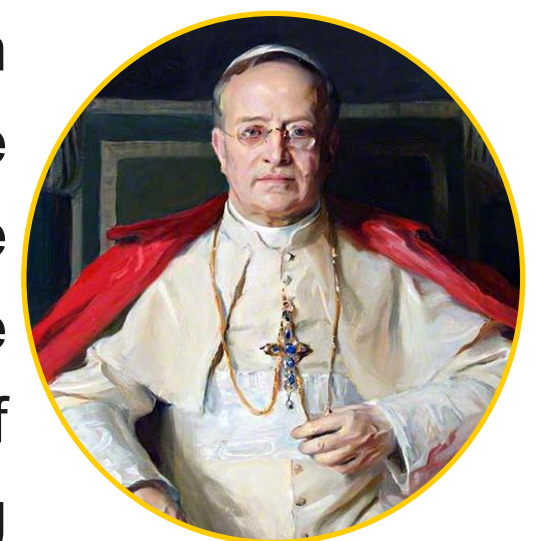
Clement VI

Initially, the Jubilee was celebrated every 100 years. The success of the first grand Jubilee led Clement VI in **1343** to reduce the interval to every 50 years. The event responded to a widespread spiritual need during the Middle Ages, offering the faithful an opportunity to atone for sins in a time of historical uncertainty and transition, reaffirming the central role of the Church as the **mediator** of salvation. In **1470**, Paul II decided to reduce the interval to every 25 years, a schedule that has been followed ever since.

4. The “Extraordinary” Jubilee of the Church

In addition to the “ordinary” Jubilees, there have also been “extraordinary” Jubilees.

In **1933**, Pius XI issued the bull *Quod Nuper*, proclaiming an extraordinary Jubilee to commemorate 1900 years of the **Redemption**. The event was organized with great solemnity: the Pope delivered 620 speeches, while over 2 million pilgrims came to Rome to participate. To facilitate their arrival from all corners of the world, more than 500 railway carriages were used, making the occasion a moment of global faith and celebration.



Pius XI

With the bull *Misericordiae Vultus* in **2015**, Pope Francis declared a Jubilee for the 50th anniversary of the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council. The Jubilee was dedicated to **Mercy**. For the first time, the “Door of Mercy” was opened not only in Rome but in cathedrals around the world, as well as in shrines, hospitals, and prisons. The Pope established Missionaries of Mercy for the occasion, granting them the faculty to forgive sins reserved to the Holy See, a great sign of mercy and closeness.



Francis

The Jubilee has always held a prominent place in the history of the Church, representing a special period of grace, reconciliation, and spiritual renewal for believers. Since its inception, it has been conceived as an opportunity to obtain plenary indulgence through repentance, confession, and pilgrimage. Each Jubilee reflects the spiritual and historical needs of its time, strengthening the bond between the faithful and the Church. Moreover, it has had a significant social and cultural impact, drawing millions of pilgrims and fostering a sense of Christian communion and solidarity.

Jubilee Calendar

Beginning, Duration and Conclusion

Fr. Airtón Mainardi, oad - @mainardifreiairton



The Jubilee is an ordinary celebration of the Church, a special period of grace, forgiveness, and spiritual renewal, representing a moment of reconciliation and reflection for the faithful worldwide.

1. The Beginning of the Jubilee: The Symbolic Rite of Opening

The ordinary Jubilee of 2025 officially and solemnly began on **December 24, 2024**, when Pope Francis, immediately after the 7:00 p.m. Mass followed by the procession, opened the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican.

The other major Basilicas in Rome also have **Holy Doors**:

St. John Lateran

December 29, 2024

in celebration of the 1700 years of dedication



Saint Mary Major

January 1st, 2025

on the solemnity of the Mother of God

in the evening of the Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 2025

Saint Paul Outside the Walls

Furthermore, in response to the Holy Father's expressed desire to personally open a Holy Door in a prison "to offer prisoners a concrete sign of closeness",

on **December 26, 2024**, the day of St. Stephen, Pope Francis opened the Holy Door in the Roman prison of Rebibbia, marking a historic moment in the tradition of ordinary Jubilees.

The Holy Door represents an invitation to all the faithful to undertake a **journey of faith and reconciliation**, symbolically crossing a threshold of mercy and spiritual renewal. This rite, which occurs only during Jubilee years, offers pilgrims the possibility of obtaining a Plenary Indulgence, according to the provisions of the Church.

This rite is profoundly symbolic, since the Holy Door represents access to divine mercy. During the opening rite, the Pope knocks **three times** on the door, symbolizing the call to Christ and his mercy.

Holy Door in the Vatican



The Jubilee will end a little over a year later, with the closing of the Holy Door on the day of the Epiphany, January 6, 2026.

2. The Duration of the Jubilee

An **Ordinary Jubilee**, held every 25 years, generally lasts about a year. For example, the ordinary Jubilee of 2000 began on December 24, 1999, and ended on January 6, 2001. An **Extraordinary Jubilee**, on the other hand, has a more flexible duration, determined directly by the Pope depending on the circumstances. For example, the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, called by Pope Francis, began on December 8, 2015, and ended on November 20, 2016, lasting just under a year.

The start and end dates of the Jubilee are established by the Pope in the Papal Bull of Indiction, a document written in Latin bearing the Pope's seal. Each Bull is identified by its opening words. For example, Saint John Paul II proclaimed the Jubilee of 2000 with the Bull *Incarnationis Mysterium* (The Mystery of the Incarnation).

For the 2025 Jubilee, Pope Francis announced the Jubilee through the Bull *Spes non confundit* (Hope does not disappoint), read on May 9, 2024, with the motto *Pellegrini di speranza* (Pilgrims of Hope), setting the start of the Jubilee on December 24, 2024, and ending a little over a year later, with the closing of the Holy Door on the day of the Epiphany, January 6, 2026.



Confession is a characteristic of the Jubilee

The annual duration of the Jubilee is full of meaning: it allows the faithful from around the world to visit Rome and participate in the Jubilee events. This duration also symbolizes a "**year of grace**", a period of time during which the faithful are invited to deep reflection and intensified practice of charity and mercy.

3. Events and Pilgrimages during the Jubilee

During the Jubilee year, **various religious events**, pilgrimages, and moments of prayer take place in the basilicas and other sacred places. Pilgrims participating in the Jubilee have the opportunity to receive the plenary indulgence, which is the total remission of temporal punishment for sins that have been confessed and forgiven.

In addition to the pilgrimage to the main basilicas, the faithful are encouraged to perform works of charity and mercy, such as visiting the sick, helping the poor, and supporting charitable endeavors.



JUBILEE 2025

CALENDAR OF MAJOR EVENTS

DECEMBER 2024

24 December

Opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica



Photo Vatican Media

JANUARY 2025

24-26 January

Jubilee of the World of Communications

FEBRUARY 2025

8-9 February

Jubilee of Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel

15-18 February

Jubilee of Artists

21-23 February

Jubilee of Deacons

MARCH 2025

8-9 March

Jubilee of the World of Volunteering

28 March

24 Hours for the Lord

28-30 March

Jubilee of the Missionaries of Mercy

APRIL 2025

5-6 April

Jubilee of the Sick and Health Care Workers

25-27 April

Jubilee of Teenagers

28-29 April

Jubilee of People with Disabilities

MAY 2025

1-4 May

Jubilee of Workers

4-5 May

Jubilee of Entrepreneurs

10-11 May

Jubilee of Marching Bands

12-14 May

Jubilee of the Eastern Churches

16-18 May

Jubilee of Confraternities

30 May - 1 June

Jubilee of Families, Children, Grandparents and the Elderly



JUNE 2025

7-8 June

Jubilee of Ecclesial Movements, Associations and New Communities

9 June

Jubilee of the Holy See

14-15 June

Jubilee of Sport

20-22 June

Jubilee of Governments

23-24 June

Jubilee of Seminarians

25 June

Jubilee of Bishops

25-27 June

Jubilee of Priests

JULY 2025

28 July - 3 August

Jubilee of Youth

SEPTEMBER 2025

15 September

Jubilee of Consolation

20 September

Jubilee of Justice

26-28 September

Jubilee of Catechists

OCTOBER 2025

4-5 October

Jubilee of the Missions

4-5 October

Jubilee of Migrants

8-9 October

Jubilee of Consecrated Life

11-12 October

Jubilee of Marian Spirituality

31 October - 2 November

Jubilee of the World of Education



NOVEMBER 2025

16 November

Jubilee of the Poor

22-23 November

Jubilee of Choirs

DECEMBER 2025

14 December

Jubilee of Prisoners

Pilgrimage and Holy Doors

Peregrinantes in Spem

Fr. Dennis Ruiz, oad - @dennisdueneruiz



The Jubilee 2025, with the expression *Peregrinantes in Spem* (Pilgrims of Hope), invites us to reflect on the profound meaning of the Christian pilgrimage and the crossing of the Holy Doors as symbols of conversion and spiritual renewal.

Pope Francis and Saint Augustine offer us valuable insights to understand the significance of this journey, which leads us towards God, the source of our hope.

1. Pilgrimage: A Journey of Faith and Hope

Pilgrimage is an **act of faith** that represents humanity's desire to draw closer to God. It is both an inner and outer journey, a movement of the heart seeking peace and reconciliation..

As Saint Augustine says: “Become a pilgrim within your own inner house. Within you dwells the truth you seek” (*Sermo 52*).

In the context of the Jubilee, the pilgrimage to the Holy Doors reminds us that we are all pilgrims on this earth, journeying toward the heavenly homeland. The phrase *Peregrinantes in Spem* emphasizes that our journey is fueled by hope: hope for a renewed world, for a life transformed by the love of God.

Pope Francis, in line with this vision, exhorts us: “Hope does not disappoint, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit” (Rom 5:5; Homily, December 8, 2021).

Pilgrimage, therefore, becomes an act of trust in God’s promise, inviting us to walk with perseverance even through difficulties.

2. The Holy Doors: A Symbol of Grace and Renewal

Crossing a Holy Door during the Jubilee is not merely a ritual act but a profound act of faith. The Door represents Christ Himself, who said: “**I am the door; whoever enters through me will be saved**” (John 10:9).

Pope Francis, reflecting on the significance of the Holy Doors, states: “The Holy Door is a concrete sign of the Father’s mercy, which welcomes everyone and comes to meet each person” (*Misericordiae Vultus 14*). Passing through it is an invitation to leave the past behind, to abandon sin, and to begin a **new life**.



Being an eternal pilgrim

Saint Augustine reminds us of the importance of grace in this process: “Do not glory in your works, for the good ones are yours only because God has worked them in you” (*De gratia et libero arbitrio* 15). The act of crossing the Holy Door invites us to recognize that every change, every reconciliation, is a gift from God working within our hearts.



Faithful crossing the Holy Door

3. Pilgrims in Hope of a New World

The Jubilee is not just an individual event but a moment of renewal for the entire Christian community and the world. Pope Francis emphasizes that this Jubilee must promote “the rebuilding of a climate of hope” and become a sign of “a renewed rebirth.” By crossing the Holy Doors, we are called to bring the hope we have received to others. Saint Augustine encourages us to be instruments of peace and unity: “God is not far from anyone, but you must draw near to Him with love” (*Enarrationes in Psalmos* 145).

4. Conclusion: An Invitation to Conversion and Joy

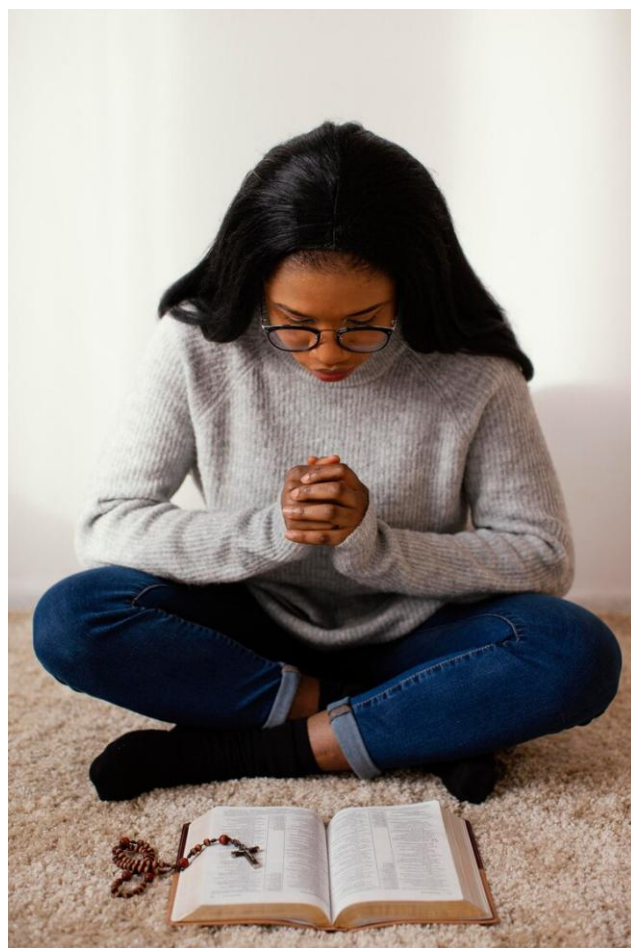
The pilgrimage and the Holy Doors of the Jubilee 2025 remind us that our life is a journey toward God. On this journey, nourished by hope, we can renew our hearts and contribute to building a more just and fraternal world.

As Pope Francis says: “Let yourselves be guided by hope. Walk as pilgrims toward the future that God has prepared for you” (General Audience, January 6, 2021). With faith and trust, let us cross the Holy Door and embrace the Jubilee’s invitation: *Peregrinantes in Spem*. May our pilgrimage become an opportunity for grace, joy, and peace for ourselves and for the entire world.

Prayer in the Jubilee

Heartbeat of the Jubilee Year

Fra Neba Princewill, oad - @neba.princewill.52



In a world where noise and uncertainty relentlessly strive to take over the quiet and silent voice that connects man to his Creator, prayer stands out as the only way through which we can restore this creature-Creator relationship.

This is why the Church emphasizes the importance of prayer in the lives of Christians. And especially now, in the celebration of the Jubilee, it seeks to reignite the awareness that prayer is a **natural attitude** of every Christian; that is, "the breath of life" that never ceases "even while we sleep," as Pope Francis says.

One of the main characteristics of the Jubilee is prayer, so it is important to reflect on the significance of prayer and some of its key features in this Holy Year.

1. Official Prayer of the Jubilee

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

2. What is Prayer?

We usually take for granted the definition and understanding of what prayer is for the obvious reason that a Christian identifies with their relationship with Christ, and prayer is the bridge between these two realities. However, it is important to make some clarifications about what prayer is, for a better understanding and correct practice.

Christian prayer is a **conversation with the Lord**. It can take the form of a petition, thanksgiving, supplication, etc., and can be personal or communal. Whatever form it takes, it must be a genuine and honest encounter in which one is willing to open every part of their life to their Creator, who knows everything and is ready to engage in dialogue and guide us.

Prayer is more than a ritual; it is a deep **act of communication** with the divine, offering comfort, guidance, and connection. It is truly "the living relationship of God's children with their infinitely good Father, with His Son Jesus Christ, and with the Holy Spirit," as the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC 2565) states.

3. Prayer in the Jubilee or Jubilee in Prayer?

From the origin of the Jubilee celebration, the role of prayer is clear; without it, it becomes a social event or a mere celebration of rites and rituals without spirituality. This is why the Holy Father, to encourage Christians to properly prepare for the Holy Year, calls for a year of prayer. He invites them to a great symphony of prayer that rekindles the "[...] desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to Him, and to worship Him." Therefore, prayer is at the very center of the Jubilee; it is the **heartbeat of reconciliation**, renewal, and hope, which are the central values of the Jubilee year.



Prayer is characteristic of the pilgrim

4. Prayer: A Path to Reconciliation

In prayer, we are reminded of the deep and personal manifestation of God's mercy. It is in prayer that the deepest need of man for the Father's mercy is revealed. In fact, it is through prayer that individuals restore their **relationship with God**, which then translates into better relationships with others and with all of creation

.Powerful moments of this new relationship with God are the celebration of the **sacrament of penance**, which places those in need before the mercy of God, and the **Eucharist**, which is the source and summit of the Christian life.

5. Prayer as a Source of Renewal

The Jubilee also brings with it a sense of renewed commitment, which can only be achieved through prayer. It promotes spiritual and communal revitalization in every Christian who comes into contact with God. In this regard, Pope Francis says: "Through prayer, the Word of God comes to dwell in us, and we dwell in it. The Word inspires good intentions and supports action; it gives us strength and serenity, and even when it challenges us, it gives us peace" (General Audience, January 27, 2021).

6. Prayer as a Source of Hope

Furthermore, prayer gives us the hope that sustains us throughout this earthly journey. In prayer, the Pope says, we discover how much we are loved by God, and this discovery gives us the hope and courage to live each day so that the problems we face are no longer obstacles to our happiness, but invitations from God, opportunities for our **encounter with Him** (cf. Angelus, January 9, 2022).

In fact, "we are called to rediscover the priceless gift of being able to dialogue with the Lord, heart to heart, thus becoming pilgrims of hope, because 'prayer is the first force of hope. You pray, and your hope grows, takes a step forward. I would say that prayer opens the door to hope. Hope is always there, but with my prayer, I open the door to it'" (Catechesis, May 20, 2020).

7. Prayer Routine or Routine Prayer?

Depending on how our life and activities are structured, it is possible for prayer to become a routine; that is, a mechanical practice without awareness, just like brushing our teeth when we wake up. This is why the Church warns us against any automatism

and encourages us to practice a more **conscious and genuine** prayer.

Saint Augustine's *Rule* emphasizes the importance of meditating in the heart on what is spoken with the voice. According to the Saint, only the cry of the heart, or the desire of the heart, makes prayer genuine. Augustine further states: "He who prays with desire sings in his heart even if his tongue is silent, but if he prays without desire, he is mute before God, even if his voice resounds in the ears of men."

In reality, we are encouraged to create a routine of prayer rather

than a prayer of routine, as Saint Augustine highlights in the *Rule*: "Be prompt in attending to prayers at the appointed hours and times.»



Tradition and Technology

Innovation at the Service of Faith

Fra Phan Thanh Vu, oad



The 2025 Jubilee, one of the most significant events of the Church, has been long prepared in Rome and in the Vatican City. It is not just a religious celebration, but a moment of great spiritual significance that transcends geographical and temporal boundaries, inspiring hope, peace, and global unity. A Jubilee characterized by a unique combination of religious tradition and technology, opening new paths to live and share the faith.

1. Social Media

In the digital age, technology serves as an essential bridge, carrying the message of the Jubilee beyond any geographical limits.

- Through platforms like Facebook, Instagram, X, YouTube, TikTok, and others, the Church shares testimonies of faith, promotes events, and encourages spiritual pilgrimage.

Hashtags like **#Iubilaeum2025** or **#Jubilee2025** have become tools to connect the faithful worldwide, allowing them to experience the Jubilee even from a distance.



2. Iubilaeum25 App

An innovative aspect of the 2025 Jubilee is the Iubilaeum25 App, available for both iOS and Android devices. The app not only provides detailed information about events but also integrates pilgrimage maps, spiritual guides, and real-time notifications.

Thanks to this technology, the faithful from around the world can accompany the Church on their spiritual journey.

The App also allows pilgrims to register and obtain a Pilgrim's Card with a QR code, simplifying access to major events and the Holy Doors. This practical tool represents a way to combine faith and technology, making the pilgrimage a **tangible and accessible experience**.



3. Luce: the Official Mascot

The official mascot of the Jubilee is named **Luce**, symbolizing joy, hope, and forgiveness. Luce has a youthful and modern design, perfect for connecting with new generations.

With its golden cloak, pilgrim's staff, cross, and rosary, Luce represents the spiritual journey, the power of prayer, and hope in God's love.

In addition to being a symbol, Luce will be present at major events, in media content, and on souvenirs, creating an interactive space between the Church and young people. This demonstrates the Church's commitment to reaching a new generation, one that is a bearer of hope and eager to build a **bright future**.

4. Young People "Online" and the Jubilee

Through social media, online seminars, and virtual meetings, young people will not only discover the meaning of the Jubilee but also become witnesses of hope in their communities. During a meeting with those responsible for youth ministry in May 2024, Pope Francis emphasized that the Church must help young people realize that "God is love, Christ saves and lives in them."

Experiences like prayer, the Eucharist, reconciliation, and service to others will inspire in young people a **deep faith** and the mission to proclaim the joy of the Gospel.



5. Official Anthem

The official anthem of the 2025 Jubilee, *Pellegrini di Speranza* (Pilgrims of Hope), reflects the central theme chosen by Pope Francis, celebrating the Christian journey guided by Christ.

The melody, solemn and inclusive, invites prayer and communion, emphasizing the value of the pilgrimage toward God. With a simple message, the anthem calls to mind divine mercy and the mission of being instruments of peace and hope, embodying the spirit of reconciliation and renewal of the Jubilee.



5. Conclusion

The 2025 Jubilee will not only be an occasion for prayer and conversion but also a moment in which the Church harmoniously unites tradition and technology to spread a **message of hope and unity**.

Through hashtags, apps, and symbols like Luce, the Church demonstrates that faith can be alive and connected everywhere: from the ancient streets of Rome to the digital screens of millions of faithful. The Jubilee will be a true global journey of hope, where every believer is invited not only to participate but to build a future rooted in the light and love of God.

Some Pictures

Sharing a Bit of our Life



October - November 2024

Brazil and Paraguay

The Prior General concluded his visit to all our Communities and to the brothers of the Province Santa Rita de Cássia; Fr. Nei also had the opportunity to meet the Bishops of the Dioceses in which we are present



November 11-21, 2024

Toledo - Brazil

The Province of Santa Rita de Cássia met to celebrate the 6th Provincial Chapter, a propitious moment to evaluate, plan and elect the new Prior Provincial and his Council



November 11-15, 2024

Cebu City - Philippines

Several confreres of the Province Saint Nicholas of Tolentino participated in the Annual Retreat, dedicating themselves to reflecting on fundamental themes of Christian existence and religious and priestly life, drawing inspiration from Augustinian spirituality



November 20, 2024

Toledo - Brazil

The new Prior Provincial, Fr. José Valnir da Silva, and his Council: Fr. Darci Prazyvara (Vicar Provincial), Fr. Joacir Chiodi (2nd Councilor), Fr. César Gonçalves (3rd Councilor), Fr. Gelson Lazarin (4th Councilor)



November 11-14, 2024**Rome - Italy**

Fr. Dennis Ruiz, Postulator General, together with a group of lay people from the Philippines, participated in the Conference organized by the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints at the Augustinianum Patristic Institute; the theme of the Conference was: *There is no greater love: Martyrdom and offering of life*

**November 18-22, 2024****Rome - Italy**

Confreres from the General Curia and some Sommmunities from Italy and the Philippines participated in the International Congress *Sub Regula Augustini* on the reception of the figure and doctrine of Saint Augustine

**November 20-22, 2024****Sacrofano - Italy**

Fr. Renan Ilustrisimo, Vicar General, participated in the 102nd Assembly of the Union of Superiors General (USG) which had as its theme: *How to be a missionary synodal consecrated life* in the light of the recent Synod of Bishops, celebrated on synodality

**November 22, 2024****Vatican City**

Fr. Annacletus Nzewuihe, Director of the SMIT (Saint Monica Institute of Theology) in Cebu City, visited the Dicastery for Culture and Education to ascertain the status of the process of affiliation of the Institute to the University of Santo Tomas in Manila



December 10, 2024

Italy

The Confreres from various Italian Communities, divided into three groups (North, Center and South), gathered in Acquaviva, Marsala and Genoa for the regional meetings in preparation for the Lord's Christmas and the beginning of the Jubilee 2025



December 15, 2024

Bafut - Cameroon

Fr. Etienne Atanga presided over the Mass in which Fra Neba Francis made his Simple Profession of vows, concluding his Novitiate Year and preparing to begin his theological studies; priests, confreres, nuns and family members of the newly Professed were present



December 24, 2024

Vatican City

Confreres of the General Curia were present in St. Peter's Basilica to accompany the opening of the Holy Door, representing our Order in this important ecclesial moment and responding to the Pope's invitation to fully live the Jubilee with fervor and hope



December 25, 2024

Villa Elisa - Paraguay

After the construction of the main Church, the catechesis complex of the Santos Arcángeles Parish was inaugurated with the presence of the parish priest, Fr. Cléber da Silva, the leaders and more than 1,000 adolescents and young people



December 25, 2024

Dong Nai - Vietnam

Our confreres celebrated Christmas in some areas of Dong Nai Province, especially for the Vietnamese residing in Cambodia; it was the first time that Christmas was celebrated in this area, a beautiful missionary testimony of our Order in Vietnam



December 28, 2024

Genoa - Italy

Msgr. Marco Tasca presided over the solemn Mass in the Parish of San Nicola da Tolentino in which he ordained Fr. John Yuhtoh Nuh as Deacon, with the presence of the Prior Provincial, confreres, friends and parishioners



30 dicembre 2024

Valverde - Italia

Msgr. Antonino Raspanti presided over the solemn Mass in the Madonna di Valverde Sanctuary in which he ordained Fr. Michael Tukov as Priest and Fra Wilfred Shiyghan as Deacon, with the presence of the Prior General, confreres, friends and people linked to our sanctuary



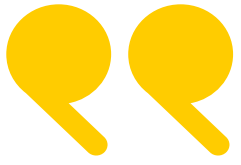
We, the Editorial Board of the magazine Presenza Agostiniana, would like to express our sincerest gratitude to all of you, our readers, who have accompanied us with affection and interest throughout our journey in 2024, a special year in which the magazine celebrated its 50th anniversary and completed its full digitalization and distribution in three languages.

Your participation has been crucial in making this important transition possible, allowing us to continue exploring the Augustinian spirituality of the Barefoot Order and to share with us this new phase, which enables us to look ahead with hope and even greater connection.

Prior General's Message

Merry Christmas and Happy Holy Year

Fr. Nei Márcio Simon, oad - @freineisimon



Dear confreres, affiliates, and friends,

the mystery of the incarnation of the Word of God, which we celebrate in the Solemnity of Christmas, invites us not to overlook the preciousness of the moment we are living.

Saint Augustine says: “The maker of man, he was made man, so that the director of the stars might be a babe at the breast; that bread might be hungry, and the fountain thirsty; that the light might sleep, and the way be weary from a journey; that the truth might be accused by false witnesses” (*Sermo* 191,1).

God chose to assume our frailties, to live our poverty, to experience the limits of our existence. And what are we doing to meet Him? What will be our concrete commitment this Christmas? What will we do to open wide the doors of our hearts and welcome Him?

I wish only that each of us becomes more aware of how deeply we are loved by the Creator and marvels at embracing the Christ Child with humility.

Merry Christmas and a Happy Holy Year!



