



January 23, 2024

## Plenary Indulgences for the Jubilee Year 2025

### Diocese of Mandya

#### What is a plenary indulgence?

The infinite merits of Christ's death and resurrection have been entrusted on earth to his Church. The Church, therefore, has both the duty and responsibility for establishing the conditions by which these graces might be dispensed to the faithful. The ordinary means of communicating Christ's graces comes through the celebration of the sacraments, and especially through the reception of the Holy Eucharist. By these beneficent means, the faithful are united themselves more closely to the salvific work of Christ: "By his wounds, you have been healed." (1 Pt. 2:24; Is. 53:5)

In addition to these ordinary sacramental means, the Church can apply the merits of Christ's saving work to special or extraordinary acts of devotion undertaken by the faithful to unite themselves to the one saving work of Christ. The application of these graces through such special acts is termed "indulgences," which share the same nature of penances given in the Sacrament of Confession. Indulgences can be applied either to oneself or to another, including the souls in Purgatory. The effect of an indulgence is a partial remission of the temporal punishment due to sin which one would undergo in Purgatory.

In even more special instances, such as a Jubilee year, the Church applies Christ's graces in an even more distinct way by attaching a **plenary indulgence** to certain devotional practices. A plenary indulgence gains for oneself or for another a complete remission of all temporal punishment in Purgatory.

In order to gain a plenary indulgence, a person must **(1)** fulfil the specific act to which the plenary indulgence is attached, and **(2)** fulfil the "usual conditions" for an indulgence.

#### **The "usual conditions" for obtaining any indulgence**

In addition to the specific acts related to a plenary indulgence, the faithful must fulfil all the usual conditions, which are:

1. Detachment from all sin, even venial sin.
2. Sacramental confession and reception of Holy Communion.
3. Praying the 'Our Father,' 'Hail Mary' and glory be' for the specific intentions of the Pope. Every month, the Pope announces a specific prayer intention close to his heart.

## **Specific acts to which the Jubilee Plenary Indulgence is attached**

During this Jubilee Year of Hope, from Christmas Eve (December 24) 2024 to Epiphany (January 6) 2026, Pope Francis has applied the Jubilee Plenary Indulgence to acts of devotion to which can be fulfilled in Rome and throughout the world. For the purposes of the Diocese of Sacramento, these acts can be grouped into five major categories.

### **First Category: Pilgrimages to Rome**

Making a pilgrimage to the tombs of the Apostles Peter and Paul is the most traditional act related to plenary indulgence. A member of the faithful who piously visits any of the four major papal basilicas (Saint Peter in the Vatican, Saint Paul Outside the Walls, Saint John Lateran, and Saint Mary Major) while fulfilling the usual conditions can receive the plenary indulgence. This also applies to visits to other select sites in Rome, such as the Catacombs and the Basilica of the Holy Cross.

### **Second Category: Visits to designated sites in Mandya Diocese**

Diocesan Bishops can also designate pilgrimage locations within their dioceses where plenary indulgence can be gained. In the Diocese of Mandya, this firstly applies to our Cathedral of Infant Jesus at Hinkal. There are nine churches where people can receive indulgence:

1. **Infant Jesus Cathedral, Hinkal**
2. **Saint Thomas Forane Church, Dharmaram**
3. **Holy Family Forane Church, Hongasandra**
4. **Saint Thomas Forane Church, Jalahalli**
5. **St. Alphonsa Forane Church, Sulthan Palaya**
6. **Mount Carmel Forane Church, Carmelaram**
7. **St. Sebastian Forane Church, Mathikare**
8. **Saint Mary's Church, Hassan (For Hassan Region)**
9. **Saint Mary's Church, Kalenahalli (For Mandya Region)**

**Each of the above churches should publish this matter and make the needed arrangements such as:**

- Providing a facility for confession
- Making a place in the church where the faithful can come and pray during the day and in the evenings.
- Someone available for spiritual counselling

For more specific information about the jubilee indulgence, consult the "Norms Concerning the Concession of the Plenary Indulgence during the Jubilee year 2025" published by the Apostolic Penitentiary, available in several languages.

With love,

Bishop Sebastian Adayanthrath

