

ABOUT THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

On May 9, 2024, Pope Francis released a Papal Bull of Indiction which formally announced the Jubilee Year of Hope. The document was entitled *Spes non confundit* --“Hope does not disappoint” (Rom 5:5). In it, Pope Francis writes on the reasons for this theme for the Jubilee Year:

In the spirit of hope, the Apostle Paul addressed these words of encouragement to the Christian community of Rome. Hope is also the central message of the coming Jubilee that, in accordance with an ancient tradition, the Pope proclaims every twenty-five years.... For everyone, may the Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the “door” (cf. *Jn 10:7.9*) of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere and to all as “our hope” (*1 Tim 1:1*).

Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God’s word helps us find reasons for that hope. ... (1).

“During the Holy Year, may the light of Christian hope illumine every man and woman, as a message of God’s love addressed to all! And may the Church bear faithful witness to this message in every part of the world!” (*Spes non confundit*, 6).

IMPORTANT VATICAN DATES

December 24, 2024	(Christmas Eve) Pope Francis will open the Holy Door at the Basilica of St Peter, thus inaugurating the Ordinary Jubilee.
December 29, 2024	(Feast of the Holy Family) Pope Francis will open the Holy Door of his cathedral, Saint John Lateran, which on November 9, 2024 celebrated the 1700 th anniversary of its dedication.
January 1, 2025	(Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God) Pope Francis will open the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of Saint Mary Major.
January 5, 2025	(Epiphany) The Holy Father will open the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls. These last three Holy Doors will be closed on Sunday, December 28, 2025.
January 6, 2026	The Ordinary Jubilee will conclude with the closing of the Holy Door in the Papal Basilica of Saint Peter in the Vatican on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord.