



PRAYER OF POPE FRANCIS

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
to be merciful
like the heavenly Father,
and have told us that
whoever sees you
sees Him.
Show us your face
and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed
Zacchaeus and Matthew
from being enslaved by
money; the adulteress and
Magdalene from seeking
happiness only in created
things; made Peter weep
after his betrayal, and
assured Paradise to the
repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed
to each one of us, the words
that you spoke to the
Samaritan woman:
"If you knew the gift of
God!"

You are the visible face of
the invisible Father,
of the God who manifests his
power above all by
forgiveness and mercy:
let the Church be your
visible face in the world,
its Lord risen and glorified.
You willed that your
ministers would also be
clothed in weakness
in order that they may feel
compassion for those in
ignorance and error:
let everyone who
approaches them feel sought
after, loved,
and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and
consecrate every one of us
with His anointing,
so that the Jubilee of Mercy
may be a year of grace
from the Lord,
and your Church,
with renewed enthusiasm,
may bring good news to the
poor, proclaim liberty to
captives and the oppressed,
and restore sight to the
blind.

We ask this of you, Lord
Jesus, through the
intercession of Mary, Mother
of Mercy;
you who live and reign
with the Father and the Holy
Spirit for ever
And ever.
Amen.

Pilgrimage Sites

During this Extraordinary
Jubilee, Pope Francis has
invited each of us to make
a pilgrimage to a holy
place.

The following places have
been designated as
pilgrimage sites in the
Diocese of Saint Cloud
during the Year of Mercy.

1. St. John's Abbey and
the Shrine of St.
Peregrine, *Collegeville*
2. The Shrine of St. Odilia
and the Crosier Priory,
Onamia
3. Sacred Heart Chapel
at the Franciscan Sisters
of Little Falls, *Little Falls*
4. The chapel at the Poor
Clare Monastery, *Sauk
Rapids*
5. The Cathedral of Saint
Mary and the Shrine of
St. Cloud, *St. Cloud*
6. Sacred Heart Chapel
at St. Benedict's
Monastery, *St. Joseph*
7. St. Paul's Church and
the Shrine of Divine
Mercy, *Sauk Centre*
8. Assumption (Grasshopper)
Chapel, *Cold Spring*

In addition, everyone is
invited to engage the
Corporal and Spiritual
Works of Mercy throughout
the year.

*A few notes and
suggestions:*

- Help promote the
[Pilgrimage Passport](#) -
more information online
- Organize a parish-
wide pilgrimage
- Information regarding
the plenary indulgence
will soon appear on the
[Year of Mercy](#) website.

A Few Online Resources

Here are a few resources
that may help your parish
in planning activities during
the Year of Mercy. If you
have great ideas, please
share them with us and we
can put them on the Year of
Mercy webpage for others.

- [Ave Maria Press](#)
- [Loyola Press](#)
- [Our Sunday Visitor](#)
- [Official Website](#)
- [Official Hymn](#) - we'll
be singing this at diocesan
celebrations.

Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy

Each month, we will focus on one or two of the various works of mercy.

We invite you to plan activities in the parish and school accordingly.

December	Shelter the Homeless/ Welcome the Stranger
January	Comfort the Afflicted
February	Forgive All Offenses/Injury
March	Feed the Hungry and Give Drink to the Thirsty
April	Clothe the Naked
May	Bury the Dead
June	Visit the Sick
July	Counsel the Doubtful and Teach the Ignorant
August	Admonish Sinners
September	Bear Wrongs Patiently
October	Pray for the Living and the Dead
November	Visit the Imprisoned

Office of Marriage and Family

We are launching a new page on our web-site that will provide Catholic responses to pornography.

It will highlight the U.S. Bishop's recent

pastoral letter "Create a Clean Heart" and other resources. The bishops approved this letter in November of this year.

Here is an excellent on-line movie on the lives of St Faustina, Maximillian Kolbe and JPII called "Ocean of Mercy"

Catholic Education Ministries

We will be updating our website to include several resources for parish and school. Check it out in the next few weeks.

Office of Worship

General Intercessions for the Month of January

January 3

That those who are afflicted in any way, may know God's comfort revealed in the newborn Christ. Let us pray to the Lord.

January 17

Using IS 62:1-5

That God may bestow abundant blessings on all those who feel forsaken and desolate. Let us pray to the Lord.

January 31

That all those who are suffering any burden or affliction may find hope in God and experience God's great love. Let us pray to the Lord.

January 10

Using: IS 40:1-5, 9-11

That those whose struggle finds them in a rugged land and battling the rough country, May receive God's mercy and comfort. Let us pray to the Lord.

January 24

That the Spirit of the Lord enliven those called to minister in Christ's name and assist them in bringing glad tidings to the poor and afflicted. Let us pray to the Lord.

Upcoming Events

Here are a few events that may interest you and your community. More details will come in the following weeks and be published on the diocesan webpage.

1. *Festival of Forgiveness, Friday, May 4* - each deanery will have a designated church where the sacrament of reconciliation will be available over the course of 12 hours.
2. *Feast of Saint Cloud, Wednesday, September 7; 7:00 p.m.* - Everyone is invited to the Cathedral of Saint Mary for a diocesan celebration. More details will follow.