

JOHN CURTIS BISHOP OF COVINGTON

DECREE

Designating Sacred Jubilee Sites

Our Holy Father Pope Francis has established the Ordinary Jubilee Year 2025, calling on all Christians to be *pilgrims of hope* and inviting everyone "to an intense experience of the love of God" *(Spes non confundit,* 6).

The Apostolic Penitentiary, in the decree establishing the norms of the Jubilee Indulgence (May 13, 2024) emphasizes that the Indulgence is a *gift*. It is a "Jubilee grace." The Indulgence "is a way of discovering the unlimited nature of God's mercy." (*Spes non confundit*, 23).

For the benefit of the People of God, the norms allow the diocesan bishop to designate Sacred Jubilee Sites within his diocese. At these sites the faithful, *pilgrims of hope*, will be able to obtain the Jubilee Indulgence granted by the Holy Father if they undertake a pilgrimage or pious visit to any one of these sites, while fulfilling the usual conditions.

I, therefore, John C. Iffert, Bishop of Covington, declare that the following sites are designated as Sacred Jubilee Sites for the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025:

the **Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption** in Covington, Kentucky;

the parish church of **Saint John the Evangelist** in Carrollton, Kentucky; and

> the parish church of **Saint Patrick** in Maysville, Kentucky.

Four things are necessary to gain this Plenary Indulgence.

1. A pilgrimage or pious visit to the Sacred Jubilee Site. This may be fulfilled by devoutly participating in Holy Mass, any public liturgy of the Church (even some part of the

Liturgy of the Hours offered privately), confessing and receiving mercy in the Sacrament of Penance, the Way of the Cross, the Rosary; or by a meaningful period of Eucharistic adoration and meditation (exposition is not required), or at least the praying of the Our Father, the Apostles' or Nicene Creed, and a Marian prayer or antiphon.

- 2. Sacramental confession.
- 3. Eucharistic Communion
- 4. Prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father.

The conditions of confession, Communion and prayer for the Pope's intentions may be fulfilled several days before or after the pilgrimage or pious visit.

The norms also provide that the faithful who are prevented by the cloister, imprisonment, illness or another legitimate and important cause, can obtain the Jubilee Indulgence under the same conditions if, united in spirit with the faithful taking part in person, they recite the Our Father, the Profession of Faith in any approved form, and other prayers, while offering up their sufferings or the hardships of their lives.

This Decree is effective from the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, January 5, 2025, to the Solemnity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, November 23, 2025.

Given at the Diocese of Covington, in the City of Covington, Kentucky, on the Fifth day of January, in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.

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Most Rev. John C. Iffert **Bishop of Covington**

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Chancellor