



## **CELEBRATION OF THE WORD OF GOD**



**TO BE CELEBRATED WITH PILGRIMS AT A DESIGNATED  
ARCHDIOCESAN JUBILEE SITE  
LED BY A LAY PERSON  
FOR USE DURING THE ORDINARY JUBILEE YEAR 2025**

## **GATHERING**

The *Jubilee Hymn* or another appropriate song may be sung, or the *Litany of the Saints* may be recited by the gathered assembly. (See appendices)

## **SIGN OF THE CROSS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*R.* Amen.

## **GREETING**

Let us praise our Lord Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself to us.

*R.* Blessed be God for ever.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Dear brothers and sisters, the Holy Father reminds us that *pilgrimage* is a fundamental element of every Jubilee event because it recalls to us that the act of setting out on a journey is associated with our human quest for meaning in life.

Welcoming with joy all the graces of this Holy Year, we have journeyed here as Pilgrims of Hope to experience the outpouring of mercy from the heart of our Lord Jesus, the door of our salvation. It is he whom the Church is called to proclaim always, everywhere and to all people and nations as our hope.

Let us give thanks to God for bringing us safely to this Holy Church and pray that our celebration may be a time of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus.

## **PENITENTIAL RITE**

As we prepare to listen to the Word of God, we confess that we are sinners and ask the Lord for pardon and strength.

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

*R.* For we have sinned against you.

Show us your steadfast love, O God.

*R.* And grant us your salvation.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

*R.* Amen.

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Almighty ever-living God,  
fervent desire of the human heart,  
look with favour upon your people  
who make their pilgrim journey in this year of grace,  
so that, bound to Christ the rock of salvation,  
they may happily attain  
the goal of blessed hope.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

*R.* Amen.

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 61. 1-3, 6, 8b-9

✠ A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide comfort for those who mourn in Zion –  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

You shall be called priests of the LORD,  
you shall be named ministers of our God.  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

The word of the Lord.

*R.* Thanks be to God.

OR:

Romans 5.5-11

✠ A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:  
Hope does not disappoint us,  
because God's love has been poured into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.  
For while we were still weak,  
at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person –  
though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.  
But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners  
Christ died for us.

Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood,  
will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.

For if while we were enemies,

we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,

much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life.

But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

*R.* Thanks be to God.

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 89.20-21, 24, 26, R.1a

***R.* Forever I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord.**

I have found my servant David;  
with my holy oil I have anointed him;  
my hand shall always remain with him;  
my arm also shall strengthen him.

My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him;  
and in my name his name shall be exalted.  
He shall cry to me, ‘You are my Father,  
my God, and the Rock of my salvation!’

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Luke 4.18

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

## **GOSPEL**

Luke 4.16-21

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up,  
he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom.  
He stood up to read,  
and the scroll of the Prophet Isaiah was given to him.  
He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:  
“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 release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favour.”  
And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down.  
The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.  
Then he began to say to them,  
“Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

*R.* Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## **REFLECTION**

*From the Bull of Indiction of the Jubilee Year, *Spes Non Confundit* (1, 3)*

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.

Hope is born of love and based on the love springing from the pierced heart of Jesus upon the Cross. By his perennial presence in the life of the pilgrim Church, the Holy Spirit illumines all believers with the light of hope. He keeps that light burning, like an ever-burning lamp, to sustain and invigorate our lives. Christian hope does not deceive or disappoint us because it is grounded in the certainty that nothing and no one may ever separate us from God's love. [...] Founded on faith and nurtured by charity, it enables us to press forward in life.

*A moment of quite reflection and silence follows.*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.

## INTERCESSIONS

In trust and in unity, let us offer our prayer to the Father, who has called us to partake of the joy of his Kingdom.

*R.* Strengthen us in hope, O Lord.

For the holy Church of God; may she be an unfailing beacon of light amid the darkness of the world and, with Mother Mary's example and intercession, give hope to those who live in despair.

We pray to the Lord. *R.*

For our Holy Father Pope Francis and our archbishop Cardinal Leo and all Bishops; that they may find strength and inspiration from the words and grace of Christ our Eternal High Priest.

We pray to the Lord. *R.*

For these pilgrims and all who will embark on pilgrimage this Jubilee Year; may their journey be an opportunity for genuine reflection and their destination a source of true spiritual encounter with God's mercy.

We pray to the Lord. *R.*

For government leaders; may they work together towards a just distribution of the world's resources, respect for the dignity of workers and establish concrete measures to bring about peace in the world.

We pray to the Lord. *R.*

For refugees, migrants, and all who experience the scandal of hunger, the anxiety of poverty and the stigma of homelessness; may they persevere in hope and may their physical needs be satisfied by the generosity of Christians.

We pray to the Lord. *R.*

For families; may youth and parents embrace the future with hope and enthusiasm, and may the elderly and grandparents be loved and cherished.

We pray to the Lord. *R.*

For a growth in faith and an increase of vocations in the Archdiocese of Toronto; may all heed the Lord's call to sanctity with courageous hearts and become bearers of hope in our families, parishes, schools, neighbourhoods and communities.

We pray to the Lord. *R.*



For all who are sick and suffering; may they find within the Church a source of comfort and healing, and for all who have died; may they be welcomed into the glory of eternal life.

We pray to the Lord. *R.*

O God our Father,  
you accompany and sustain your Church in its pilgrim journey;  
through the light and the strength of your Spirit,  
stir up in us a living hope,  
so that we may recognize the signs of your presence in the events of our world.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*R.* Amen.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Guided by the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, we pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

## **SIGN OF PEACE**

Let us seal our prayer with a sign of fellowship as we offer one another a sign of peace.

*The faithful offer one another some gesture of peace.*

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

Let us ask the blessing of almighty God, as we conclude this celebration:

Be near to those who call on you, O Lord,  
and graciously grant your protection  
to all who place their hope in your mercy,  
that they may remain faithful in holiness of life  
and, having enough for their needs in this world,  
be made full heirs of your promise for eternity.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*R.* Amen.

## **FINAL BLESSING**

✠ May the Lord bless us,  
protect us from all evil,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

*R.* Amen.

## **DISMISSAL**

Let us go forth, Pilgrims of Hope, to love and serve the Lord.

*R.* Thanks be to God.

## **JUBILEE PRAYER**

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.

# APPENDIX I

## JUBILEE HYMN – PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Original text: Pierangelo Sequeri

English translation: Andrew Wadsworth

Music: Francesco Meneghello

With Confidence (♩ = c. 69)

INTRODUCTION

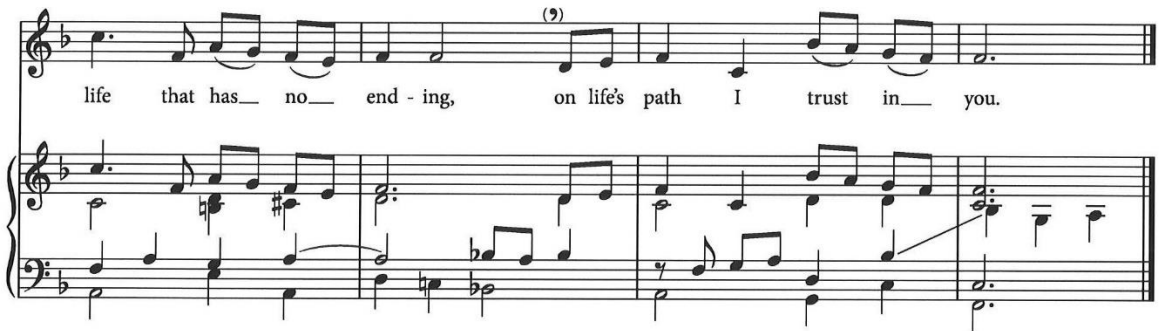
Organ



REFRAIN



Like a flame my hope is burn - ing, may my song a - rise to you: Source of



life that has no end - ing, on life's path I trust in you.

VERSES



1. Ev - 'ry na - tion, tongue, and peo - ple find a light with - in your Word. Scat - tered  
2. God, so ten - der and so pa - tient, dawn of hope, you care for all. Heav'n and  
3. Raise your eyes, the wind is blow - ing, for our God is born in time. Son made



1. frag - ile sons and daugh - ters find a home in your dear Son.  
2. earth are re - cre - a - ted by the Spir - it of Life set free.  
3. man for you and man - y who will find the way in him.

*to Refrain*

## APPENDIX II

### LITANY OF THE SAINTS

The Pilgrim Church implores the prayers of the Church Triumphant:

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

Christ hear us.  
Christ, graciously hear us.  
God, the Father of heaven,  
God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
God the Holy Spirit,  
Holy Trinity, one God,

Christ hear us.  
Christ, graciously hear us.  
have mercy on us.  
have mercy on us.  
have mercy on us.  
have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
St. Michael,  
All you Holy Angels and Archangels,

pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

St. John the Baptist,  
St. Joseph,

pray for us.  
pray for us.

St. Peter and St. Paul,  
St. Andrew,  
St. John,  
All you holy Apostles and Evangelists,

pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

St. Mary Magdalen,  
All you holy disciples of the Lord,

pray for us.  
pray for us.

St. Stephen,  
St. Ignatius of Antioch,  
St. Lawrence,  
St. Perpetua and St. Felicity,  
St. Agnes,  
All you holy martyrs of Christ,

pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

St. Gregory the Great,  
St. Augustine,  
St. Athanasius,  
St. Basil,  
St. Martin,

pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

St. Cyril and St. Methodius,  
St. Benedict,

pray for us.  
pray for us.

St. Francis,  
St. Dominic,  
St. Francis Xavier,  
St. Philip Neri,  
St. John Marie Vianney,  
St. Catherine of Siena,  
St. Theresa of Avila,  
All you holy Saints of God,

pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

Lord, be merciful.  
From all evil,  
From all sin,  
From everlasting death,  
By your holy Incarnation,  
By your death and resurrection,  
By the coming of the Holy Spirit,

Lord, save your people.  
Lord, save your people.  
Lord, save your people.  
Lord, save your people.  
Lord, save your people.  
Lord, save your people.  
Lord, save your people.

Be merciful to us sinners.  
Console and enlighten your holy Church.  
Protect the Pope, bishops and all ministers  
of your Gospel.  
Send new workers into your vineyard.  
Grant the whole world justice and peace.  
Help and comfort all who endure trial and  
suffering.  
Guard and strengthen in your service the  
entire people consecrated to you.

Lord, hear our prayer.  
Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, hear our prayer.  
Lord, hear our prayer.  
Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Jesus, Son of the living God,  
Hear our prayer.

Jesus, Son of the living God.  
Hear our prayer.

## Acknowledgements

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