



THE JUBILEE OF MERCY

8 December 2015 - 20 November 2016

“I am confident that the whole Church, which is in such need of mercy for we are sinners, will be able to find in this Jubilee the joy of rediscovering and rendering fruitful God’s mercy, with which we are all called to give comfort to every man and every woman of our time.”

Pope Francis, Homily,

Vatican Basilica 13 March 2015.

A Jubilee or Holy Year is a year of forgiveness of sins, reconciliation, conversion and a renewed fervour of the faith, pointing ultimately to Christ who brings life and grace to humanity. In this extraordinary Year of Mercy, Pope Francis wishes to bring God’s gift of mercy to the world in a new and dynamic way.

On 8 December 2015 the Holy Door at St Peter’s Basilica in Rome was opened, followed by other Doors of Mercy at designated Catholic churches around the world, such as St Mary’s Cathedral.

Welcome to the Pilgrimage of Mercy

On your pilgrimage here in the Cathedral, you may journey along the Way of Mercy to six different Mercy Stations where you can rest, reflect and pray. As you do so, in the depths of your heart you can listen for the voice of the Father. Receive this time, it is His gift to you.

www.sydneycatholic.org/yearofmercy

“The practice of pilgrimage has a special place in the Holy Year, because it represents the journey each of us makes in this life”.

*Pope Francis
(MV 14)*



THE WAY OF MERCY

1. Inside the Door of Mercy

Welcome to St Mary's Cathedral, the Mother Church of the Catholic religion in Sydney.

"The Holy Door will become a Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instils hope."

Pope Francis (MV 3)

2. The Baptistry

Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed

from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission. *(CCC 1213)*

3. The Confessionals

The acceptance of God's mercy requires from us that we admit our faults and repent of our sins. God himself by his Word and his Spirit lays bare our sins and gives us the truth of conscience and the hope of forgiveness. *(cf. CCC 391)*

4. The Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist

"I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world." *(John 6:51)*

5. The Altar of Saint Peter

This chapel honours the Apostle Peter, chosen by Christ to lead and strengthen the faith of the Church. The Pope is the successor of St Peter and carries on Peter's ministry and Pope Francis has established this Year of Mercy.

6. Our Lady's Chapel

"Chosen to be the Mother of the Son of God, Mary, from the outset, was prepared by the love of God to be the Ark of the Covenant between God and man. She treasured divine mercy in her heart in perfect harmony with her Son Jesus." *Pope Francis (MV 24)*

