

7 February 2025

Dear Cardinal, Bishops, Fathers, Deacons, and Parish Pastoral Council Chairpersons

Jubilee Plans and Events 2025

Launch of the Jubilee Year in the Archdiocese of Cape Town

The Jubilee celebrations in the Archdiocese of Cape Town got off to a wonderful start with the launch of the Jubilee Year in the Archdiocese by Cardinal Brislin, accompanied by Bishop Sylvester David, Archbishop Henryk Jagodinski – the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Salvatore Pennachio – the President of the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy in Rome, the priests and religious, and representatives of all the parishes of the Archdiocese. At the Mass to launch the Jubilee Year, Jubilee candles for all the church communities and religious houses were blessed by the Cardinal. The intention that these candles should be lit in our churches and religious communities during Masses this year. In addition to this, Jubilee candles for use in family homes can be purchased from the Catholic Bookshop.

Jubilee Website for the Archdiocese of Cape Town

The Jubilee website for the Archdiocese of Cape Town is now live and can be accessed at <https://jubilee2025-capetown.com/> Resources for the celebration of the Jubilee in the Archdiocese and in parishes can be found on the website, and articles, photographs and information concerning the Jubilee. Please share the website address as widely as possible among parishes. This website will be updated regularly and should be considered the “go to” for all things concerning the Jubilee in the Archdiocese.

Visits to the Cathedral

The Cathedral of St Mary of the Flight into Egypt is the designated pilgrimage church in the Archdiocese of Cape Town. Visits are encouraged every Saturday from 15 February to the end of August this year. Parishes are asked to make a booking for their parishioners to visit as a parish. Every Saturday there will be three blocks for booking, starting at 9am, 10:30am and 12pm, with no more than 100 people for each block booking.





Bookings may be made via the following link: Booking: <https://stmary039scathedral.setmore.com>

A block booking will involve a guided tour around the Cathedral for 30 minutes, followed by 40 minutes for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and prayer. Priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and the programme will end with Benediction. The Cathedral Coffee Shop in the parish hall will be open on these Saturday mornings for refreshments for pilgrims. A special Jubilee Cathedral booklet will be available for purchase at R50. Additionally, Cathedral Jubilee Prayer Cards and Pilgrims' Passports will be on sale. Stickers to mark the visit to the Cathedral will be available at the Coffee Shop.

Parishes are encouraged to bring a gift from their parish for the restoration of the Cathedral. Further communication will be sent out concerning this, but permission has been received for parishes to make contributions to the Cathedral restoration from their particular Parish Building Funds.

Jubilee Logo and Email Signatures

Among the other resources on the website, downloadable files of the Jubilee logo and email signatures, for use by parishes can be found. The logo and signatures are in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa.

Jubilee Prayer

The Jubilee Prayer has been in circulation for some time already and parishes are encouraged to pray this prayer at weekend Masses. The prayer can be prayed communally after the entrance procession – before the Sign of the Cross, or as part of the Prayer of the Faithful, or as part of the notices at the end of Mass. A Jubilee Prayer card can be downloaded from the Jubilee website, for distribution digitally, or printing. Jubilee Prayer cards are also available from the Catholic Bookshop, as are Jubilee stickers for homes and cars. The Jubilee Prayer cards are in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa.

Jubilee Family Blessing

It is not too late to appoint a Jubilee door in your home or pray a blessing prayer on your home. This can be a simple gathering of two or more family members and the praying of the Jubilee prayer, and using the resources which will be available on the Jubilee website. This may also be an opportunity to invite a parish priest to bless the Jubilee door in the context of a more complete home blessing.



Pilgrims Passport

A special Jubilee Pilgrims' Passport to mark progress through the Jubilee Year is available from the Catholic Bookshop and the Cathedral Coffee Shop. Stickers, representing participation in the Jubilee events, will be available from the Cathedral Coffee Shop and at Jubilee events in the archdiocese.

Caritas Jubilee Tree Planting

At the beginning of March a communication from Caritas will explain the Jubilee Tree-Planting project. Each parish will be encouraged to plant a Jubilee tree on 10 April 2025. Parishes will be responsible for getting their own trees, but Caritas will give contacts and information on recommended trees, as well as instructions on how to plant the trees. Parishes in need of help in sourcing trees will be assisted on request.

Other Caritas Jubilee Projects

There will be a Jubilee Food and Stationery Collection for Migrants and Refugees between July/ and August. More details to follow. Starting 23 November, the Justice and Peace Committee will start a programme of awareness and advocacy concerning Gender Based Violence, which will follow through into Advent.

Jubilee Youth Day Celebration

This will take place on 16 June 2025. More details to follow.

Archdiocesan Jubilee Mass

A special Jubilee Year Mass will be held at Lansdowne on Sunday, 14 September 2025. Six representatives from each parish, in addition to all priests, deacons and religious will be invited. More details to follow nearer the time.

Parish and Deanery Jubilee Events

Each parish and deanery is encouraged to organise their own events to mark the Jubilee, in addition to the events and initiatives outlined above. Notice of these events can be shared with the Centre for Pastoral Development for publishing on the Jubilee website.

Eucharist Jubilee Prayer Series

Four sessions of an "Ecclesia-style" on the Eucharist will be made available for parishes to run during Lent. These will be distributed digitally by mid-February.

Jubilee "Teach us to Pray" Series

In addition to the "Teach us to Pray" sessions that were distributed towards the end of last year, two further programmes of "Teach us to Pray" will be made available to parishes



this year. Each programme will consist of three sessions. The first programme is intended for use during Eastertide, and the second in the latter part of the year.

Eucharistic Procession to close the Jubilee Year

A special Eucharistic Procession to the Cathedral to close the Jubilee Year will be held on 28 December 2025. More details to follow closer to the time.

Yours in Christ

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