



**August 25 – August 31**

**Tuesday:** Mass-12:00 noon (English)

**Wednesday:** Bible Study-6:00pm,  
Mass-7:00pm (Bilingual), After Mass  
Dinner for Fr. Perdomo in Social Hall

**Thursday:** Misa-7:00pm (Spanish)  
Confessions: 6:00-7:00pm

**Friday:** Mass-12:00 noon (English)

**Saturday:**

5:00pm – Confessions

6:00pm – Vigil Mass (English)

**Sunday:**

8:00am – Mass, Holy Family (English)

9:30am – Mass, St. Paul (English)

12:00pm – Mass, St. Paul (Spanish)

**“All of us, in union with Christ, form one body, and as part of it, we belong to each other.” Rom 12:5**

***St. Paul Catholic  
Church and Mission***

***Iglesia Católica San  
Pablo y Misione***

**4178 Highway 441 South, Douglas, Georgia 31535**

**Parish Office Phone: 912-384-3560**

**Church email:** saintpaul@windstream.net

**Parish Website:** www.stpaulmissions.org

**Confessions:** Thursday from 6:00-7:00pm,  
Saturday 5:00-6:00 at St. Paul, or by appointment

**Holy Family Catholic Church**

126 Holy Family Rd., Willacoochee

**Administration □ Administración**

**Parochial Administrator:**

**Rev. Saimel Perdomo**

**Deacon Ron Milkas**

**Church Secretary: Janet Benton**

**MASS INTENTIONS  
INTENCIONES DE MISA  
August 24 – August 30**

**Sunday, August 24** –12:00 Mass-†Transita Chagolla  
Galicia

**Tuesday, August 26** – For Our Parishioners, Special  
Intention

**Wednesday, August 27** – Fr. Saimel Perdomo

**Thursday, August 28** – †Roberto F. Rodriguez Garcia

**Friday, August 29** – †Souls in Purgatory

**Saturday, August 30** – †Roberto F. Rodriguez Garcia

**This weekend is Pledge Weekend for  
Harvest of Hope.**

**Our Mission  
Statement  
Declaración  
de Misión**

**"Nosotros, siendo muchos, formamos  
un solo cuerpo en Cristo, y en ese  
cuerpo cada uno esta al servicio de los  
demás." Rm 12.5**



### **Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Reflection**

Today's Gospel reminds us that to enter the kingdom of God, we will need the strength that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob had to trust in God's goodness.

Trust in God is the life of the soul. To develop trust in God we must learn to love God's goodness. We can experience God's goodness if we open up our heart and allow God to enter. We must learn to speak to God and hear God speak to us in the depths of our heart. It is here that we begin to acquire affection for the things of God.

It seems we lack strength and confidence to trust in God in times of trial. When we feel this way, we must say to Our Lord, 'even though I feel no confidence in you, I know that you are my God, I place myself completely in your hands, and hope in your goodness'. While this is difficult to say it is not impossible. The more we recognize ourselves as lacking strength to trust in God, the greater reason we have to confidently trust in God's goodness and mercy. In your soul, you are bringing forth Jesus Christ. Until He is born in you, you cannot help suffering from your labor. Yet, God is as gentle and merciful when we are weak and imperfect as when we are strong and perfect.

When our strength and confidence to love the things of God increases, we let go of our lesser loves that are not of God. Seeking only the kingdom of God and desiring to witness our trust in God's goodness to others become life giving. When we trust in God, we will always

reap the fruits of our confidence in God's goodness. Like mariners, who to arrive at the port they are bound for, look at the sky above them rather than down on the sea on which they sail, so you ought to look to God. God will work with you, in you and for you. As a result, your confidence to trust in God's goodness will be strengthened.

*Oblates of St. Francis de Sales*

### **BEST WISHES ON YOUR ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY, FR. PERDOMO**

Fr. Perdomo will celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his **Ordination to the Priesthood on Wednesday, August 27**. We will have **Mass at 7:00pm on the 27<sup>th</sup>**. **After the Mass, we will have a dinner** in his honor in the Social Hall. Join us to celebrate this important day!



**Today is registration  
for Religious Education at Holy Family.**  
**Classes will begin September 7.**



### **REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

St. Paul's Religious Education Registration will go through August. Mrs. Maria Gomez will be assisting with registration in the narthex before and between the two Sunday Masses. The cost is \$50 for one child and \$100 for two or more children in the family.

Registration, and making a payment, can also be done on our St. Paul Church website.

The first day of Religious Education will be September 7; no registration on that day.



### **Vigésimo Primer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario--Reflexión**

El Evangelio de hoy nos recuerda que, para entrar en el reino de Dios, necesitaremos la fuerza que tuvieron Abraham, Isaac y Jacob para confiar en la bondad de Dios.

La confianza en Dios es la vida del alma. Para desarrollar la confianza en Dios, debemos aprender a amar su bondad. Podemos experimentarla si abrimos nuestro corazón y le permitimos entrar. Debemos aprender a hablar con Dios y escucharlo en lo más profundo de nuestro corazón. Es aquí donde comenzamos a desarrollar afecto por las cosas de Dios.

Parece que nos falta fuerza y confianza para confiar en Dios en momentos de prueba. Cuando nos sentimos así, debemos decirle a Nuestro Señor: «Aunque no confío en ti, sé que eres mi Dios, me pongo completamente en tus manos y espero en tu bondad». Aunque es difícil decirlo, no es imposible. Cuanto más reconocemos nuestra falta de fuerza para confiar en Dios, mayor razón tenemos para confiar con seguridad en su bondad y misericordia. En tu alma, estás dando a luz a Jesucristo. Hasta que Él nazca en ti, no puedes evitar sufrir por tu parto. Sin embargo, Dios es tan bondadoso y misericordioso cuando somos débiles e imperfectos como cuando somos fuertes y perfectos.

Cuando nuestra fuerza y confianza para amar las cosas de Dios aumentan, dejamos ir nuestros amores menores que no son de Dios. Buscar solo el reino de Dios y desear ser testigos de nuestra confianza en su bondad hacia los demás se convierte en algo

vivificante. Cuando confiamos en Dios, siempre cosecharemos los frutos de nuestra confianza en su bondad. Como los marineros, que para llegar al puerto al que se dirigen, miran al cielo en lugar de al mar en el que navegan, así también debes mirar a Dios. Dios obrará contigo, en ti y para ti. Como resultado, tu confianza en la bondad de Dios se fortalecerá. *Oblatos de San Francisco de Sales*

### **¡FELICES FIESTAS EN SU ANIVERSARIO DE ORDENACIÓN, PADRE PERDOMO!**

El Padre Perdomo celebrará su 20º aniversario de ordenación sacerdotal el **miércoles 27 de agosto**. El día 27 tendremos una Misa a las **7:00pm**. Después de la Misa, tendremos una **cena** en su honor en el Salón Social. ¡Acompáñenos a celebrar este día tan importante!



**La inscripción para  
Educación Religiosa en Holy Family será el  
24 de agosto. Las clases comienzan el 7 de  
septiembre.**



### **EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA**

Las inscripciones para la Educación Religiosa de San Pablo serán del 1 al 31 de agosto. La Sra. María Gómez asistirá con las inscripciones en el nártex antes y entre las dos misas dominicales. El costo es de \$50 por un niño y \$100 por dos o más niños en la familia.

La inscripción y el pago también pueden realizarse en el sitio web de la Iglesia de San Pablo. El primer día de Educación Religiosa será el 7 de septiembre; no se aceptan inscripciones ese día.



**FYI**  
~FOR YOUR INFORMATION~

**NEXT BAPTISM CLASS**

The next baptism class is **Sunday, September 14 after the 9:30 Mass (10:30-10:45)** in the social hall for parents & godparents who want to baptize their child.

**LA PRÓXIMA CLASE DE BAUTISMO**

La próxima clase de bautismo será el **domingo 14 de septiembre, después de la misa de las 9:30 (10:30-10:45)** para padres y padrinos. Esto es necesario antes de que los padres puedan comunicarse con

**Catechists' Meeting, Today, Aug. 24**

St. Paul's catechists will meet Sunday, August 24 after the 9:30 Mass (approx. 10:30) in the Social Hall. Fr. Perdomo will speak and all catechists should attend.

**Reunión de Catequistas, 24 de agosto**

Los catequistas de San Pablo se reunirán el domingo 24 de agosto después de la misa de las 9:30 (aprox. 10:30) en el Salón Social. El Padre Perdomo dará una charla y todos los catequistas deben asistir.



**AN ACCOUNT OF OUR STEWARDSHIP**

**St. Paul**

<b>FY Offertory Budget</b>	<b>\$305,000.00</b>
Received to date	52,918.00
Received 8-17-25	6,013.00
<b>FY Bldg Fund Budget</b>	<b>144,000.00</b>
Received to date	4,974.00
Received 8-17-25	75.00

**Offertory: Holy Family**

Sun. (8-17-25): \$296.00

**OUR WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR  
OUR ARMED FORCES**

Jose Bardomiano, Brenda Contreras, Sgt. Blake Downs (N. Carolina), MSgt. Emmanuel Gamboa (New Mexico), Kristopher Lentz (Fort Campbell, Kentucky), April M. Martin (Japan), Michael Martinez, CW3 Jeb S. McKinnon (USA), Martin Rios, Candise R. Rolerson (Witchita Falls, TX), Juan Vargas, Erick Vilches, Octavio Rodriguez, Rolando Chavez

**Pray for us that we  
may be healed.**

Mary Bodnar, James Bookhardt, Benny Carino, Toby Cash, Kristin Perry Crosby, Maria Gomez, Gilbert Hernandez, Larry Hinson, Pong Holton, Tina Hoover, **Sandye Jarrard**, Sr. Sharon McLaughlin, Roxanne Maini, Kayla Marlow, Margaret Milkas, Don Nolan, Malou Navarro, Rachelle Navarro, Ian Nugent, Lou Pierce, David Powell, Tony Sicari, Gene Waldron, Ramona Witthoft, A.D. Young, Mary Young

**PLEASE REMEMBER:**

**No Food** to be eaten in classrooms, hallways, bathrooms, Day Chapel or Main Church—food may only be eaten in the Social Hall.

**No hay Comida** Para comer en las aulas, los pasillos, los baños, la capilla diurna y la iglesia principal--solo en salón social.

**CAPÍTULO PARA LA PROTECCIÓN DE NIÑOS**

Visite la página Web de la diócesis para leer el código: [www.diosav.org/chilyouthprotection](http://www.diosav.org/chilyouthprotection) o 888-357-5330.

**CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN**

Visit website: [www.diosav.org/chilyouthprotection](http://www.diosav.org/chilyouthprotection)  
Or call 888-357-5330 to report knowledge of abuse.

*Live streaming every weekend*



Please join us for live streaming of all weekend masses and ones of special occasions. Live streaming can watched on FaceBook (St Paul Catholic Church) page and our website page, [stpaulmissions.org](http://stpaulmissions.org) All masses are archieved on our website for viewing anytime.



*St Paul Catholic Church and Missions*

4178 US HWY 441 S  
Douglas, GA 31535

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## AUGUST

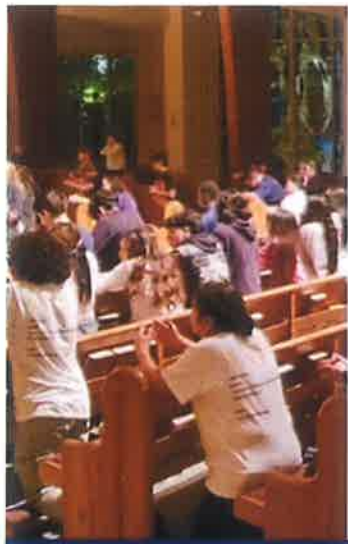
### Month of the Immaculate Heart

## Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

### Devotion of the Month

The Church dedicates the month of August to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It is a dogma of the Catholic faith that Mary is the Immaculate Conception; that is, in preparation for the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Holy Trinity in her womb, she was conceived without the corruption of sin through the foreseen and infinite merits of her Son, Jesus Christ. Over the centuries, as saints and theologians reflected on how Mary pondered and treasured the sacred events from the life of Christ in her holy heart, as attested in Scripture, her pure heart was recognized as something to be imitated. Devotion to Our Lady's purity of heart began to flower—so much so that in the 17th century, St. John Eudes promoted it alongside the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The devotion rose to a new level after the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, when Mary revealed an image of her Immaculate Heart to Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco.





# *DIOCESAN JUBILEE GATHERING*

**OCTOBER 11, 2025 | SACRED HEART, WARNER ROBINS**

Adoration • Talks • Live Music • Activities  
Exhibit Tables • Fellowship • Relics  
Mass with Bishop Parkes

*Fun for the whole family – activities for all ages!*

To view the schedule, register to attend, set up  
an exhibit table, or carry a procession banner,  
scan the QR code or visit **diosav.org/10-11**



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE of SAVANNAH  
CELEBRATING 175 YEARS

**FREE – REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
*Includes Lunch*





# CELEBRACIÓN JUBILAR DIOCESANA

11 DE OCTUBRE DEL 2025 | SACRED HEART, WARNER ROBINS

**GRATIS – DEBE REGISTRARSE**

*Almuerzo Incluido*

Adoración • Pláticas • Música en Vivo •  
Actividades • Mesas de Exhibición • Convivencia •  
Reliquias • Misa con el Obispo Parkes  
*¡Diversión para toda la familia – actividades para todas las edades!*

**Maestros de Ceremonia:** Padre Kevin  
O'Keefe y Padre John Johnson  
**Predicadores:** Padre Brian O'Shaughnessy  
y Madre Adela Galindo, SCTJM

**Mesas de Exhibición:** Aplica para tener una mesa: ¡para parroquias, ministerios, grupos, negocios de artículos religiosos, tiendas religiosas, y más!

**Pancartas para la Procesión:** Parroquias, ministerios, y entidades católicas pueden registrarse para participar con su pancarta en la procesión de apertura que dará inicio con la Adoración



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE of SAVANNAH  
CELEBRATING 175 YEARS

Para ver la agenda, registrarse para asistir, tener una mesa de exhibición, o tener una pancarta para la procesión, escanee el código QR o visite **diosav.org/10-11**







# CCD ADMISSIONS

## Period 2025 - 2026

Register in person every Sunday in July and August from 10:30 - 12 noon in the lobby.

### Info:

- No registrations on the first day of CCD.
- If space available you may register after the first day of CCD.
- First day of CCD is Sept. 7

### Registration:

- \$50 per child or \$100 per family
- Kindergarden-Adult.
- We also offer classes for children who have taken the sacraments.

Join St Paul CCD!



[www.stpaulmissions.org](http://www.stpaulmissions.org)



912-384-3560



4178 US Hwy 441 S



**INSCRIBETE  
HOY**

Fecha de limite antes  
del 24 de agosto

## admisiones para catequesis para 2025-2026

Regístrate personalmente todos los domingos  
de julio y agosto de 10:30 a 12 medio día en  
el lobby.

### Information:

- No hay inscripciones el primer día de catequesis..
- Si hay espacio disponible, puede registrarse después del primer día de catequesis.
- Primer Día de clases es el 7 de septiembre

### Registracion:

- \$50 por niño o \$100 por familia
- Kinder a Adultos.
- También ofrecemos clases para niños que han hecho los sacramentos

Unete a la catequesis de San Pablo!



[www.stpaulmissions.org](http://www.stpaulmissions.org)

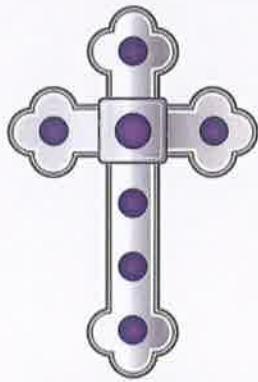


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4178 US Hwy 441 S





**HARVEST  
of HOPE**

**COSECHA de ESPERANZA**

### WE PRAY TOGETHER

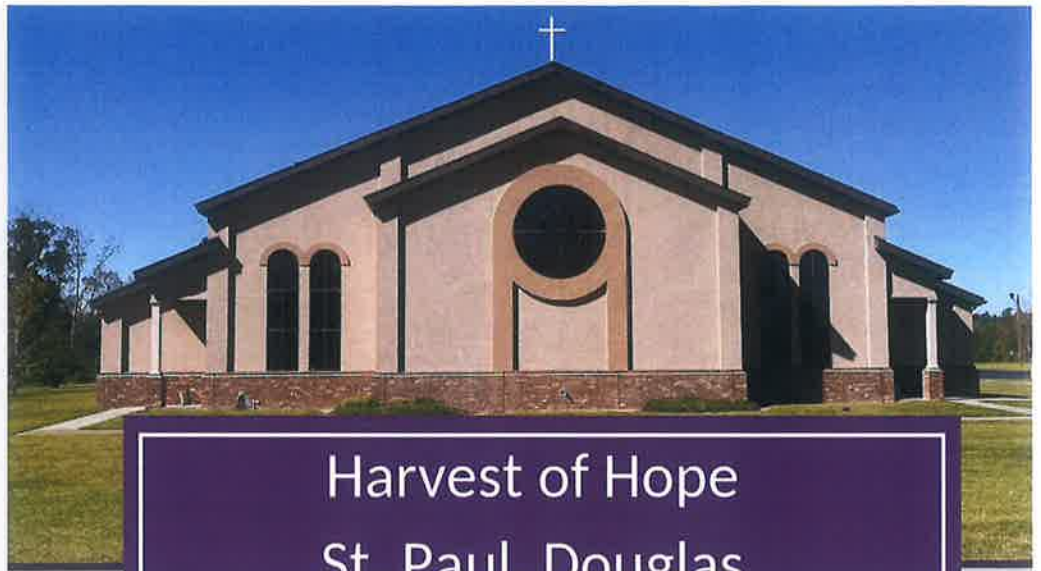
Heavenly Father, who in Your providence have brought us together at this time and in this place, we ask You to guide, inspire, and bless our Diocese of Savannah and the Harvest of Hope campaign.

Provide us, Your children, with the rich soil of faith, hope, and love, that the seeds we are planting now will bear abundant fruit for generations.

As we work together for the full coming of Your kingdom, O Lord, may we find a new way of belonging to You and to one another, rejoicing always in Your generosity.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Planting seeds for the future of  
the Diocese of Savannah*



**Harvest of Hope  
St. Paul, Douglas**

### Benefits of Harvest of Hope

Once the Annual Catholic Appeal of 2025 is met, every dollar will be split in half. 50% of the funds will stay at St. Paul so we can address our air conditioning, make improvements to our church, and reducing the parish debt. The other 50% will give us a \$30,000 endowment so we can grow in the future, a grant we can apply for to further evangelize our community, supporting our seminarians, and finally, obtaining a plot of land centrally located in Georgia where we can gather as Catholics.

### HOW TO SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN!

In order to achieve our goal, we will need the support of all families. We are asking each family to please make a 3 year pledge to the Harvest of Hope campaign. Any amount will help.

#### If you plan on giving with cash or check:

- The most important part is writing down your address on the pledge card. You will be getting envelopes sent to your address based on the frequency you choose: Monthly, Quarterly or Annually
- All checks are payable to Harvest of Hope

#### If you plan on giving through your debit or credit card:

- You must visit [diosav.org/hope](https://diosav.org/hope) or scan the QR code
- There is more privacy when a donor goes directly online



For those who would like to give in an unconventional type of manner like IRA, Stock, or Gifts of Property, please grab one of the Big Packets or email Susan Beke at [sbeke@diosav.org](mailto:sbeke@diosav.org).

**Our Commitment Weekend is August 23-24, bring your pledges that day!**

For more information, please contact our campaign director Bryan Bedoya at



**HARVEST  
of HOPE**

**COSECHA de ESPERANZA**

### ORAMOS JUNTOS

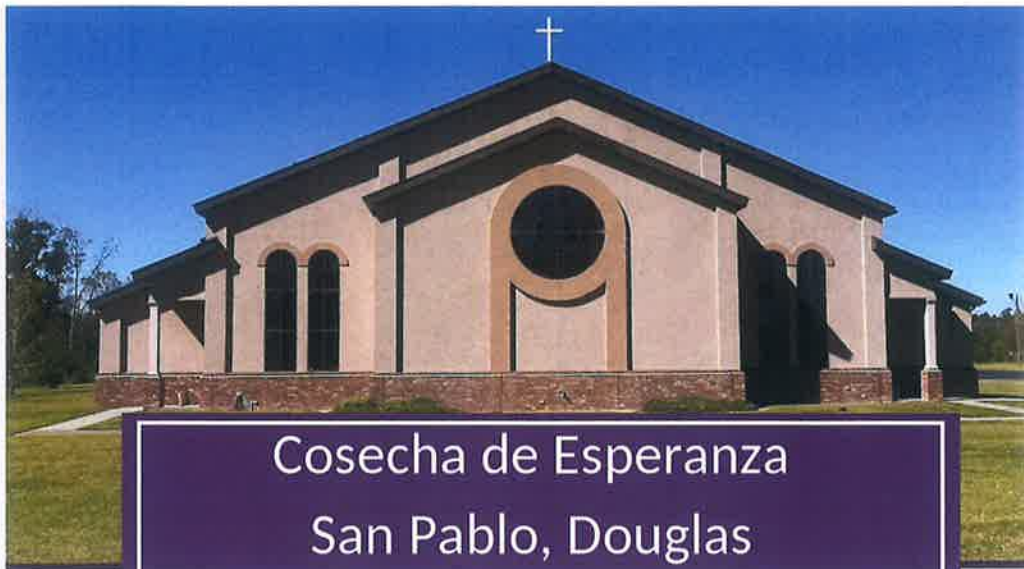
Padre Celestial, que nos has reunido hoy y aquí en Tu providencia, te pedimos guíes, inspires y bendigas nuestra Diócesis de Savannah y la campaña Cosecha de Esperanza.

Otorga Señor a Tus hijos, el terreno rico de la fe, esperanza y el amor, para que las semillas que sembramos hoy den frutos abundantes para las generaciones venideras.

Mientras trabajamos juntos por la venida plena de Tu reino, Señor, que encontremos una nueva forma de ser para Ti y para los demás, regocijándonos siempre en Tu generosidad.

Te lo pedimos por Cristo Nuestro Señor. Amén.

*Sembrando semillas para el futuro de la Diócesis de Savannah.*



### Beneficios de Cosecha de Esperanza

Una vez que se alcance el objetivo de la Campaña Católica Anual de 2025, cada dólar se dividirá por la mitad. El 50 % de los fondos se quedará en San Pablo para el aire acondicionado, mejoramiento de nuestra iglesia y pagar la deuda de la parroquia. El otro 50 % nos proporcionará un fondo patrimonial de \$30,000 dólares para que podamos crecer en el futuro; una beca que podremos solicitar para seguir evangelizando a nuestra comunidad, apoyar a nuestros seminaristas y, obtener un terreno céntrico en Georgia donde podamos reunirnos como católicos.

### ¡CÓMO APOYAR LA CAMPAÑA!

Para alcanzar nuestra meta, necesitaremos el apoyo de todas las familias. Pedimos a cada familia que se comprometa a colaborar durante tres años con la campaña Cosecha de Esperanza. Cualquier cantidad será de gran ayuda.

#### Si quieres hacer un compromiso con efectivo o cheque:

- Lo más importante es anotar su dirección en la tarjeta de compromiso. Recibirás sobres de pagos a su dirección.
- Todos los cheques son pagales a la campaña Cosecha de Esperanza.

#### Si quieres hacer un compromiso con su tarjeta de débito o crédito:

- Hay que visitar [diosav.org/hope](https://diosav.org/hope) o escanear el código QR
- Hay más privacidad cuando un donante va directamente en línea



Para aquellos que deseen realizar donaciones de forma menos convencional, como cuentas IRA, acciones o donaciones de propiedades, por favor, recojan uno de los paquetes grandes o envíen un correo electrónico a Susan Beke a [sbeke@diosav.org](mailto:sbeke@diosav.org).

¡Nuestro fin de semana de compromiso es el 23-24 de agosto, comprométase!



# Jubilee 2025

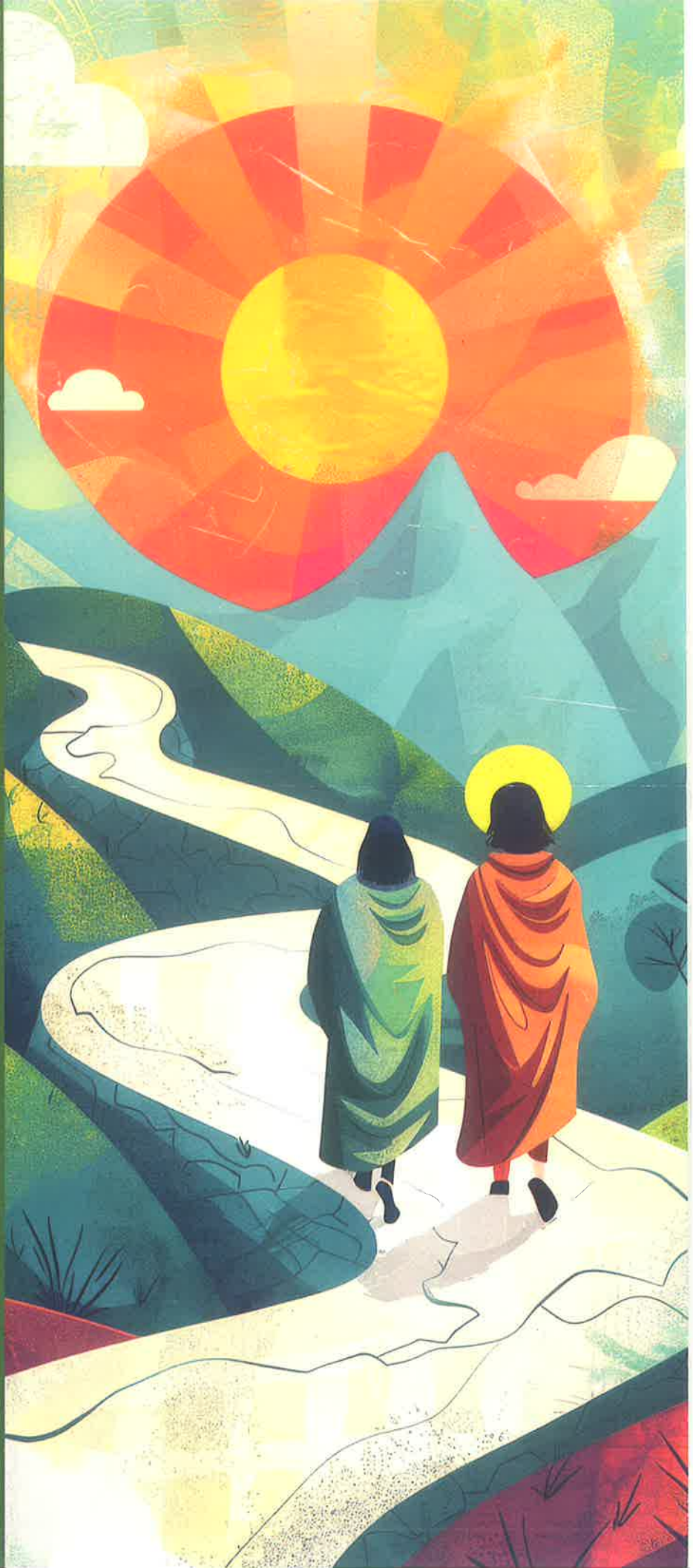
## **We Are Pilgrims of Hope**

On May 9, 2024 Pope Francis solemnly announced that the Church's Jubilee year 2025 "will be a Holy Year marked by a lively experience of grace and an opportunity to be renewed in the hope that does not fade, our hope in God. May it help us to recover the confident trust that we require, in the Church and in society, in our interpersonal relationships, in international relations, and in our task of promoting the dignity of all persons and respect for God's gift of creation. May the witness of believers be for our world a leaven of authentic hope, a harbinger of new heavens and a new earth, where men and women will dwell in justice and harmony, in joyful expectation of the fulfilment of the Lord's promises."

"Hope is the virtue that gives inward direction and purpose to the life of believers so that we may bear credible and attractive witness to the faith and love that dwell in our hearts; that our faith may be joyful and our charity enthusiastic; and that each of us may be able to offer a smile, a small gesture of friendship, a kind look, a ready ear, a good deed, in the knowledge that, in the Spirit of Jesus, these can become, for those who receive them, rich seeds of hope."

## **Our Pilgrimage Journey to and with Jesus**

A pilgrimage is both an outer journey to a sacred place, and an inner journey to meet Christ and deepen our relationship with him. Thus Pope Francis desires that this Jubilee Year be a time "to encourage and sustain the hope that guides our steps towards the goal of a genuine, personal encounter with the risen Lord Jesus, who is not only the destination of our earthly pilgrimage but also a constant presence in our lives. I invite everyone to place their trust in the Lord who not only guides us, but is God-with-us, who loves us and walks with us in every circumstance of life. He shows us the path of love, lifts us up when we fall and supports us in our labors, opens our eyes to see our wretchedness and that of the world, but at the same time fills us with hope."





## THE MEANING OF THE JUBILEE LOGO: PILGRIMS OF HOPE

The official logo of the 2025 Jubilee Year shows four colorful pilgrims, who symbolize all of humanity coming from all directions on their common journey to Christ. As they embrace each other in unity, the figure in front grasps the cross, which is the sign of our hope that united with Jesus we will also move through our death to new life. The elongated cross also changes at its base into an anchor, which was an ancient sign of hope because sailors used the anchor to stabilize ships during storms. So during the challenges of our daily lives and the events of the wider world symbolized by the rough waves beneath the pilgrims, hope keeps us focused on the goal of our pilgrimage to draw ever closer to encounter the Risen Christ.



### WHAT IS A JUBILEE YEAR?

The jubilee year (from the Hebrew word *yobel*, meaning horn, which was blown to proclaim the year's beginning) is an ancient Jewish tradition (see Leviticus 25:8-17, 29-31) of pardon and reconciliation celebrated every 50 years (after a "sabbath of sabbaths," 7 x 7 years) when the community imitated God's mercy and forgiveness by forgiving debts and by each family returning to its own land and not cultivating it that year.

This jubilee tradition was first adapted for Catholics in 1300 by Pope Boniface VIII as a universal "year of forgiveness of all sins." Since that time the "ordinary" jubilee years have usually been at 50 or now 25 year intervals (the last was in 2000), with other "extraordinary" jubilee years declared for special reasons like that of Mercy in 2015. Jubilee years are characterized especially by prayer, good works, pilgrimages to sacred sites (especially Rome), cultural events and special indulgences for those who participate.

### THE HOLY DOOR OF ST. PETER'S

Since the 1500's, the ceremonial opening at St. Peter's Basilica of the usually locked massive bronze Holy Door (also called the "Door of the Great Pardon" since its 16 panels portray various biblical scenes of sin and redemption) begins each Jubilee Year. After reciting specific prayers and invoking the Holy Spirit, the Pope pushes open the door and enters the Church, inviting pilgrims likewise to renew their spiritual journey and cross the threshold.



The opening of the Holy Door invites the faithful to embark on a journey of even deeper faith. Crossing the threshold of the door is a powerful act, inspired by Jesus' words in John 10:9, "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture." This passage highlights the transformative experience of entering through the Holy Door, symbolizing the decision to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd. The door serves as a physical and spiritual gateway, leading pilgrims into the sacred space of the church and inviting them to renew their commitment to their faith.

## 2025 JUBILEE PRAYER PILGRIMS OF HOPE

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.*



For more information on the 2025  
Jubilee Year of Hope and how you may  
participate more fully see the Vatican's  
official website at  
[www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html](http://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html)




# ST PAUL'S COLUMBARIUM

*St Paul now offers a  
serene and sacred place  
for deceased loved ones.*



**“LET US GO TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD”**

P.S. 122



[Jesus said to the crowd,]  
“Strive to enter through  
the narrow door, for many,  
I tell you, will attempt  
to enter but will not be  
strong enough.”

LUKE 13:24

## The Narrow Gate

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**S**ome people find love in their lives; others complain of loneliness. Some find peace, while others seem to be perpetually angry. Some live comfortably amid human diversity, yet others insist that the rest of the world be like them. There are those who are able to forgive and compromise and offer compassion and those who cannot. The difference seems to be the ability to forgo one's own desires for the sake of a greater good or the common good. Such may be the narrow gate through which some may not be strong enough to enter.

Phrases like *the kingdom of God* or *the kingdom of heaven* are not just references to places to which we go

but also ways of being or states of existence. They all refer to God's presence, to life with God. You've heard people say they were so happy that they felt it was like heaven on earth. It wasn't a place they went but an experience of being filled with joy and peace. It's pure gift. No one ever finds it by focusing on oneself. It is the narrow gate by which we find our way into such a life. It is the doorway of caring for others. ●

### Reflect

**What is the “narrow gate” before me now—the most difficult challenge as a follower of Jesus?**



# Dear Padre,

***My wife mentioned that neither the Book of Mormon nor the Catholic Bible mentions purgatory. Please comment.***

A not-uncommon frustration is when a person searches the Bible for a particular word or phrasing. Frankly, it is expecting too much from the religious text to be able to faithfully record a particular word or phrase that originated hundreds of years after the ancient text was composed. Purgatory is one such example of this frustration. The concept of purgatory is referenced in the biblical text, particularly in 2 Corinthians 5:10 and 7:1, Hebrews 9:27 and 12:14, and 2 Maccabees 12:46, but the word is never used.

This should come as no real surprise because it was not until the writings of St. Thomas Aquinas (1225–1274) that the concept was expanded and formed into a theological statement of belief that has become central to Roman Catholicism. And what is that belief? The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is clear: “All who die in God’s grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church gives the name purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned” (CCC, 1030, 1031a). The Book of Mormon never references purgatory, but it does speak about the afterlife and the experience of “waiting” in the spirit world for the completion of earthly time. ●



SOULS IN PURGATORY BY LORENZO PERETTI / RENATA SEDMAKOVA / SHUTTERSTOCK

**Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org**



LOSSERVATORE ROMANO / CNA

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***The narrow door is an image that could scare us, as if salvation is destined for only a select few, or for perfect people. But...a little further ahead, [Jesus] confirms, “Men will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.”***

***Therefore, this door is narrow, but is open to everyone!***

**ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 21, 2022**

### Monday

August 25

Weekday

1 Thes 1:1–5, 8b–10

Mt 23:13–22

### Tuesday

August 26

Weekday

1 Thes 2:1–8

Mt 23:23–26

### Wednesday

August 27

St. Monica

1 Thes 2:9–13

Mt 23:27–32

### Thursday

August 28

St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

1 Thes 3:7–13

Mt 24:42–51

### Friday

August 29

The Passion of St. John the Baptist

1 Thes 4:1–8

Mk 6:17–29

### Saturday

August 30

Weekday

1 Thes 4:9–11

Mt 25:14–30

### Sunday

August 31

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 3:17–18, 20, 28–29

Heb 12:18–19, 22–24a

Lk 14:1, 7–14

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