

## Jubilee Year 2025

### “What is a Jubilee Year”

#### Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg



The practice of a jubilee year has ancient roots. In 1300, Pope Boniface VIII instituted the first Christian Jubilee, a year set aside to encourage the faithful to embark on pilgrimages, to repent of their sins and forgive the sins of

others, and to renew a focus on the spiritual life. Since then the Church has designated each new Jubilee as a special year of grace and forgiveness, offering the faithful an opportunity to obtain a plenary indulgence. Originally occurring every 50 years, today this practice is observed every 25 years, and serves as a reminder of God’s love, mercy, and continual call to conversion.

The 2025 Jubilee will be centered on the theme “Pilgrims of Hope.”

As with other jubilee years, Pope Francis has instructed that special indulgences be available for the faithful through the duration of the Year of Mercy.

An indulgence is:

*“A remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints. An indulgence is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin.”*

– (Catechism of the Catholic Church (No. 1471). Indulgences may be applied to the living or the dead.

### Our Regular Events

- ♦ *Weekly Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction*  
8 PM Thursday evenings – St. Paul’s Chapel
- ♦ *Monthly Meeting – Second Saturday at 9 AM – St. Michael Building @St. Paul’s*

### Upcoming Calendar of Events

- ♦ Prayer Service, May 10, Carrollwood Village Park, Shelter 6
- ♦ Blessing of the Animals, Oct. 4, 9 AM, Santo Nino Shrine, St. Paul’s
- ♦ St. Francis Feast Day Mass TBA



### Here’s how to receive an indulgence.

#### – Take a pilgrimage.

Make a journey to your local Holy Door or one of the Holy Doors in the four papal basilicas in Rome. Crossing through a Holy Door is a spiritual journey that signals, as the Holy Father said, “the deep desire for true conversion.”

In our diocese, the Holy Door of Mercy is at the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle in St. Petersburg.

#### **Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle**

5815 5th Ave North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33710  
(727) 347-9702

The Holy Door is on the northwest side of the Cathedral. Park in the parking lot on Tyrone Blvd. The Holy Door is along the covered, circular, drop-off driveway.

#### – Go to confession.

#### – Receive the Holy Eucharist “with a reflection of mercy.”

#### – Make a profession of faith.

#### – Pray for the pope and his intentions.

#### – Receiving the Eucharist

#### – Or by attending Mass and community prayer,

– **Through the prayers of the faithful**, indulgences may be obtained for the deceased “for all Catholics”

#### – Perform a spiritual or corporal work of mercy.

## Diocesan Pilgrimage Churches

- Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle
- Espiritu Santo Catholic Church
- St. Stanislaus Chapel
- Sacred Heart Catholic Church
- Saint Leo Abbey Church
- St. Benedict Catholic Church

For more information, go to  
<https://www.dosp.org/jubilee2025/>.

## Congratulations Carol Breland Joining the Franciscan Lay Order

For the past several years, Carol Breland has been preparing to join the lay order of Franciscans, specifically, the Third Order, known as OSF, founded by St. Francis in 1221. The members of this Order live in the world as ordinary working people—men and women, married and single, and diocesan clergy—following the way of life of St. Francis.

On Sat. January 11, Carol celebrated the permanent profession ceremony at Most Holy Redeemer church during the 8:30 am Mass in the church. Carol's Fraternity of St. John Capistrano members and a few St. Francis Ministry members helped her celebrate.

Carol, thank you for your joyful Franciscan witness these past years that has blessed and guided you on this spiritual journey!



## St. Francis Feast Day Mass October 4, 2024

St. Francis of Assisi was born in Assisi, Italy and died there on October 3, 1226.

Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone, known as Francis of Assisi, was an Italian mystic, poet, and Catholic friar who founded the religious order of the Franciscans. Inspired to lead a Christian life of poverty, he became a beggar and itinerant preacher.

St. Francis is known for his ministry to the poor and underprivileged and his care for nature and animals. St. Francis believed all animals were a part of God's Creation and should be treated with kindness.

St. Francis of Assisi's Feast Day was October 4th and to celebrate his life and contributions the 12:15 PM Mass at St. Paul's Church intention was for St. Francis. Fr Tamil, the St. Francis Ministry spiritual



director, was the celebrant with attendance by members of the St. Francis of Assisi Ministry. A reception followed, including refreshments, and highlighted the Ministry's support for Harmony Vet Care, one of the ministry's selected mission recipients. Harmony Vet Care is a veterinary hospital that provides low-cost veterinary care to pets at its locations—Oldsmar, Carrollwood, and Brandon. Donations received during the reception

were later presented to Harmony, with Liz Grasso, clinic manager, and Dr. JoAnne Wagner, veterinarian, graciously accepting the donation to aid animals in need of medical and surgical care.

## **Pet Spotlight**

### **My Feral Cat Frances**

**By Pat Pedota**

About 5 months ago I noticed a kitten staying by the side of my house! His ear was tipped. I looked up what that meant. "Fixed and released!" I started feeding him and playing with him on my front porch. I



named him St. Francis. Friends would come and brush and pet Francis. Two hurricanes went by, and Francis was still outside. I worried about him. A St. Francis member and Veterinarian, Joanne Castillo, helped me immensely by advising me on the steps to get Francis inside the house permanently. She also advised me Francis was a GIRL! So, her name is now Frances! She decided to come inside on her own on December 21 and has been inside and a real delight ever since.

## **The Feast of the Holy Innocents**

### **Blessing of Babies**

The Feast of the Holy Innocents is celebrated on December 28. The feast commemorates the death of male children in Bethlehem under the age of two. King Herod ordered this act to ensure the infant Jesus would not displace him from his throne. Jesus escaped after St. Joseph was told in a dream to flee to Egypt with Jesus and Mary.

This feast offers the opportunity to bless our children, and Father Tamil and Father Morley blessed them after the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Saturday, December 28. Before the Final Blessing, parents were invited to bring their babies to the front near

the altar for the blessing and sprinkling of holy water.

St. Francis Ministry and the Respect Life Ministry organized the event, distributed prayer cards, and hosted a small reception in the family center following the Mass.



## **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

### **January Birthdays**

January 3 – Sam Bubb

January 9 – Julie Molten

Jan 26 - Jan Hoyt

### **January Anniversaries**

Jan. 6 – Fr. Peter Okojie Ordination

### **February Birthdays**

4 – Pat Hayes

5 – Anthony Valancius

### **February Anniversaries**

23 – Rosanne and Jack Stone

### **March Birthdays**

1 – Fr. Bob Romaine

3 – Tina Bubb

7 – Pamela Martini

9 – Dawn Ellis and Linda Tarrago

10 – Will Nelson

15 – Caryn McDermott

18 – Becca Petrilak

20 – Fr. Izzie Hernandez

23 – Fr. Tamil Selvam

24 – Fr. Bill Swengros

### **March Anniversaries:**

3 – Jan and John Hoyt

17 – Jackie and Jim Dremsek



## **April Birthdays**

8 – Patti Cash  
14 – Karen Probst  
20 – Alex Petrilak  
25 – Rosanne Stone

## **April Anniversaries**

16 – Liza and Michael Valancius  
19 – Mike & Pat Hayes

## **May Birthdays**

6 – Dcn. Chuck Glass  
14 – Fr. Peter Okojie  
23 – Liz Gilbert

## **May Anniversaries**

1 – Fr. Tamil Selvan Ordination  
12 – Tina and Sam Bubb  
15 – Fr. Bob Romaine Ordination  
Fr. Izzie Hernandez Ordination  
18 – Fr. Bill Swengros Ordination  
19 – Fr. Craig Morley Ordination  
22 – Karen and John Probst

## **Following in the Footsteps of St. Francis ... Pope Francis**

### **Pope Francis Reveals why he chose his Name**

**TheCatholicHerald.com**

**March 16, 2013 (just after the election)**

Pope Francis revealed why he had chosen his name at an audience with journalists this morning. Departing from his prepared speech, he said that some people were still uncertain if his name referred to St Francis Xavier or St Francis de Sales or St Francis of Assisi.

He said that he was seated next to his friend, the Brazilian Cardinal Claudio Hummes, during the conclave. "When the matter became dangerous," he said, "he comforted me."

When it became clear the cardinals had elected him Pope, he said, Cardinal Hummes "embraced me and kissed me and said: 'Don't forget the poor'... and that struck me... the poor...Immediately I thought of St Francis of Assisi. Francis was a man of peace, a man of poverty, a man who loved and protected creation."

That was when he chose the name Francis, he

explained, adding: "How I would love a Church that is poor and for the poor."

He laughed as he recalled that someone suggested he should have taken the name Clement XV to get even with Clement XIV, who suppressed the Jesuits in 1773.

### **So, just how has Pope Francis followed in the footsteps of St. Francis?**

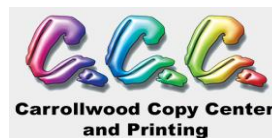
Pope Francis has followed in the footsteps of St. Francis by prioritizing a life of simplicity, actively reaching out to the poor and marginalized, emphasizing the importance of social justice, living a humble lifestyle, and frequently visiting the poor, mirroring St. Francis's dedication to serving the less fortunate and advocating for a church that is "poor and for the poor."

### **Key examples of Pope Francis's actions that reflect St. Francis's teachings:**

- Simple living:  
Choosing to reside in a modest Vatican guesthouse instead of the opulent papal apartments, using public transportation, and wearing plain clothing.
- Focus on the marginalized:  
Performing symbolic acts like washing the feet of prisoners on Holy Thursday, actively reaching out to homeless people and migrants.
- Environmental concerns:  
Speaking out strongly about climate change and the need to protect the environment, aligning with St. Francis's deep connection to nature.
- Interfaith dialogue:  
Fostering relationships with other faiths and religions, emphasizing mutual understanding and respect.
- Social justice advocacy:  
Speaking out against economic inequality and advocating for the rights of the poor and vulnerable.



For more information about the St. Francis of Assisi Ministry at St. Paul's Catholic Church check out our web page at <https://stpaulchurch.com/ministry/st-francis-of-assisi/>.



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