



Celebrating Jubilee 2025 in the Diocese of Tyler

The Jubilee Year of 2025 is an opportunity to intentionally promote a more fervent living of the Christian life for the faithful in the Diocese of Tyler. Embracing the theme “Pilgrims of Hope” invites people at all stages of life to reflect on receiving mercy and restoring hope for themselves, their families, parishes, and broader communities.

Pope Francis will begin the Jubilee Year by opening the Holy Doors at St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome on December 24, 2024. Around the world, dioceses will begin the Jubilee celebrations in the Cathedrals on December 29, 2024. In the Diocese of Tyler, this will occur at the 10 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on that day.

To coordinate the celebration of the Jubilee Year in the Diocese of Tyler, Bishop Joe Vásquez, our Apostolic Administrator, has approved several activities and efforts. All parishes, missions, schools, and institutions are asked to participate in these plans, and may add other local initiatives to observe the Jubilee.

24 Hours for the Lord. Every parish and mission should join in this observance of the Church on Friday, March 28, 2025. At minimum, churches should celebrate Mass, followed by Eucharistic Exposition, and special scheduled times for confessions on this day.

Diocesan Pilgrimages and Pious Visits. Classically, pilgrimages to Rome are a significant part of the observance of a Jubilee Year. The Church recognizes that many people cannot make a pilgrimage to Rome to visit one of the Holy Doors. For this reason, the Church provides for the diocesan bishop to designate specific locations as places for pilgrimage or pious visits. The following have been designated for the Diocese of Tyler:

- Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Tyler.
 - Those making the pilgrimage may also wish to visit Bishop Herzig’s grave in Rose Hill Cemetery in Tyler.
- Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (St. Peter Claver Church) in Tyler.
- Sacred Heart Church in Nacogdoches.
 - Those making the pilgrimage may also wish to visit the religious murals in downtown Nacogdoches, the Ojos de Margil Spring (the site of the miraculous springs), and the statue of Venerable Antonio Margil.
- St. William of Vercelli Church in Carthage.
 - Those making the pilgrimage may venerate the relic of St. Marie-Leonine Paradis.

The following locations have also been designated as special places of pious prayer during the Jubilee Year:

- St. Francis of the Tejas Church in Crockett.
 - Near Mission Tejas State Park, the location of the first Catholic mission in this part of Texas.
- Sacred Heart Church in Palestine.
 - An historically significant church in the diocese also known for its classical beauty.
- Immaculate Conception Church in Jefferson.
 - An historically significant church in the diocese also known for its classical beauty.

Other Activities. Additional events for catechists, youth, and other groups will take place during the Jubilee year.

The Jubilee celebrations in dioceses around the world will conclude on December 28, 2025, and the Holy Doors at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome will be closed Jan 6, 2026.

All the faithful of the diocese are encouraged to participate in the events and celebrations of the Jubilee Year in order to benefit from the spiritual blessings and graces available during this time.

More information can be found at <https://www.dioceseoftyler.org/jubilee/> and <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/>.

Timeline Major Jubilee Events

Advent 2024 - Promote Jubilee Year through various platforms (podcasts, articles, etc.)

December 29, 2024 - Opening Mass – Cathedral 10:00 AM

January 11, 2025 - Catechist Gathering. Catechetical Materials available on the Jubilee Year and other information for OCIA and Faith Formation programs

March 28, 2025 - 24 hours for the Lord. Diocesan Eucharistic Adoration and Confession Available in every parish

March 29, 2025 - Diocesan Women's Retreat

Pentecost 2025-Fall 2025 - Families Encouraged to do Pilgrimages or Pious Visits to designated sites

August 2, 2025 – Catechist Conference at Bishop Gorman campus

October 4, 2025 - Diocesan Youth Conference

December 28, 2025 - Closing Mass: Cathedral

Approved October 17, 2024