



14TH ANNUAL ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLAND CATHOLICS MARIAN PILGRIMAGE 2016

BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

**400 MICHIGAN AVENUE, N.E.
WASHINGTON DC 20017**

Save the Date

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2016, 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

MASS, 2:30 PM

CELEBRANT AND HOMILIST

ARCHBISHOP BERNARDITO C. AUZA

PERMANENT OBSERVER OF THE HOLY SEE TO THE UNITED NATIONS



OUR LADY OF CHINA



OUR LADY OF ANTIPOLLO



OUR LADY OF VAILANKANNI



OUR LADY OF FATIMA



OUR LADY OF LAVANG



JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

**Corporal Works of Mercy
Spiritual Works of Mercy
Rediscovering the Faith
Rediscovering Penance
Pilgrimage and Indulgences**

**PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES: BANGLADESHI, BURMESE, CAMBODIANS,
CHINESE, FILIPINO, INDIAN, INDONESIA, JAPANESE, KOREAN, LAOTIAN,
LEBANESE, MONTAGNARD, PAKISTANI, SAMOAN, SRI LANKAN, THAI, VIETNAMESE**

**SPONSORED BY THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC CATHOLIC NETWORK (APCN) IN
COLLABORATION WITH THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC
BISHOPS, SECRETARIAT OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY**

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

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EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY PILGRIMAGE AND INDULGENCES

“The practice of pilgrimage has a special place in the Holy Year, because it represents the journey each of us makes in this life. Life itself is a pilgrimage, and the human being is a viator, a pilgrim travelling along the road, making his way to the desired destination. Similarly, to reach the Holy Door in Rome or in any other place in the world, everyone, each according to his or her ability, will have to make a pilgrimage. This will be a sign that mercy is also a goal to reach and requires dedication and sacrifice. May pilgrimage be an impetus to conversion: by crossing the threshold of the Holy Door, we will find the strength to embrace God’s mercy and dedicate ourselves to being merciful with others as the Father has been with us.”

“A Jubilee also entails the granting of indulgences. This practice will acquire an even more important meaning in the Holy Year of Mercy. God’s forgiveness knows no bounds. In the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God makes even more evident his love and its power to destroy all human sin. Reconciliation with God is made possible through the paschal mystery and the mediation of the Church. Thus God is always ready to forgive, and he never tires of forgiving in ways that are continually new and surprising. Nevertheless, all of us know well the experience of sin. We know that we are called to perfection (cf. Mt 5:48), yet we feel the heavy burden of sin. Though we feel the transforming power of grace, we also feel the effects of sin typical of our fallen state. Despite being forgiven, the conflicting consequences of our sins remain. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God forgives our sins, which he truly blots out; and yet sin leaves a negative effect on the way we think and act. But the mercy of God is stronger even than this. It becomes indulgence on the part of the Father who, through the Bride of Christ, his Church, reaches the pardoned sinner and frees him from every residue left by the consequences of sin, enabling him to act with charity, to grow in love rather than to fall back into sin.

The Church lives within the communion of the saints. In the Eucharist, this communion, which is a gift from God, becomes a spiritual union binding us to the saints and blessed ones whose number is beyond counting (cf. Rev 7:4). Their holiness comes to the aid of our weakness in a way that enables the Church, with her maternal prayers and her way of life, to fortify the weakness of some with the strength of others. Hence, to live the indulgence of the Holy Year means to approach the Father’s mercy with the certainty that his forgiveness extends to the entire life of the believer. To gain an indulgence is to experience the holiness of the Church, who bestows upon all the fruits of Christ’s redemption, so that God’s love and forgiveness may extend everywhere. Let us live this Jubilee intensely, begging the Father to forgive our sins and to bathe us in his merciful

“Indulgence.” Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus*, Proclamation of Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy