

Holy Doors



Pope Francis opened the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica on December 8, stating, "To pass through the Holy Door means to rediscover the infinite mercy of the Father who welcomes everyone and goes out personally to encounter each of them."

On the following Sunday, December 13, the Pope opened the Holy Door of the Cathedral in Rome — the Basilica of Saint John Lateran. Pope Francis called for Holy Doors to be opened that same day in cathedrals around the world.

Bishop Edward Scharfenberger opened the Holy Door of Mercy at the [Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception](#) on Dec. 13 during a Mass attended by hundreds of people. The congregation walked through the Holy Door as a sign of conversion to a life of embracing the love, compassion and mercy of God and sharing that mercy with others.

"The Holy Door is a symbol of pilgrimage. It invites us to walk together in faith," Bishop Scharfenberger said. "Let us open our hearts so we may become doors of God's grace and mercy."

Pope Francis declared that those who make a pilgrimage to a Holy Door may receive a [plenary indulgence](#) this Jubilee Year. Come and make a pilgrimage this year to cross the threshold of the Cathedral Holy Door of Mercy and to embrace the call to conversion!

The following sites also have designated Holy Doors for the Jubilee Year of Mercy:

- [Church of the Immaculate Conception](#) (400 Saratoga Rd., Glenville, NY 12302)
- [Church of St. Peter](#) (241 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866)
- [St. Stanislaus](#) (Cornell St., Amsterdam, NY 12010)
- [Our Lady of Knock Shrine](#) (35 Church, Street Cairo, NY 12413)
- [Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, St. Teresa's Motherhouse](#) (600 Woods Road, Germantown, NY 12526)