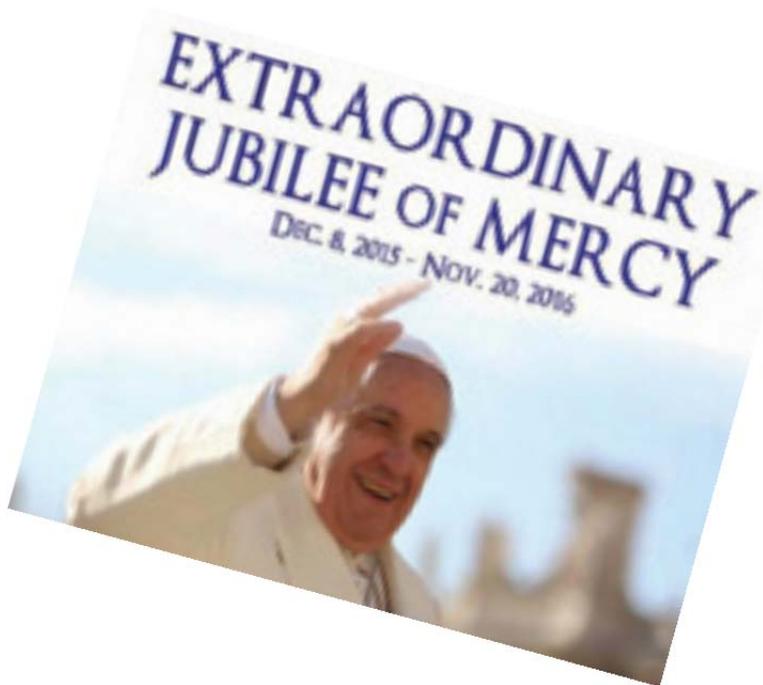


## Opening of the Holy Door of Mercy - Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> 2015

"to allow everyone to experience the Mercy of the Father ... the Holy Door will become a Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons,



This week the whole Catholic community throughout the world will enter into the *Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy*. On December 8, Pope Francis will open a Holy Door of Mercy at St Peter's Basilica to signify the start of the Jubilee, and has asked every diocese around the world to open their doors "to allow everyone to experience the Mercy of the Father ... the Holy Door will become a Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instils hope." (*Misericordiae Vultus*)

To mark the opening of the Jubilee here in Melbourne, Archbishop Denis Hart will open a special Holy Door of Mercy at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 13 December.

Several parishes and schools from around Melbourne have been planning their pilgrimage to the Cathedral for months, with some walking into the city from as far as Kings Park in the west! This pilgrimage – indeed the invitation to the Jubilee – is a chance to open our hearts to God's mercy and recommit ourselves to sharing His love to all those in our midst.

*"The Holy Door will become a Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instils hope."*

POPE FRANCIS

## OPENING OF THE HOLY DOOR OF MERCY

SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER, ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

2.00pm	Cathedral bells ring to gather all pilgrims
2.10pm	Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony by Aboriginal Catholic Ministry
2.30pm	Opening of the Holy Door of Mercy by Archbishop Denis Hart
3.00pm	Walking Into Mercy Festival (activities, food/drink stalls and live music)
4.00pm	Hour of Adoration, Prayer and Reflection led by Bishop Vincent Long OFMConv
5.00pm	Official program concludes

\*\*\*The Holy Door of Mercy will remain open until 6pm.\*\*\*

For more information on the Year of Mercy visit:  
[www.cam.org.au/evangelisation](http://www.cam.org.au/evangelisation)

### WHO?

All parishioners are warmly invited to attend this very special occasion for the whole church of Melbourne.

### WHY?

To mark the beginning of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy with the Opening of the Holy Door of Mercy at St Patrick's Cathedral.

### WHEN?

Next weekend! Cars leave the Parish House at 12.45pm and return by 6pm in time for the Carols by Candlelight.

### HOW?

Volunteer to drive your car and take some extra passengers or simply sign up as a passenger to go with others.

### COST?

\$5 donation to driver for petrol & car park.

*Sign up today on the clipboards at the back or ring the Parish House by Wednesday for an afternoon of fun, fellowship & faith!*

Read through the who, why, when, how, cost, sign up info above.

The Program is as follows...

2.00 p.m.	<i>Cathedral Bells to ring to gather everyone</i>
2.10 p.m.	Acknowledgement of Country and Smoking Ceremony by Aboriginal Catholic Ministry
2.30 p.m.	Opening of the Holy Door of Mercy by Archbishop Denis Hart
3.00 p.m.	“Walking Into Mercy” Festival (fun activities hosted by Catholic Archdiocese agencies, food/drink stalls and live music in the Cathedral grounds)
4.00 p.m.	Hour of Adoration, Prayer and Reflection led by Bishop Vincent Long
5.00 p.m.	Official program concludes

The event is an opportunity to come together with the ‘People of God’ from the north, south, east and west of Melbourne. To pray and celebrate together as we enter into and journey together through the special year ahead.

Please join us and walk through ‘Door of Mercy’ united by the Holy Spirit Parish Banner.

Thank you!