

Jubilee Journey: Pilgrims of Hope

Celebrating the Holy Year 2025 Together

Diocese of Erie
February 2025



YEAR OF JUBILEE



During the month of February, we celebrate the light of Christ shining in our lives. We can celebrate our love for God by bringing his light into the lives of those around us.

Welcome to the *Jubilee Journey: Pilgrims of Hope* monthly newsletter. Join us each month for ways to stay connected and to celebrate this Holy Year.

CALLED TO CONNECT

*Throughout this Jubilee Year, we will be reflecting on various people, organizations and activities that play important roles in reminding us of the important virtue of hope. We recognize how vital hope is to us pilgrims as we journey through life. **During February, we highlight the theme of “The Light of Christ: Shining in Our Lives,” and we especially focus on the Armed Forces, Police, Security Officials, Artists and Deacons, all of whom reveal or are instruments of Christ’s hope, sometimes in situations where people may otherwise fall into despair.** Whether they are members of the armed forces, the police, or are security officials who bring safety, security, or protection to people who are vulnerable, frightened, or are in danger, or they are artists who lift our spirits by capturing our imagination and touching our hearts through their creative talents, or they are deacons who through their ministry of service bring Christ’s message of love and grace to others, we are thankful for the countless ways that all of these individuals and groups selflessly bring hope to others. May they continue to shine Christ’s light on others and inspire all of us to do the same.*

Father Scott Jabo
Vocation Director for Priestly Vocations, Chaplain for retired Pennsylvania State Police

“

Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly father.”

According to the Scriptures Matthew 5:16



EXCERPT FROM ST. JOHN PAUL II

Artists of the world, may your many different paths all lead to that infinite Ocean of beauty where wonder becomes awe, exhilaration, unspeakable joy. May you be guided and inspired by the mystery of the Risen Christ, whom the Church in these days contemplates with joy... May your art help to affirm that true beauty which, as a glimmer of the Spirit of God, will transfigure matter, opening the human soul to the sense of the eternal.

(St. John Paul II, Letter to Artists, 1999)

CELEBRATIONS

Key dates:

- **February 8-9** - Jubilee of the Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel
- **February 16-18** - Jubilee of Artists
- **February 21-23** - Jubilee of Deacons

HEY, KIDS OF CHRIST!



To celebrate the Jubilee theme, Pope Francis held a contest to create the logo. From almost 300 designs, he chose a design by Giacomo Trevisani, a young graphic designer!

Jubilee vocab: Holy Door - Special doors opened at the beginning of the Jubilee, picked to represent the passage to salvation that Jesus opened. During the 2025 Jubilee, the only Holy Doors are at the Vatican and in Rome.

Activity Idea



Join Luce as we embrace our inner artists like Giacomo Trevisani! In celebration of the Jubilee of Artists, we invite you to let your imagination soar and create your very own Holy Door. Decorate a door at school, in your faith formation class or at home with prayers, religious images or coloring pages. Every time you walk through the door, think of the pilgrims traveling to Rome for the Jubilee, and as an invitation to draw closer to your faith.



St. Stephen is one of the first deacons and is regarded as their patron saint. He played a major role in spreading the faith during the early years of Christianity.

Photo/Vatican News

FAITHFUL FACTS!

Over 35 million visitors are expected in Rome for the Jubilee year, a significant increase from the usual 13 million according to Italy's National Tourist Research Institute (ISNART).

LIVING THE MISSION

How can you bring Christ's light to others during the Jubilee Year? As in our scripture reading, are there acts of kindness, service or compassion that you can engage in to inspire those around you and glorify God?

