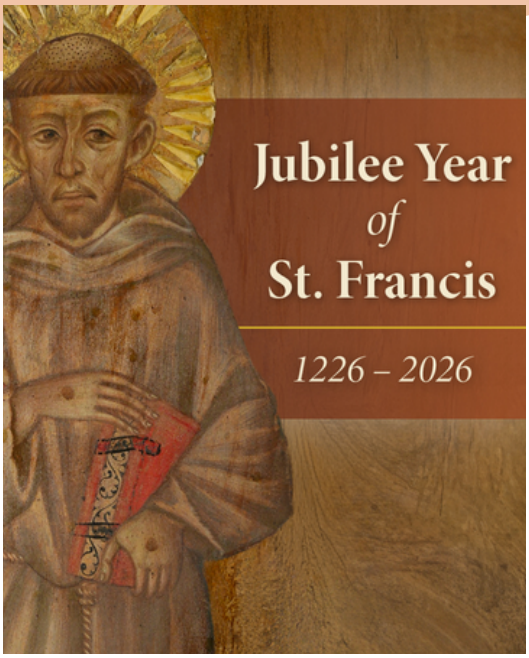
FAMILY ASSIGNMENT: 2026 THE JUBILEE YEAR OF ST. FRANCIS



His Holiness Pope Leo XIV has arranged that, from the 10th January, 2026 to the 10th January, 2027, this Year of St. Francis will be celebrated, during which all the Christian faithful are invited to follow the example of the Saint of Assisi, becoming models of holiness of life and constant witnesses of peace.

"And the Lord gave me such faith in churches, that I would with simplicity thus adore and say: "We adore You most holy Lord Jesus Christ, here, and in all Your churches throughout the world, and we bless You, because by Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world."

– Testament of St Francis

How to Receive the Plenary Indulgence (For yourself or for a deceased loved one)

To receive the plenary indulgence, you are invited to:

- Go to Confession within about eight days before or after your pilgrimage so your heart is open to God's grace.
- Attend Mass and receive Holy Communion with love and reverence.
- Visit a Franciscan church or shrine dedicated to St. Francis as a pilgrim.
- Pray the Apostles' Creed to renew your faith in God and remember that you are a member of the Church.
- Pray the Our Father to thank God for making us His children through Baptism.
- Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father (for example, by praying an Our Father, a Hail Mary, and a Glory Be), showing our unity with the whole Church.

May this pilgrimage help your family grow closer to Jesus through the example of St. Francis and the love of God.



Pope Leo XIV's Prayer for the Jubilee Year

Saint Francis, our brother, you who, 800 years ago, went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us with the Lord.

You who recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to seek in Him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down all walls.

You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world erects borders.

In this age marked by conflict and division, intercede for us that we may become artisans of peace: unarmed and disarming witnesses to the peace that comes from Christ. Amen.

Part I: Read Together:

Saint Francis of Assisi is still an important example for us today. His life showed us the importance of being humble, living simply, making peace, and caring for God's creation. In a world where people often experience hurt, division, and conflict, St. Francis reminds us to choose love, kindness, and forgiveness. We are called to follow his example by turning our hope into action and helping bring peace to others.

During this special time of celebration, the Church invites us to remember that St. Francis was not only someone who loved nature, but someone who loved Jesus deeply and followed His example. Through his life, St. Francis shared the message of the Gospel and showed others the love of Christ.

Part II: St. Francis Scavenger Hunt

As a family, complete as many of the challenges below as you can. As you complete each one, talk about how it reminds you of the life of St. Francis of Assisi.

- ☐ 🕊️ Find something that reminds you of **peace.**
- ☐ 🌳 Find something in nature that God created and thank Him for it.
- ☐ 🐦 Find a bird, squirrel, butterfly, or another animal.
- ☐ ❤️ Do one act of kindness for someone at the parish or at home.
- ☐ 😊 Smile and introduce yourself to someone you don't know.
- ☐ 🙏 Say a prayer together for peace in the world.
- ☐ 🤝 Thank a volunteer, parish staff member, or priest for serving the parish.
- ☐ 📖 Read one Bible verse together.

PART III:REFLECTION

THE FOLLOWING QUOTES ARE ATTRIBUTED TO SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI. AS A FAMILY, TAKE TIME TO READ EACH QUOTE AND DISCUSS WHAT IT MEANS TO YOU. SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS, LISTEN TO ONE ANOTHER, AND REFLECT ON HOW YOU CAN FOLLOW ST. FRANCIS' EXAMPLE BY LOVING GOD, CARING FOR OTHERS, AND BRINGING PEACE TO THE WORLD.

We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way.

Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible.

If God can work through me, he can work through anyone.

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love.

After discussing the quotes together, work as a family to answer the following questions:

- Which quote speaks to your family the most? Why?
- How can your family bring peace and kindness to others?
- What is one small action your family can take to follow the example of St. Francis?

Write your answers on the back of this paper

Family Members Participating: _____

Date: _____

Part IV: Living the Eucharist Like St. Francis

Saint Francis of Assisi had a deep love for Jesus, especially in the Eucharist. He believed that receiving Jesus in Holy Communion should change the way we live every day.

When we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, we are called to become more like Him. We can do this by showing kindness, forgiving others, helping those in need, making peace, and caring for God's creation. Just as St. Francis followed Jesus with a humble and loving heart, we are invited to share Christ's love with everyone we meet.

The Eucharist strengthens us to live the Gospel each day. As we are nourished by Jesus at Mass, we are sent into the world to be His hands and feet, bringing hope, peace, and love to others.

What are some ways we can be peacemakers like St. Francis and bring peace to our home, school, workplace, or neighborhood?

Closing Family Prayer

May this Year of St. Francis help each of us grow closer to God, follow the example of St. Francis, and share the love of Jesus with others. May our words and actions bring glory to God and help build up His Church. Amen.

Parent Verification

One thing our family learned: _____

_____

_____

_____

Parent/Guardian Signature:

_____