

St. John Neumann Catholic Church,
Pilgrim Site

We, the parishioners of St. John Neumann, have received the honor of being one of the 15 Pilgrim Sites selected by the Archdiocese of San Antonio, called upon to celebrate the Holy Year in a special way. Our Holy Door is opened in union with Pope Francis and the Universal Church. Thus the Papal Coat of Arms and the Logo for the Year of Mercy are placed on it. Our sanctuary is open and welcoming to all pilgrims desiring to visit us to receive the abundant graces bestowed on those who commemorate this holy event. The practice of pilgrimage “represents the journey each of us makes in this life.” Making a pilgrimage “is a sign that mercy is a goal to reach and requires dedication and sacrifice.” (Pope Francis)

For the year of Mercy, our Church is open daily
from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Mass Schedule as follows:

Saturday 6:00 pm
Sunday 7:30 am
9:00 am (Spanish)
10:30 am
Noon

Confessions: Wednesdays and Saturdays at 5:00 pm in the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament.

www.sjnasa.org





“Jesus Christ is the face of the Father’s mercy”

On Divine Mercy Sunday, 2015, His Holiness Pope Francis proclaimed an

Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy.

The Year of Mercy begins on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Dec. 8, 2015) marking the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. The Holy Father thus links the Year of Mercy to the call for a New Evangelization. “With the Council, the Church entered a new phase of her history” during which the Holy Spirit moves the faithful “to proclaim the Gospel in a new way.”

The Holy Door

The opening and closing of the Holy Door are the symbolic rituals marking the beginning and end of the Year of Mercy. The Holy Door “evokes the passage from sin to grace which every Christian is called to accomplish. Jesus said: ‘I am the door’ ” indicating that no one can come to the Father except through him. “Jesus is the one and absolute way to salvation.”

The opening of the Holy Door by Pope Francis takes place at the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome on the Third Sunday of Advent, Dec. 13, 2015, thus ushering in the Year of mercy. “I will have the joy of opening the Holy Door” which “will become a Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instills hope.”

We shall cross the threshold of the Holy Door fully confident that the strength of the Risen Lord, who constantly supports us on our pilgrim way, will sustain us. “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.” (Pope Francis)

The Jubilee Year of Mercy will solemnly come to a close on the Feast of Christ the King, Nov. 20, 2016. On that day, the Holy Father will seal the Holy Door “with a sense of gratitude and thanksgiving to the Most Holy Trinity for having granted us an extraordinary time of grace.”

(Pope Francis)

How can I practice mercy?

Corporal Works of Mercy

- Feeding the hungry
- Giving drink to the thirsty
- Clothing the naked
- Welcoming the stranger
- Healing the sick
- Visiting the imprisoned
- Burying the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

- Teaching the faith
- Counseling the doubtful
- Correcting wrongdoers
- Comforting the afflicted
- Forgiving offenses willingly
- Bearing wrongs patiently
- Praying for the living and dead

For you, Lord, are good, and forgiving; rich in mercy to all who call on you.

Psalm 86:5

“I am the gate (door). Whoever enters through me will be saved...I came so they might have life, and have it more abundantly”

Jn. 10: 9-10

Crossing the threshold signifies:

- the passage from sin to grace
- from slavery to freedom

It is Associated with:

- prayer and pilgrimage
- sacrifice and confession

For more information on the Jubilee Year of Mercy, go to:
www.iubilaeummisericordiae.va

