



## Indulgence

### For the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Diocese of Austin

#### What is an indulgence?

An **indulgence** is an act of faith by which a person may obtain release from the temporal punishment associated with sins committed, either for oneself or on behalf of another (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1471).

**In observance of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the diocese a plenary indulgence may be received.**

#### For able-bodied Catholics:

**Make a pilgrimage** to St. Mary Cathedral in Austin before November 15, 2018.

Traveling to a pilgrimage site is an expression of one's deep desire for true conversion. A **pilgrimage** is a spiritual journey to a sacred place which has a spiritual goal or objective. The pilgrimage is a reminder of our journey as disciples with the Lord to our eternal destination with God.

#### For the elderly, confined, ill or those otherwise unable to make a pilgrimage:

- Offer their sufferings to the Lord living with faith and joyful hope this moment of trial;
- **OR** they may also receive the plenary indulgence by completing a [Corporal Work of Mercy](#) or [Spiritual Work of Mercy](#), especially prayers for the souls in purgatory.

#### In addition to one of the above, the faithful must:

- **Have no attachment to sin (even venial)** one may make an act of the will to love God and despise sin.
- **Go to confession.**
- **Receive Communion** while reflecting on God's mercy, preferably within Mass.
- **Make a profession of faith** (Nicene Creed or Apostles' Creed).
- **Pray for the pope and for his intentions**, which may be satisfied by praying one Our Father and one Hail Mary.

It is *appropriate* that the sacramental confession especially Communion and the prayer for the pope's intentions take place on the same day of the pilgrimage, **but it is not necessary**. The sacramental rites and prayers may be carried out over several days (about three weeks) and at a place other than the pilgrimage site. A plenary indulgence may be gained only once each day.