



ARCHBISHOP OF WELLINGTON

10 December 2025

Dear Father

The Year of Jubilee fast approaches its completion as we look to the closing celebration on 28 December 2025. This will be the Feast of the Holy Family, the day which Pope Francis decreed as the day for the Jubilee to close in ‘particular churches’ (dioceses) throughout the world. In Rome the closing Mass is to be celebrated at St Peter’s Basilica, on Epiphany, 6 January 2026.

The Curial dicastery responsible for the Jubilee asks that all the faithful be made aware of the local closing Mass, and this Mass be only celebrated in the Cathedral Church in each diocese. Therefore, please let your parishioners know that all are invited to Sacred Heart Cathedral for the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday 28 December 2025 as we celebrate the closing of the Year of Jubilee.

It is the hope of Pope Leo XIV that from the Closing Mass for the Jubilee there be an outreach to the poor. To enable this to be achieved can parishes please send a representative/s with a gift from each parish as an offering for the poor. We would encourage parishes to consider what such an offering would be and communicate the initiative/collection to parishes as part of the upcoming Advent Season. The ‘gifts’ can then be brought forward by each parish representative in the offertory procession and placed near the Jubilee Cross during the Mass.

Naturally, with this Mass being the weekend following Christmas, some of our parishioners may be away on their holiday break. It will be good to arrange a representative/s so that they can include this in their Christmas-time planning.

The Jubilee Year opened for our Archdiocese on January 26, with the Opening Mass at the Cathedral, and in the months following, celebrations, pilgrimages, gatherings, and further initiatives have unfolded in the life of parishes and Archdiocese. As we continue to walk as Pilgrims of Hope it will be good to gather and be sent out from this closing Mass into the future as an Archdiocese.

Thank you for all you have done this year to promote the Jubilee of Hope in your parish, and I hope that while the year may be coming to an end the theme of Hope will continue in our ministries and parish life.

Yours in Christ

+ Paul Sm

Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington

Level 2, 204 Thorndon Quay, Pipitea, Wellington 6011 - PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140, New Zealand

T: 04 496 1766 E: abp@wn.catholic.org.nz W: wn.catholic.org.nz