



JULY, 2025

Jubilee Jottings

Catholic Diocese of Auckland

Kia ora koutou, hello, kia orana, talofa, mātō o lelei, bula, helo, halca, namaste, ayubowan, salam, kamusta, hola, egesé.

In the heart of the **Jubilee of Hope**, Pope Leo XIV's pastoral voice is deeply attuned to the spiritual fatigue and isolation felt by many in today's world. His reflections, particularly during the Jubilee of Bishops at St. Peter's Basilica, centre on the transformative power of faith and the enduring promise of hope.

Drawing from the Gospel story of the bleeding woman and Jairus' daughter (Mark 5:21–43), the Pope emphasized that healing begins when we confront reality with courage and faith. "The crowd jostles, but faith touches," he said, quoting Saint Augustine. This message resonates deeply in a time when many feel overwhelmed by the burdens of life. Pope Leo's call to "just have faith" is not a passive encouragement but a challenge to remain spiritually engaged, even when circumstances seem bleak.

In his meditation to bishops, Pope Leo invoked the words of Saint Paul - *Spes non confundit* (Hope does not disappoint) reminding us all that our witness must be rooted in a hope that transcends human limitations. He urged the bishops to be shepherds renewed by Christ, capable of reviving even the faintest flame of faith in those who suffer.

Through his Jubilee catechesis and meditations, Pope Leo XIV has positioned hope not as a distant ideal but as a living force - one that nourishes, heals, and unites. His reflections challenge all believers to be messengers of hope, especially in a world marked by division, despair, and displacement.

Come Let us Jubilee - The CDA Team

DIOCESAN EVENTS COMING UP



David Wells Pilgrims of Hope in a Synodal Church

Sancta Maria College Auditorium

Saturday 6th of September 2025
10.00am - 3.00pm

Lunch provided please register.



Scan to
Register



Register
Now

Save
the
Date



The Ecumenical Church Communities of Auckland
Celebrates the Season of Creation | 1 Sept – 4 Oct
'Protection of our Common Home' with a...

COMBINED ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

WHEN: WEDNESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2025 7:00 PM AT
THE MACLAURIN CHAPEL, 18 PRINCES ST, AUCKLAND



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

PEACE WITH CREATION SEASON OF CREATION 2025

Registration is essential email
us at louisar@cda.org.nz

Bishop Steve will lead this service





IDEAS FOR DOMESTIC CHURCH

Praying when it is difficult to find words.



Currently our world is very broken and it is easy to become despondent with feelings that we can't do anything to relieve pain and suffering but pray. And prayer can seem so hard.

What do we say?

One idea is to **Create a Prayer Well**. [Thanks St Levan's Church, Cornwall].

Collect smallish stones for a small bowl and a larger bowl with water in it. Invite family members to pick up a stone, feel its texture and weight. Think of people or situations carrying heavy burdens and place the stone in the water asking that the intention be carried by Jesus who carries the burden of all.

Leave this somewhere where it can be added to.

RESOURCES and INFORMATION

Remember the Portal

The portal is like a big open-source filing cabinet for the diocese. Some of the draws are locked and you need a password but for most you enter, click on the relevant tab to gain access to a vast array of resources. The Jubilee file will be regularly updated, It includes;

- copies of the Jubilee prayer
- the Auckland diocese and Vatican calendar of events
- ... and more



National Resources

The NZ Catholic Bishops Conference has created a special online page of resources for parishes and individuals to use as we walk together as Jubilee 2025—Pilgrims of Hope. <https://www.catholic.org.nz/about-us/jubilee-year-2025/>

IDEAS FOR LOCAL CHURCH

Borrow ideas from others

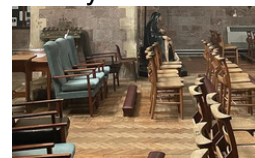
We don't have to have all the ideas. Each of the following are borrowed from faith communities in England. Each can be adapted to our own situation.

Create a place of comfort

Sacred Heart Church central Exeter is a welcoming inner city community. The pews like many are wooden and not designed for comfort.

At the back of the Church they have some armchairs.

Those paying a visit to the Church are free to sit pray and contemplate in comfort. Very invitational.



Make it easy to find out and engage

Often we need to close our churches for various reasons but people still are interested. However we are in an age of instant responses required. St Patrick's Soho has on its information board a QR code. People passing who are interested in any aspect of the community can use it to head straight to the website. Real appeal to certain generations. And very easy to use. Worth considering adding to your board



Make a prayer tree



St Levan's Church in Cornwall took a branch spray painted it and provided gift tags for prayer requests. They invited people to particularly pray in gratitude. A simple and different way to encourage prayer.

Jubilee Reflection on Social Justice

CAFOD the UK Caritas has published a Jubilee Reflection Guide that can be downloaded for free from their website

<https://cafod.org.uk/pray/prayer-resources/jubilee-reflection-guide>

Containing four sessions, each reflecting on a different theme within Luke 4:16-21, this guide can be used with a small group, parish or for personal reflection.