



# Jubilee 2025



## Jubilee of the Poor

15 – 16 November 2025

This weekend, we gather to honour the Jubilee of the Poor, recognising the dignity, strength, and resilience of those who live with material poverty. We are reminded that the poor are at the heart of the Gospel, calling us to lives of compassion, solidarity, and service. We give thanks for their courage and for the lessons they teach us about simplicity, humility, and reliance on God.

Today, we renew our commitment to creating a just and compassionate society where every person has access to the resources and opportunities they need to thrive. May this Jubilee inspire us to act generously, advocate for equity, and work together to bring hope and support to those in need.

## Prayers

### Example prayers of the faithful

We pray for the poor and vulnerable people in our world, that they may be treated with justice and compassion. **E te Ariki ...**

We pray for the work of Caritas, St. Vincent de Paul, and all organisations that tirelessly provide support and relief to those in need. May their efforts bring hope, compassion, and dignity to the lives they touch. **E te Ariki ...**

### Other prayers for the Poor

God of Justice,

Open our eyes to see you in the face of the poor.

Open our ears to hear you in the cries of the exploited.

Open our mouths to defend you in the public squares as well as in private deeds.

Remind us that what we do to the least ones, we do to you. Amen.

From <https://www.usccb.org/prayers/prayer-poor>

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Dearest God,

Open our eyes and our hearts so that we are able to see you in every one of your children.





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May we embrace first ties that bind us to each other, and recognise that you created us into one family for compassion, caring and sharing.

From the time of birth, we need each other; other human hands lifted us from the womb. We rely on others to feed us, protect us, teach us, and love us into life.

Open our hearts to the needs of your innocent people suffering from the persistent burden of hunger and mobilise our spirits to respond to them. Counter the outrage and anger we feel against injustice with love.

Grant that inspired by the vision of human solidarity, we may invest our material resources in bringing liberation to the despair of poverty and returning hope to your children. Stir our hearts to compassionate action that transforms suffering into redemptive love, now and forever more.

Amen.

From <https://www.caritas.org/get-involved/pray/>

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## **Prayer To St Vincent de Paul**

Noble Saint Vincent de Paul,  
beloved servant of the poor,  
may we follow your example and do good works  
among those whom society has abandoned,  
enslaved, or forgotten.  
Inspire us to feed the hungry,  
to love a child,  
to provide comfort and medicine to the sick,  
to clothe those whose garments are threadbare,  
and to offer hope and our Lord's words  
to all who need respite.  
Pray for us to our beloved God  
that we may commit ourselves selflessly  
to doing the same charitable acts  
that you did all your life,  
and intercede with him  
that we may have the favour of his guidance  
and strength and love upon this important and meaningful work. Amen.

From <https://www.daily-prayers.org/angels-and-saints/prayers-to-saint-vincent-de-paul/>

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## Prayer for Generosity

Lord, teach us to be generous;  
To give without counting the cost;  
To return good for evil;  
To serve without expecting some reward;  
To draw closer to those whom we find repulsive;  
To do good to those who cannot reciprocate;  
To love generously;  
To work without being concerned about rest;  
To be solely concerned about giving;  
To give our whole self;  
To give to those who need us,  
Hoping to receive only You, Lord, as our reward.

From <https://www.lincolnsvdpcouncil.org/prayers.html>

## Reflection on the Jubilee of the Poor

*Read the following reflection out during Mass/within your faith communities over the week of 15 – 16 November 2025, or distribute for personal reflection.*

The statistics we see on the news or read in publications about the “poor” in our community are just the tip of the iceberg.

Each number represents a person made in the “image and likeness of God.” Let us remember these are *people* in need. When we think this way, we begin to understand that there is no single group called “the poor”—these are individuals who, for various reasons, find themselves unable to provide for themselves or their dependents in a way that allows them to fully participate in the community.

Addressing physical needs is often the easiest option—providing food, clothing, or furniture at least makes life more comfortable. But attending to the spiritual poverty that Mother Teresa spoke of requires a deeper commitment: being present and walking alongside those who struggle with relationships, mental health, or other challenges.

Take a moment to ask yourself, “Is there someone in my family or neighbourhood who needs a visit, a phone call, or a note to reassure them that someone cares about their well-being?” To honour those in need, reach out and make contact.

*Rose Semmens*





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## Suggestions for celebrating this Jubilee in your communities

- **Use the Provided Prayers of the Faithful or Write Your Own**  
Include prayers for those who are poor, marginalised, or in need, asking for God's compassion, provision, and justice to be present in their lives.
- **Share the Reflection at Mass or within your faith communities**  
Offer the provided reflection during Mass or gatherings that explores the responsibility to serve and uplift the poor, inspired by scripture and the lives of saints.
- **Organise a Community Service Day**  
Encourage parishioners to volunteer at local shelters, food banks, or outreach programs, dedicating time and resources to serve those in need.
- **Hold a Donation Drive for Essential Items**  
Collect non-perishable food, toiletries, winter clothing, or other essentials for local charities or shelters, promoting active support for the poor in the community.
- **Host a Meal for Those in Need**  
Organise a free community meal at the parish or a local outreach centre, inviting those in need to share in fellowship and care.
- **Create Care Packages for the Homeless**  
Assemble packages with essentials like socks, hygiene products, and snacks, distributing them to those experiencing homelessness in your local area.

