



Jubilee 2025



Jubilee of Justice

20 – 21 September 2025

This weekend, we celebrate the Jubilee of Justice, giving thanks for the pursuit of fairness, equity, and truth in our world. We honour those who work tirelessly to uphold justice, defend the oppressed, and ensure that all people are treated with dignity and respect. Justice is at the heart of our faith, and today we reflect on our shared responsibility to build a society that honours the rights and freedoms of every person.

As we celebrate this Jubilee, we renew our commitment to seeking justice in all things, promoting peace, reconciliation, and the common good. May we be inspired to act with compassion and integrity, working together to create a world where justice and love reign.

Prayers

Example prayers of the faithful

For the Church, that she may continue to be a beacon of truth and justice, guiding all people toward righteousness and peace. **E te Ariki ...**

For all leaders and lawmakers, that they may be inspired by compassion and wisdom, and work tirelessly to uphold the dignity and rights of every person, especially the marginalized and oppressed. **E te Ariki ...**

For those who suffer injustice, whether through poverty, violence, or discrimination, that they may find strength, comfort, and hope in the Lord's mercy, and that their voices may be heard. **E te Ariki ...**

For our community, that we may embody justice in our actions and relationships, striving for equity, kindness, and respect for all. **E te Ariki ...**

Other prayers for Justice

Prayer for Justice

Grant us, Lord God, a vision of your world as your love would have it:
a world where the weak are protected, and none go hungry or poor;
a world where the riches of creation are shared, and everyone can enjoy them;





Jubilee 2025



a world where different races and cultures live in harmony and mutual respect;
a world where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love.
Give us the inspiration and courage to build it, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Victims and Perpetrators of Injustice

Leader:

For all those who have fallen victim to hatred and inhumanity, for those loved ones who are left behind to mourn, for the souls of those whose hearts are cold,

R/. Lord, have mercy on them.

Leader:

For the children who are being born into this world of conflict and violence, for women and mothers who suffer needlessly,

R/. Lord, have mercy on them.

Leader:

For all those who have been forced into unemployment, who long to return to work, for all those who struggle to support their families,

R/. Lord, have mercy on them.

Leader:

For the soldiers who are misguided in thinking that their bullets will bring about peace, for those who feel called to conscientiously object to military orders,

R/. Lord, have mercy on them.

Leader:

For the children who cry in their beds at night and wonder, "What have I done?",

R/. Lord, have mercy on them.

Leader:

For the mothers and fathers who must try to explain the unexplainable,

R/. Lord, have mercy on them.

Leader:

For all the children who have died before their time, for the soldiers who allow their uniform to strip them of their humanity, for the healers who are denied the opportunity to use their gifts,

R/. Lord, have mercy on them.

Leader:

For the redemption of the souls of both victim and perpetrator, for those who commit





Jubilee 2025



themselves to the forgiveness of sins,
R/. Lord, have mercy on them.

Amen.

From [Catholic Online](#)

Catholic Social Teaching Prayer

We believe in Human Dignity

Loving God,

We believe that every person is created in Your image and that all life is sacred. May we work to end poverty and injustice so all people can live life in dignity.

Lord, in Your mercy, Hear our prayer.

We believe in The Common Good

Loving God,

You call us to look beyond our own interests to what is good for all people. May we work towards a world where everyone has their fair share in order to live life to the full.

Lord, in Your mercy Hear our prayer.

We believe in Participation

Loving God,

We give thanks for our talents. May all people have the chance to participate in the decisions that impact their own lives and in creating a just and peaceful society.

Lord, in Your mercy Hear our prayer.

We believe in Subsidiarity

Loving God,

We thank You for the freedom that You gifted us. May all those who make decisions work with all members of the community to make sure everyone benefits.

Lord, in Your mercy Hear our prayer.

We believe in Stewardship

Loving God,

We give thanks for Your gift of creation. May we be good stewards of the earth's resources and always remember the link between our environment and poverty.

Lord, in Your mercy Hear our prayer.





Jubilee 2025



We believe in Solidarity

Loving God,

Help us to see the suffering of others and build up a world of love and solidarity. As we go about our day and strive to walk with Jesus as people in solidarity, may we be reminded that we are the love of Christ, who is with us always.

Lord, in Your mercy Hear our prayer.

We believe in A Preferential Option for the Poor

Loving God,

May we always remember that by serving people living in poverty, we are loving and serving You. Give us the wisdom to see the structures which create poverty and the passion to make a change.

Lord, in Your mercy Hear our prayer.

We believe in Distributive Justice

Loving God,

You gift us a world filled with beauty that reminds us of Your grace. May we always remember to be mindful of how we use and distribute resources, working so no person should ever miss out.

Lord, in Your mercy Hear our prayer.

We believe in Promoting Peace

Loving God,

As we go about our day, Lord, as we strive to walk with Jesus in a world of peace, remind us that we are the minds, hearts, and hands of Christ, who is with us always. May Your grace, mercy, and peace bless us, keep us, and transform us.

Lord, in Your mercy Hear our prayer.

We believe in Catholic Social Teaching

We pray for an end to poverty. We pray for the promotion of justice. We pray for dignity to be upheld. Amen.

From the [Catholic Agency for Overseas Development](#)





Jubilee 2025



Reflection on the Jubilee of Justice

Read the following reflection out during Mass/within your faith communities over the weekend of 20 – 21 September 2025, or distribute for personal reflection.

When I practised law I often heard a disgruntled fellow legal colleague, or a client, say of an unwelcome judgment, “Well, it is the Law but it is not Justice.”

Once, when as a young Constable, many years ago now, I was manning the Christchurch City Incident Patrol, we were called to the grounds of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. A frantic call had been made to the Police Operations Room, “Please come quickly. There is a drunken stranger in our gardens. We want you to remove him.”

I can still recall the ashen, sickly, frightened face of the middle aged, obviously professional man, in his dirty deshelled suit, white shirt and tie. He crouching in bushes and me approaching him on my hands and knees trying to gain his confidence to come to me. The serious extent of his alcoholism was confirmed when he poured vodka into his shoe to get a large last gulp. He was a very sick man in desperate need of sanctuary and healing.

Sure “it was the Law” for cathedral staff. The man was trespassing. But was it, Justice?

Jesus rebuked the Pharisees and scribes who were critical of those not following the Law. Of those focused only on the Law, Jesus reminded them of the prophecy of Isaiah – “This people honours me with lip-service. While their hearts are far from me.” Mk 7:6 and Is 29:13

The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, at para 81 of its Compendium, states: “By means of her social doctrine, the Church shows her concern for human life in society, aware that the quality of social life – that is, of the relationships of justice and love that form the fabric of society – depends in a decisive manner on the protection and promotion of the human person, for whom every community comes into existence.”

Sometimes, Justice can be a hard ask. I am not saying the Cathedral staff should not have called the Police. I well understood their concern. However, the incident gives us cause for reflection. The law has a necessary purpose in society. But justice calls us to be open, beyond the law, at times. The Law will, hopefully, provide for orderly relationships; Justice seeks for right relationships.

About 6 months before he was elected Pope, Jorge Cardinal Bergoglio wrote a Letter to the Priests, Religious and Lay Faithful of his Archdiocese. He began the letter with “Among the strongest experiences of the last decades is that of finding closed doors.” He went on to say, “The image of an open door has always been the symbol of light, friendship, joy, freedom, trust. How important it is that we recover these! The closed door hurts us, stagnates us, separates us.”





Jubilee 2025



Jubilee Years are celebrated as special times to re-establish right relationships with God, each other and creation. May we be Pilgrims of Hope and our hearts be doors always open to Justice.

Kevin Campbell

Justice Peace Development Ecology Commission, Steering Group Member

Suggestions for celebrating this Jubilee in your communities

- **Use the provided prayers of the faithful or write your own**
Tailor prayers to highlight the importance of justice in our communities, especially in terms of fairness, equality, and compassion. Recognise the call to uphold justice for the marginalized and vulnerable.
- **Share the provided reflection during mass or gatherings**
Use the provided reflection during Mass or at community gatherings to help highlight key justice themes, such as fairness, compassion, and the call to support the marginalized. Offer printed copies for private reflection, ensuring that everyone has access to the message and can take time to contemplate how they can contribute to justice in their daily lives.
- **Invite a speaker or panel discussion on justice issues**
Invite a speaker or organise a panel discussion on key justice issues, such as social justice, human rights, and environmental justice. Provide an opportunity for the community to learn, ask questions, and reflect on their own role in promoting justice.
- **Organise a community service project**
Plan a service project that addresses a local need, such as volunteering at a food bank, helping with housing for the homeless, or organizing a clothing drive for those in need. This provides a hands-on way to engage with justice issues in the community.
- **Support local justice-oriented organisations**
Partner with or support organisations that work for social justice, human rights, and equality. This could include donating, volunteering, or raising awareness about their work.
- **Prayer chain for justice**
Start a prayer chain dedicated to justice, praying for those suffering from injustice, for leaders to act with fairness, and for the community to live justly with each other.

