

Merciful like the Father

Jubilee path of Mercy at the Basilique du Sacré-Coeur de Montmartre

3rd step

He wanted his Church to share his life with us

The inn – the Church: the Word of God, the Virgin Mary and the sacraments

“He then lifted him onto his own mount and took him to an inn and looked after him.

Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper and said, ‘Look after him, and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have’.” (Luke 10:34-35)

The inn, it is the Church, to which Christ entrust us. The Church is the place where we receive the Word of God and the sacraments. This Word of life, transmitted through the Holy Scripture, is summarised in the dual commandment regarding love: “You will love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.” (Luke 10:27)

The love of God, the love of your neighbour, these are the “two silver coins” that Christ provides to us in the Church while awaiting his return at the end of time.

We each receive two verses of Scripture that we are encouraged to meditate on to prepare ourselves to pass through the Holy Door and to extend our walk in our daily life.

“In order to be capable of mercy, therefore, we must first of all dispose ourselves to listen to the Word of God. This means rediscovering the value of silence in order to meditate on the Word that comes to us.”

(Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus*, 13)

The Church is also the place where Mary, the Mother of the Saviour, welcomes us all.

“My thoughts now turn to the Mother of Mercy. [...] Her hymn of praise, sung at the threshold of the home of Elizabeth, was dedicated to the mercy of God which extends from “generation to generation” (Lk 1:50). We too were included in those prophetic words of the Virgin Mary. [...] Mary attests that the mercy of the Son of God knows no bounds and extends to everyone, without exception. Let us address her in the words of the Salve Regina, a prayer ever ancient and ever new, so that she may never tire of turning her merciful eyes upon us, and make us worthy to contemplate the face of mercy, her Son Jesus.”

(Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus*, 24)

In the Church, we rely on the faith confessed by Saint Peter and transmitted by the apostles. Within the framework of an undertaking to receive the plenary indulgence of the Holy Year, it is proposed that we make a stop before the statue of Saint Peter to recite [the Credo \(I believe in God\)](#), in communion with Pope Francis, Peter’s successor.