ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

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OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

November 23, 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with much joy and anticipation that I invite all of you to join me to welcome the beginning of the Jubilee of Mercy. The Jubilee of Mercy, proclaimed by Pope Francis begins on December 8, 2015 and concludes with the feast of Christ the King on November 20, 2016.

The Jubilee of Mercy is a graced opportunity for all of us to appreciate more deeply how the mercy of God has taken hold of our lives and, at the same time, how we can bring that mercy into the world though our own actions and the way we live our lives. The Jubilee of Mercy will be celebrated in the Archdiocese of Chicago with a full schedule of events and array of resources. Among these are:

- The commencement of the Jubilee with the opening of the Holy Door on Sunday, December 13 at Holy Name Cathedral.
- The designation of 32 pilgrimage sites throughout the Archdiocese, where the faithful can receive indulgences.
- A special weekly resource, *One Word at a Time*, developed for parishes and individuals to help put merciful actions into practice is now available in English, Spanish and Polish.
- Stories related to the Jubilee of Mercy will appear regularly in our Archdiocesan newspapers, the Catholic New World and Chicago Católico.
- A monthly video segment, "Mercy Moments," will highlight testimonials from individuals and how they experienced or encountered God's mercy.
- Fr. Louis Cameli's newest book, *Rejoicing in Mercy: A Prayer Commentary on the Gospel of Luke*.
- "Adopt a Work of Mercy" pamphlet, with a call to all Catholics to commit to one of the corporal or spiritual works of mercy.

These, and many more resources, will be available on the Office for the New Evangelization website: www.jubileemercy.org. Please look for Jubilee of Mercy updates on the Archdiocesan website as well as your parish bulletin.

Let us call to mind the words of Pope Francis at this time: "In this Jubilee Year, may the Church echo the word of God that resounds strongly and clearly as a message and a sign of pardon, strength, aid, and love. May she never tire of extending mercy, and be ever patient in offering compassion and comfort. May the Church become the voice of every man and woman, and repeat confidently without end: 'Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old'".

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Blase J. Cupich

Archbishop Blase J. Cupich
Archbishop of Chicago