

Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation with optional Jubilee plenary indulgence

[Catholic Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation](#) is a nationwide initiative launched by a coalition of Catholic and environmental organizations, including Catholic Relief Services, Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, Catholic Climate Covenant, Franciscan Friars, Ignatian Solidarity Network, Laudato Si' Movement, the Saint Kateri Conservation Center and many others.

DOR coalition, NC Caring for our Common Home (N4CH), is offering this pilgrimage format to follow at your discretion. This is a sacred opportunity to pray for the grace to encounter Christ in Creation and renew our relationships with God, the Earth, and one another.

In 2025, as we mark the 800th anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi's Canticle of the Creatures, this journey serves as a powerful reminder of our deep connection to the Earth. We are invited to pray, reflect, and take action.

By visiting a DOR designated Jubilee pilgrimage church (HNOJ Cathedral in Raleigh, Basilica Shrine of Saint Mary in Wilmington, Mother of Mercy Church in Washington, St. Patrick Church in Fayetteville and St. Paul in New Bern, known today as Old St. Paul) you may include the steps for a Jubilee plenary indulgence, which are attached and included in the format.

Format: most appropriate during the Season of Creation (Sept 1- Oct 4) and during the rest of the Jubilee Year ending January 4, 2026. All pilgrimage preparation, prayers, *Dilexit Nos* excerpt, and saints who care for creation can be found in the attached doc *Pilgrimage Prayers*. DOR has provided the guidelines for a plenary indulgence- refer to attached document.

- Before and on your ride to the pilgrimage site - prepare your pilgrim heart. Refer to the [Pilgrimage Toolkit](#) on pg.14 and pg. 21.
- At the pilgrimage site start near a statue or picture of the Sacred Heart or Crucifix. Recite the Pilgrimage prayer from the [Pilgrimage Toolkit](#) on pg.16. Then recite the excerpt 31 from the encyclical letter on the Human and Divine Love of the Heart of Christ by Pope Francis, *Dilexit nos*.
- Process to a St. Francis statue or other Saint who cares for creation and recite the [Canticle of the Creatures](#) celebrating its 800th anniversary. As an activity fill out a copy and make your own *Canticle of Creation* provided by Brenna Davis from Ignatian Solidarity Network. File attached.
- Process to Our Lady's statue or picture to recite the Hail Mary and [Memorare](#) to ask for her protection and care. (necessary step to obtain plenary indulgence)
- Process to a Divine Mercy or other statue or picture of Jesus to recite the [Jubilee 2025 official prayer](#) and to pray for Pope Leo intentions with an Our Father and Glory be (necessary for plenary indulgence).
- Finally process to the Baptismal Font to recite the [Nicene Creed](#) (necessary for plenary indulgence) and the Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation ending prayer intentions from the [Pilgrimage Toolkit](#) on pgs.19-20.

- Notice to participants who want to receive the Jubilee plenary indulgence. Refer to attached file of the DOR guidelines.

Generally, they are:

Visit a designated sacred site. Pray the Our Father, Creed, and prayers to Mary at the sacred site. Pray for the intentions of the Pope. Receive Holy Communion. Receive Confession which can be 20 days before or after your pilgrimage – be truly repentant. Have a spirit of charity by participating in a work of mercy and penance. Volunteer in a ministry within your parish that, feeds the hungry(Oak City Cares), provides drink to thirsty (Women’s Center), clothes the naked (Note in a Pocket, Hoodies for the Homeless), welcomes the stranger (Door ministry), heals the sick (prayer chain), visits the imprisoned (Prison ministry) and buries the dead (Bereavement ministry, Seasons of Hope); counsels the doubtful- instruct the ignorant (OCIA), admonish sinners, comfort the afflicted (become a lector or Eucharistic minister), forgive offences, bear patiently those who do us ill and pray for the living and the dead. This indulgence can be applied for oneself or souls in Purgatory.