

Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation
January 2025
Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

May the Lord Give You Peace. Happy New Year! Welcome to 2025, the Jubilee Year of Hope.

In Pope Francis' letter announcing the Jubilee year 2025, he said, "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision." In this beautiful call to hope, we may ask, what fans the flame of hope in our individual hearts? In our fraternities? In our Order? Our Beloved Saint Francis, through his teachings and the testimony of his life, taught us that hope is a grace, "a grace to imagine a future more positive, more loving, and more joyful than the world we now find ourselves in." (Father Murray Bodo, OFM, *Surrounded by Love: Seven Teachings from St. Francis*) In short, our hope comes from the Lord (Psalm 121).

May we ground ourselves in prayer, meditation, acts of kindness, deep gratitude, praising God through our actions, and song. As pilgrims of hope during this Jubilee year, we pray that the Lord will guide us to new paths that strengthen us to step out in hope.



Compassionate, Loving Action

St. Francis carried that hope into loving action. May we do what each of us has been called to do and seek out and find opportunities in the world to become a sister or brother to others through intentional acts of service. May we in this way carry God's hope, light, joy, and comfort to an ailing world, to those in need, and to our suffering environment. May we continue the work of St. Francis, Patron Saint of Peace, Patron Saint of Ecology, joyful in hope, untiring in love.

Let Us Pray



Show me today, Lord, where you want me to carry your love and hope. I am a pilgrim of Hope. I am your servant, now and forever. Amen.

Let Us Sing



The official hymn for the Jubilee year "Pilgrims of Hope." Let us join together in song at each of our gatherings in January. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7uXO8IUcEZI>

May we pray, act, and sing as we carry God's Hope into the world.