

JUBILEE OF MERCY PREACHING PLAN

Pope Francis has repeatedly identified preaching at Mass as one of the most important tasks of bishops, priests, and deacons in helping to form missionary disciples. The Jubilee of Mercy can provide a structure for sustained, ongoing preaching on a common theme. The following preaching plan proposes two phases of preaching during the Jubilee of Mercy. The first phase begins on the Second Sunday of Advent, immediately prior to the opening of the Jubilee Year, and continues intermittently through the Easter Season. It focuses on the major themes of the Jubilee Year – mercy, forgiveness, reconciliation, and jubilee. The second phase is spread through Ordinary time in the summer and fall of 2016 and provides suggested links in the Sunday Lectionary readings to preach individually on each of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

This preaching plan can serve as a guide for those who preach at Mass, with each homilist able to decide for himself when to focus on the given themes. Especially during phase one, there are many and varied opportunities provided by the Lectionary to preach on themes of mercy, forgiveness, and reconciliation. It could also be possible to use these Lectionary connections to guide parish faith formation programs, small group discussions, or any of a variety of other parish or school programs.

- Fr. Eric M. Augenstein - Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Indianapolis

Phase I – Mercy, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation

Dec. 6, 2015 - Second Sunday of Advent (1, G, C) – Mercy and Forgiveness
Jan. 10, 2016 - Baptism of the Lord (2) – Mercy
Jan. 24, 2016 - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (1, G) – Jubilee/Holy Year
Feb. 10, 2016 - Ash Wednesday (1, Ps, 2) – Jubilee/Mercy
Feb. 28, 2016 - 3rd Sunday of Lent (Ps, C) – Mercy
March 6, 2016 - 4th Sunday of Lent (2, G) – Reconciliation
March 13, 2016 - 5th Sunday of Lent (G) – Forgiveness
April 3, 2016 - 2nd Sunday of Easter (C, Ps, G) – Divine Mercy, Reconciliation
April 10, 2016 - 3rd Sunday of Easter (G) – Mercy, Forgiveness
May 5/8, 2016 - The Ascension of the Lord (2, G) – Mercy, Forgiveness

Phase II – Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy

June 5, 2016 - 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time (1, G) – Bury the Dead
June 12, 2016 - 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time (1, G) – Forgive Offenses
June 19, 2016 - 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time (G) – Counsel the Doubtful
July 3, 2016 - 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (G) – Visit the Sick
July 10, 2016 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time (G) – Clothe the Naked
July 17, 2016 - 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (1) – Welcome the Stranger
Aug. 14, 2016 - 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (1) – Feed the Hungry
Aug. 21, 2016 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (2) – Admonish Sinners
Aug. 28, 2016 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (G) – Give Drink to the Thirsty
Sept. 4, 2016 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (2) – Visit the Imprisoned
Sept. 11, 2016 - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (2) – Bear Wrongs Patiently
Sept. 18, 2016 - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (2) – Pray for the Living and the Dead
Sept. 25, 2016 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (G) – Comfort the Afflicted
Oct. 16, 2016 - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (2) – Instruct the Ignorant

Key to Abbreviations: 1 – First Reading; Ps – Responsorial Psalm; 2 – Second Reading; G – Gospel; C - Collect