Year of Mercy – Plenary Indulgence
8 December 2015 to 20 November 2016

A Plenary Indulgence for the Year of Mercy will be granted for the temporal punishment of sins, imparted by the mercy of God and applicable to either the recipient or to the soul of one of the faithful departed.

The faithful are able to gain plenary indulgences if they are “truly repentant, duly confessed, communing sacramentally, and who pray according to the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff.” That is,

- be in a state of grace by celebrating the sacrament of Penance
- celebrating Holy Eucharist with a reflection on mercy
- the profession of faith (Creed)
- a prayer for the intentions of the Pope.

For the Year of Mercy, the plenary indulgence is available to:

- **Each of the Faithful** each time the person passes through a Door of Mercy, which in the Diocese of Broken Bay are at the following churches:
  - Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Hornsby Cathedral Parish
  - St Mary’s Church, Manly Freshwater Parish
  - Our Lady of Dolours Church, Chatswood Parish
  - Our Lady of the Rosary Church, The Entrance Parish
  - Holy Cross Church, Kincumber Parish

- **The sick, elderly and alone**, who are often housebound and unable to enter a Holy Door - by living with faith and joyful hope their moment of trial, and by receiving communion or attending Holy Mass and community prayer, even through various means of communication (for example, Mass via the internet).

- **Those in prison**, who are able to obtain the indulgence in the chapel of the prison. The gesture of directing their thought and prayer to the Father each time they cross the threshold of their cell signifies their passage through the Holy Door.

- **Each of the Faithful** who performs one or more of the corporal or spiritual works of mercy (**Corporal**: Feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, bury the dead; **Spiritual**: Admonish the sinner, instruct the ignorant, counsel the doubtful, comfort the sorrowful, bear wrongs patiently, forgive all injuries, pray for the living and the dead)

(Note that the Sacrament of Penance is able to be celebrated 7 days either side of the Action of Mercy.)

It is encouraged that all the faithful take this opportunity to deepen their spiritual lives in this Jubilee Year of Mercy.