



DIOCESE OF
SAN JOSE

DIOCESE OF SAN JOSÉ IN CALIFORNIA
Office of the Bishop

DECREE

Designation of the Parish of Saint Francis of Assisi as Pilgrim Church
for the Franciscan Jubilee Year

“The Lord bless you and keep you.”
(Numbers 6:24)

In grateful communion with the universal Church, and in response to the gracious promulgation by His Holiness Pope Leo XIV of a Franciscan Jubilee Year, to be observed throughout the Church from 10 January 2026 until 10 January 2027, in order to commemorate and renew appreciation for the spiritual heritage of Saint Francis of Assisi, outstanding model of evangelical poverty, fraternal charity, peace, and care for creation;

Mindful that Jubilee Years are privileged times of grace, calling the People of God to deeper conversion, repentance, reconciliation, and holiness, particularly through pilgrimage, prayer, the sacramental life, and works of mercy;

Desiring to provide the faithful of the Diocese of San José in California with a designated sacred place where the spiritual fruits of this Jubilee may be sought and celebrated in a special way;

And exercising the pastoral and juridical authority entrusted to me as diocesan Bishop (cf. canons 381 §1 and 391 of the Code of Canon Law), having heard the counsel of my collaborators in diocesan governance,

I HEREBY DECREE THE FOLLOWING:

Article 1 – Designation

For the duration of the Franciscan Jubilee Year, from 10 January 2026 until 10 January 2027, the Parish Church of Saint Francis of Assisi, within the Diocese of San José in California, is hereby designated as the official Pilgrim Church of the Diocese.

Article 2 – Purpose

This designation is made so that the faithful may gather as pilgrims to seek spiritual renewal through:

- Attentive listening to the Word of God,
- The worthy celebration of the Sacred Liturgy,
- Frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance,
- Eucharistic devotion, and
- Concrete works of charity inspired by the Franciscan charism.

Article 3 – Spiritual Benefits

During the Jubilee period, the faithful who devoutly visit this pilgrim church may obtain the Jubilee indulgences and spiritual benefits granted by the Holy Father, provided they fulfill the customary conditions established by the Church, namely:

- Sacramental Confession,
- Reception of Holy Communion,
- Prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff, and
- Interior detachment from all sin, even venial.

These spiritual benefits may also be applied, in accordance with Church norms, for the souls of the faithful departed.

Article 4 – Pastoral Responsibilities

The pastor of the Parish of Saint Francis of Assisi, in collaboration with the appropriate diocesan offices, is entrusted with ensuring that the church faithfully fulfills its role as a pilgrim church by:

- Providing generous and clearly scheduled opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation;
- Fostering catechesis on the Jubilee Year and the life and spirituality of Saint Francis of Assisi;
- Promoting prayer and initiatives for peace, reconciliation, care for the poor, and stewardship of creation; and
- Welcoming pilgrims with pastoral charity and reverence for the sacred rites.

Article 5 – Promulgation and Force of Law

This decree shall be promulgated by publication through the official communications of the Diocese of San José and shall take effect on 10 January 2026. It shall remain in force until 10 January 2027, unless lawfully modified or revoked by competent ecclesiastical authority.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of San José in California,
on this 22nd day of January in the Year of Our Lord 2026.

✠ Most Reverend Oscar Cantú, S.T.D.
Bishop of San José in California

✠ Most Reverend Andres C. Ligot, J.C.L.
Auxiliary Bishop & Chancellor