



Year of Mercy Merciful Like the Father

Learn, Experience, Share

As a parish community, we are answering the call of Pope Francis to join Catholics throughout the world to focus on being a witness to mercy.

Our plans will try to help all parishioners learn about what mercy is, experience mercy, recognize that we are already acting in ways that show mercy to others, share our mercy more deliberately, and share our experiences of giving and receiving God's mercy.

The Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy

Matthew Kelly notes in his book "Beautiful Mercy" that he thinks Pope Francis has called for a Year of Mercy because he wants us to connect on a personal level with God's mercy. Fortunately there is a way in the "genius of Catholicism"—the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

We will be using these throughout the year to learn, experience and share.

Learn

There will be information about the Year of Mercy in the bulletin each weekend and on our website. There are also many resources with information.

Pray

Pope Francis' Prayer for the Year of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ,

You have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,

And have told us that whoever see you sees him.

Show us your face and we will be saved.

(Complete prayer is in pews and on our website at saintspeter-paul.org)



The logo and the

motto together provide a fitting summary of what the Jubilee Year is all about. The motto Merciful Like the Father (taken from the Gospel of Luke 6:36) serves as an invitation to follow the merciful example of the Father who asks us not to judge or condemn but to forgive and to give love and forgiveness without measure (Lk 6:37-38).

The logo -- the work of Jesuit Father Marko I. Rupnik -- represents an image quite important to the early Church: that of the Son having taken upon his shoulders the lost soul, demonstrating that it is the love of Christ that brings to completion the mystery of his incarnation culminating in redemption.

The logo has been designed in such a way so as to express the profound way in which the Good Shepherd touches the flesh of humanity and does so with a love with the power to change one's life. One noteworthy feature is that while the Good Shepherd, in his great mercy, takes humanity upon himself, his eyes are merged with those of man. Christ sees with the eyes of Adam, and Adam with the eyes of Christ. Every person discovers in Christ, the new Adam, one's own humanity and the future that lies ahead, contemplating, in his gaze, the love of the Father.

The scene is captured within the so called mandorla (the shape of an almond), a figure that calls to mind the two natures of Christ, divine and human. The three concentric ovals, with colors progressively lighter as we move outward, suggest the movement of Christ who carries humanity out of the night of sin and death. Conversely, the depth of the darker color suggests the impenetrability of the love of the Father who forgives all.