



We are pleased to announce that Pope Francis grants a plenary Indulgence to Christ's faithful who make a pilgrimage to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine on the following occasions:

- October 22, the Solemnity of St. John Paul II
- Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)
- Once a year on a day that individual members of the faithful are free to choose
- Whenever they participate in a sacred pilgrimage to that place as a group

To obtain this indulgence, these members of the faithful must either:

- ❖ Participate in sacred ceremonies carried out in honor of St. John Paul II
OR
- ❖ Pray before the relics of St. John Paul II, remembering one's duty to our Holy Father, Pope Francis, and concluding with the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, the Hail Mary, and the following:

*You are the Shepherd of the sheep, O Prince of the Apostles.
To you the keys of the kingdom of heaven have been given.*

Pilgrims must be truly penitent and fulfill the usual conditions for an indulgence (see below).

An indulgence is a remission of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven. A plenary indulgence removes all of the temporal punishment due to sin. The faithful can gain indulgences for themselves or apply them to the dead. A plenary indulgence can be gained only once a day.

To gain an indulgence, whether partial or plenary, it is necessary that the faithful be in the state of grace when the work is completed. In addition, to gain a plenary indulgence, they must:

- Have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin;
- Sacramentally confess their sins;
- Receive the Holy Eucharist; and
- Pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff, Pope Francis.

It is appropriate that the sacramental Confession, Holy Communion, and the prayer for the Pope's intentions take place on the pilgrimage day. However, it is sufficient that these sacred rites and prayers be carried out within 20 days before or after their visit to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine.

SAINT
JOHN PAUL II
NATIONAL SHRINE