

# Doors of Mercy Information Session



## 1. Welcome and Opening Prayer (3 minutes)



**LEADER:** Welcome! Thank you for joining us. We're here to spend a few minutes to learn about what our parish is doing to celebrate the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy that Pope Francis declared for the whole Church. Our parish-wide initiative is an 8 week program called *Doors of Mercy*. So we'll talk a bit about what it is and how it can change our lives.

Let's begin with a prayer as we ask God for His grace and mercy on all of us gathered here, for our needs and for our families...

*Use the following prayer from Pope Francis for the Extraordinary Jubilee Year or another prayer related to mercy.*



Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you, sees Him.

Show us your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:

"If you knew the gift of God!" You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.

You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

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## 2. Introducing the Video Segments (5 minutes)

*Hand out copies of the Invitation card and Mercy checklist to each Participant. Have extras for people who want to give them to others.*



**LEADER:** To begin, we will view two short videos that explain the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. We'll have an opportunity to think about the ways we need mercy from God and from others, and about God's remarkable love and mercy for us.

Our last video will explain how a parish program called *Doors of Mercy: Exploring God's Covenant with You* reveals how God has repeatedly treated His people with mercy and how He specifically wants to pour out His mercy to you.

The whole universal Church is focusing this year on Mercy and our parish/group is taking part in that. There will be an opportunity for you to register for the *Doors of Mercy* program that our parish is offering. After these short videos, we will have time for your questions.

## 3. View the Video Segments (7 minutes)

*View the "About the Jubilee" Videos and Doors of Mercy Sample Lesson Video.*

## 4. Study Registration (6 minutes)

*Hand out the Doors of Mercy registration forms. These are ready-made for you at [MercyStudy.com](http://MercyStudy.com) with editable fields to easily type in your parish info before printing out. Encourage people to register for Doors of Mercy.*



**LEADER:** In eight engaging video sessions, expert presenters guide us through God's loving plan for your life, and provides helpful advice on how to find mercy and share mercy with others. These videos feature a teaching segment as well as a reflection segment with insights from well-known Catholic experts about how God's mercy has affected their own lives. Group discussion moves from the foundational teaching to the life application aspects of the program. We create a personal action plan to actually live out what we discern God is asking of us to receive healing, forgiveness and peace.

*Briefly review the Table of Contents here.*

We will be offering this study starting [DATE] on [DAYS] at [TIMES].

## 5. Question and Answer Session (6 minutes)

*This is the perfect time for the pastor, deacon or DRE to add any brief comments about the importance of mercy and explain about the parish's celebration of the Jubilee Year and other events that may be happening.*



**LEADER:** God desires to pour out His mercy on each one of us. Now is the time for mercy, for you and me and for our loved ones. *Doors of Mercy* provides a special time of focus on God and how to experience Him more deeply. We invite you to join us for an unparalleled experience. Bring your loved ones to experience this with us.

*Refer to the FAQs on the website, as needed.*

## 6. Action Plan (2 minutes)



**LEADER:** We're asking three things.

1. Receive the gift that God is waiting to give you in this *Year of Mercy*. Register now for one of the sessions listed on your registration form and turn it in here if possible.
2. Consider using your talents to lead or help with one of the roles needed to run the program.
3. Go out and invite your friends and loved ones to attend with you. Invite people who are coming to Mass as well as those who might only rarely or never come. God has a plan for each one of us and He uses our 'yes' to reach others with His love.

Visit **MercyStudy.com** for more information.

## 7. Logistics

*Let attendees know any logistics needed. How to hand in their registration, etc.*

## 8. Closing Prayer (1 minute)



**LEADER:** Thank you for coming. Let's pray in thanksgiving for what God is giving us in His mercy. For the Leaders, for the participants, and for those who are considering joining us.

*Close with a prayer you choose or use the Our Father.*