

## Summer travel doesn't have to mean pressing pause on your Catholic faith.

**Catholic Pilgrimage Sites in the U.S.** There are many sites in the U.S. and abroad. This doesn't mean you need to plan your entire vacation around this spot (although that would be great). There are beautiful Catholic shrines all over that you can dedicate a day, an afternoon, or even an hour to visit! The faithful can also obtain the jubilee indulgence if they devoutly visit any jubilee site individually or in a group. While there, they should engage in Eucharistic adoration and meditation for a suitable period and conclude with the Our Father, the profession of faith, and invocations to Mary, Mother of God. In the U.S., bishops across the country have announced special designated jubilee pilgrimage sites throughout their dioceses, including cathedrals, basilicas, parish churches, local and national shrines, monasteries, and more.

A Jubilee indulgence is a special gift of grace offered by the Catholic Church during a Jubilee Year. It offers the remission of the temporal punishment due to sins for those who are truly repentant and meet specific requirements. This is distinct from absolution, which forgives the sin itself; an indulgence remits the consequences of forgiven sins.

Here's a breakdown:

- What it is: A plenary indulgence, meaning it remits all temporal punishment for sins, not just part of it.
- Purpose: To offer a pathway for the faithful to experience God's mercy and deepen their spiritual life, particularly for those who have passed away.

*Check out the interactive map of all the Jubilee Pilgrimage sites in the U.S. available online at <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/>*

**Making Time For Prayer & Sacraments** You may be on vacation, but your Sunday obligation is not! You still need to go to Mass while on vacation. We often pause many things to go on vacation – work, community obligations, and family routines at home – and when schedules change, it's easy to put our prayer routines and spiritual lives on hold, too. Time away is also an excellent opportunity to revitalize your relationship with God. Look for chances to keep your prayer game strong, even on vacation. Try offering a Divine Mercy Chaplet while your flight takes off, taking a Rosary walk on the beach, or praying a Scripture passage that praises God for his magnificent creation while you enjoy the beautiful sights of a National Park. Don't forget to set reminders on your phone so you don't miss your morning offering, daily Rosary, or another day of the *Bible in a Year!* *Pro tip: Make sure you don't miss a Sunday Mass obligation while you're traveling. Download the Catholic Mass Times app to find parishes, Masses, and Confession times near you!*

If there is no way at all you can make Mass, Fr. Mike Schmitz has an 8-minute *YouTube* presentation on what you must always do first.

**Pack a Spiritual Book to Read** Catholic Saints to Travel With: Got extra time during a layover, at the pool, or while the miles roll by your car window? Let St. Therese, St. Francis de Sales, or St. Augustine be your travel buddies! A few minutes with the writings of the saints or even a little bit of Scripture can anchor your soul for both the craziness and relaxation of travel.

**Visit Beautiful Catholic Churches Along Your Route** Roadtrip stretch break? Yes, please! While stopping at Buc-ee's is always a blast, with a little planning, you might be able to find a break spot that offers timeless, faith-filled beauty. Look for Catholic Churches that may be near your driving routes or tucked in the cities you are sightseeing. Even the most obscure areas of the United States have hidden gems that will have you snapping photos and might even make it onto your list of favorites!

*How to Pray When Visiting a New Church: Offer three Hail Marys or some other prayers at each new church you visit. It's a great way to intercede for a special grace or intention!*

Offer Up Your Inconveniences for Spiritual Good What "Offer It Up" Really Means -

We've all heard it – one of the most popular Catholic catchphrases – "offer it up" is actually valuable wisdom. All sorts of challenges can pop up during trips, whether your flight is extremely delayed, your luggage is lost, or you are stuck in an extremely long line to taste the most famous barbecue in the city. These irritations, big and small, can become a meritorious prayer for your neighbor's cancer diagnosis, a friend who lost their job, or the souls in Purgatory. Inconveniences become much easier to handle when we praise God through them, and these are excellent opportunities to grow in character and virtue.

No matter where in the world your summer adventures take you, your Catholic Faith isn't something you leave at home. It's part of who you are. Whether you're standing in a centuries-old cathedral or hiking a quiet mountain trail, God is with you. Every trip, every moment, is an opportunity to encounter him. Let your faith travel with you, not just as something you practice, but as something you live, wherever you go!

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**"We Walked with Jesus. Now We Run."**

*A reflection on the pilgrimage and thanksgiving for the movement that continues*

For five unforgettable weeks, pilgrims on the St. Katharine Drexel Route carried Jesus in the Eucharist across ten states and twenty-four (arch)dioceses and (arch)eparchies. Through heat, tears, music, and mystery, the ordinary became extraordinary. Streets became sanctuaries. Strangers became family. Our Precious Lord was adored. This pilgrimage wasn't about reaching a destination—it was about an encounter. Transformation. Revival. We saw revival unfold in real time.

**A Fire That's Spreading...**

From Indiana to Illinois, Iowa to Oklahoma, Texas to California, we witnessed revival not as a concept, but a *living reality*. People gathered because they were hungry for the Eucharist. They used the word *revival* not to describe an initiative, but to articulate a longing that had caught fire in their hearts. This wasn't a program. It was personal. And it was contagious.

"Where is home? Some may respond with the house where they grew up in, for some it's family, and for others it's the feeling of being safe. Home is something for me that is hard to grasp on pilgrimage. Maybe because us 8 pilgrims are living out of a van for 36 days, and maybe in some sense the van is our home. With Jesus, I always felt in some sense "at home."

- Stephen Fuhrmann, *Perpetual Pilgrim, 2025 Drexel Route*

"As I recall the events of today, I am convicted by the faith of others that I've witnessed. May we all have that same bold faith that leads us to go the distance for the sake of Love, whether that's hundreds of miles, or simply an arm's stretch away."

— Ace Acuña, *Perpetual Pilgrim, 2025 Drexel Route*

The Revival Walks Through Suffering, Too

Not every stop was joyful. There was prayer in communities ravaged by wildfires and several stops along the way faced anti-Catholic protests. And in Los Angeles, due to safety concerns amid unrest, the closing citywide procession had to be changed. But the pilgrimage did not end in defeat.

In a private moment during the conclusion of Corpus Christi events, Jesus was still carried into the streets of L.A., and Archbishop José Gomez offered a blessing over the city—a powerful act of hope and healing in a wounded world. This revival doesn't avoid suffering. It passes through it, transfigured by grace.