

Decree of convocation of the Ordinary Jubilee 2025

1. *Spes non Confundit*. “Hope does not disappoint” (Rom 5:5). In the spirit of hope, the Apostle Paul addressed these words of encouragement to the Christian community of Rome. Hope is also the central message of the coming Jubilee that which, in accordance with an ancient tradition, the Pope proclaims every twenty-five years. My thoughts turn to all those pilgrims of hope who will travel to Rome in order to experience the Holy Year and to all those others who, though unable to visit the City of the Apostles Peter and Paul, will celebrate it in their local Churches. For everyone, may the Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the “door” (cf. Jn 10: 7.9) of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere and to all as “our hope” (1 Tim 1: 1).

Spes non confundit is the title of the bull by which Pope Francis has announced the Jubilee Year in the city of Rome for those who can go on pilgrimage there, and throughout the world for those who do not have the opportunity to do so. The bull itself establishes the calendar for the beginning of the Jubilee year in all the cathedrals and co-cathedrals of the world. True, the Apostolic Prefecture of Sahara does not have a cathedral, but as Apostolic Prefect I am authorized to establish one or more Jubilee churches in which to receive the plenary indulgence, once the ordinary conditions have been met (having received the sacrament of reconciliation within eight days before or after, receiving Holy Communion, reciting the Creed, and praying for the Pope's intentions). Accordingly, I declare the parishes of St. Francis of Assisi in Laayoune and Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Dakhla to be jubilee churches.

I will celebrate the beginning of the Jubilee dynamic on Sunday 26 January in Dakhla - the third Sunday in Ordinary Time, the day after the feast of the conversion of St Paul, which closes the octave of prayer for Christian unity - and on 2 February in Laayoune - the feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple in Jerusalem. Throughout the year, we will establish moments to revive the memory of the Jubilee: at the

beginning of Lent, during the Easter season, on the patronal feasts of both parishes, as well as during Advent. We will close the Jubilee on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, Sunday 4 January 2026.

I encourage the parish and religious communities of the Prefecture to take part in this penitential pilgrimage of communion with the See of Rome, which strengthens our hope, our faith and our charity.

Done in Laâyoune, on 17 January 2025, in memory of Saint Anthony the Copt.

Fr. Mario León Dorado *omi*
Apostolic Prefect.