



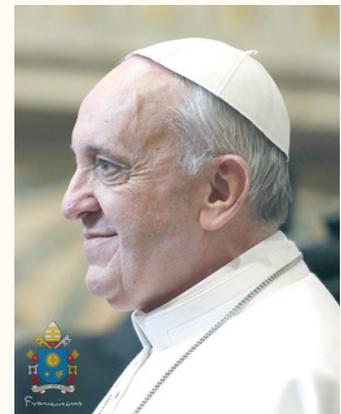
Pearls of Wisdom

OPC Past President Linda Squarzolo

What an amazing year we Catholics have experienced!

The year 2025 was declared a Jubilee Year by Pope Francis. All Catholics were called to be signs of hope in our families, to our neighbours and everyone we encounter. Many used this special year as an opportunity to take pilgrimages to cathedrals and national shrines in our country or on a pilgrimage to Rome. The Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica opened on December 24, 2024 and will close on January 6, 2026.

On April 21, 2025 the world mourned the passing of our beloved Pope Francis. Although he had been ill in hospital for a lengthy period of time, his health had shown signs of improvement and he had returned home. He will always hold a special place in the hearts of many.



 Leo P.P. XIV

On May 8, 2025 Cardinal Robert Prevost was chosen by the Conclave as the new leader of the Catholic faith. He chose the name Pope Leo XIV. Catholics throughout the world look with hope and anticipation to the future during his papacy.

St. Pier Giorgio Frassati was a young Italian lay Dominican who died of polio at the age of 24 in 1925. He dedicated his life to social justice issues and charitable organizations, like the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. He lived his life in active faith and service. Pope John Paul II called him “a Man of the Eight Beatitudes”. His Feast Day is July 4th.



St. Carlo Acutis was born in London to Italian parents. Although his parents were not practicing Catholics when he was young, he asked them to take him to church to pray. He developed an interest in computers and video games and taught himself programming and web design. He created online exhibits of Eucharistic miracles. He is a role model in the digital age and known as “God’s Influencer”. He died at the age of 15 of leukaemia in 2006. His Feast Day is October 12th.

During the final months of this Jubilee Year, I urge you to be “hope” in your League activities in faith, service and social justice.

