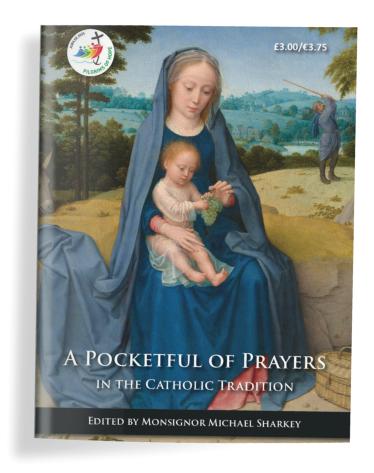
PRESS RELEASE



We are delighted to publish A Pocketful of Prayers, edited by Mgr Michael Sharkey, the perfect prayer companion to accompany you through the Jubilee Year and beyond.

In the year 1300 Pope Boniface VIII introduced the idea of a Holy Year, based on the practice recorded in the Book of Leviticus when every 50 years the Israelites celebrated a Year of Jubilee for the remission of sins, writing off debts, the release of prisoners and slaves, and a renewal of their worship of God.

A Holy Year is now celebrated every 25 years with emphasis on repentance and confession of sin, a renewal of mercy, especially in the confessional, the forgiveness of those who have offended us, the repair of rifts within families and between former friends, and a reawakening of the spiritual dimension of our pilgrimage through life. May it be an amnesty from God for you.

Prayer is fuel for our pilgrimage. Here are some prayers, many of which will already be familiar to you, and others, perhaps not so well known, which may suit your appetite and nourish you on your way.

母 Bernard Longley - Archbishop of Birmingham

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Tel: +44 (0) 1782 745600

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Email: general@alivepublishing.co.uk www.alivepublishing.co.uk