



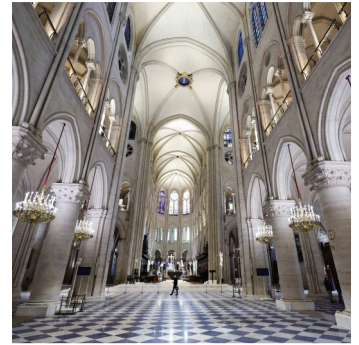
Visitors from around the world wait to enter the doors of *Notre Dame de Paris* after the grand re-opening at the end of 2024.

REJOICE!

Notre Dame de Paris reopens after five years

This past November, the iconic doors of *Notre Dame de Paris* opened for the first time in five years after the 2019 fire that ravaged the world heritage landmark and toppled its spire. The world was captivated as French President Emmanuel Macron unveiled the restored Notre Dame Cathedral on Nov. 29, 2024, a week ahead of its Dec. 7-8 reopening.

Touring the bright, transformed space, Macron described the interior as "sublime," highlighting its renewed light and grandeur. Praising the craftsmen behind the five-year effort, Macron called their achievement "an immense source of pride for the entire nation," marking a historic milestone in French heritage restoration.



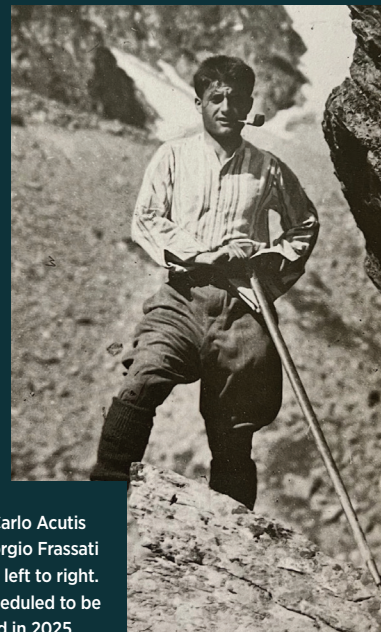
This is a view of the nave of the *Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Paris* on Nov. 29, 2024



Father Michael T. Kesicki, Gannon University Chaplain, had the extraordinary honor of concelebrating Holy Mass at the restored *Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Paris*. What a profound moment of faith and connection in one of the most iconic cathedrals in the world.

POPE ANNOUNCES CANONIZATION DATES FOR ACUTIS AND FRASSATI

Pope Francis has announced the canonization dates for Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, two cherished patrons of young Catholics, set for 2025 as part of the Catholic Church's jubilee celebrations. Acutis, a contemporary teenager known for his deep Eucharistic devotion and computer programming skills, will be canonized on April 27 during the Jubilee for Adolescents in Rome. Frassati, a 20th-century "Man of the Eight Beatitudes," will be canonized on July 29 during the Jubilee of Young People. Catholics around the world honor these saints as timely examples of faith, courage and service, inspiring the next generation.



Blesseds Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati are pictured left to right. Both are scheduled to be canonized in 2025.

LUCE: THE JUBILEE MASCOT

The Vatican's newly unveiled mascot for the 2025 Jubilee Year, Luce — a joyful anime-style pilgrim — has quickly won the hearts of both Catholic and anime communities. Artists and cosplayers have embraced Luce, creating a flood of artwork, memes and costumes that celebrate her symbolic design, from her yellow raincoat and rosary necklace to her blue hair, representing hope. As Luce's popularity continues to grow, fans are showcasing her in creative,

faith-filled tributes, making her a symbol of excitement for the upcoming Jubilee Year.



Luce (Italian for Light), the official mascot for the Holy Year 2025, is presented during a news conference at the Vatican Oct. 28, 2024.



A BLESSED BEGINNING TO THE HOLY YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025



The Diocese of Erie joyfully began the Holy Year of Jubilee 2025 on Dec. 29, with bishops worldwide. A special Mass was celebrated by Bishop Lawrence Persico at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie, on the feast of the Holy Family.

Rooted in biblical tradition, the Jubilee Year reminds us of God's mercy and our call to greater love and forgiveness. Throughout this year, the faithful will have opportunities to participate in local and international jubilee events.

The diocese has created a webpage to keep the community informed about events, prayers and celebrations. It also includes Bishop Persico's decree on receiving a plenary indulgence for the jubilee.

With spiritual guide Father Mike DeMartinis, the diocese will host a special pilgrimage to several Holy sites in southern Italy, including a general audience with the Holy Father in Rome.

For more details, visit the diocese's webpage: <https://www.eriecld.org/hollyear2025.html>.

May this Jubilee Year inspire hearts, renew spirits and bring abundant blessings to all. †