

people committed to your care with us in a community of petitions. We invoke with all our zeal your fervent devotion and your piety, in order that in your respective dioceses you may prescribe also public prayers with the object of imploring the Divine mercy.

And in order that the Faithful may enter with greater ardour and earnestness on the prayers which you shall appoint, We have resolved to open anew the celestial treasures of the church under the form of a Jubilee, as will be clearly indicated to you by other letters which accompany these.

We entertain this firm hope, Venerable Brothers, that there are angels of peace, who, holding in their hands censers of gold, will offer on the golden altar Our humble prayers, and those of the whole Church, in order that the Lord himself, receiving them favourably, and hearing Our petitions, yours and those of all the Faithful, will dissipate all the darkness of error, avert the menacing tempest of so many misfortunes, stretch out a succouring hand to Christian and civil society, and grant that all may have the same Faith in their hearts, the same piety in their works, the same love for religion, virtue, truth, and justice, the same zeal for peace, the same attachment to the bonds of charity, and that thus throughout the entire world the reign of His only Son our Lord Jesus Christ may be every day more and more augmented, strengthened, and exalted.

Finally, as an anticipatory pledge of every celestial gift, and as a testimony of Our ardent love for you, receive Our Apostolic Benediction, which, from the bottom of Our heart, we give you with love to you, Venerable Brethren, to all the Clergy, and to all the Faithful confided to your care.

Given at Rome, at St. Peter's, the twenty-first day of November, 1851, and of Our Pontificate the sixth.

PIUS IX. Pope