

Jubilee of Mercy – Motto & Logo

“MERCIFUL LIKE THE FATHER”

The motto and the logo come together to provide a synthesis of the underlying theme of the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

The motto *Merciful Like the Father* (taken from Luke 6:36) serves as an invitation to follow the merciful example of the Father who asks us not to judge or condemn, but to forgive and to give love and forgiveness without measure. (“Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap.” – Luke 6:37-38)



The logo – the work of Jesuit Father Marko I. Rupnik – is in itself a concentrated *summa theologiae* of the theme of mercy. In fact, it represents an image very dear to the early Church: that of the Son having taken upon his shoulders the lost soul, demonstrating that it is the love of Christ that brings the mystery of his incarnation to fulfillment with the redemption.

The logo has been designed in such a way that the Good Shepherd touches humanity’s flesh so deeply and with such love as to bring about a radical change. One feature of the logo which cannot fail to emerge is how, having raised humanity onto his shoulders in a gesture which demonstrates extreme mercy, the eyes of the Good Shepherd and those of Adam become united so that Christ sees through the eyes of Adam, and vice versa. Every man and woman thus discovers in Christ, the new Adam, his or her own humanity and the future to come, contemplating in the eyes of Christ the Father’s love.

The scene is set within a *mandorla* (an almond shape), a device dear to early and medieval iconography, which underlines the presence of the two natures in Christ – divine and human.

The three concentric ovals, progressively lighter in color as they extend towards the outer edge, suggest the dynamic by which Christ carries humanity out of the night of sin and death. Conversely, the depth of the darker color suggests the impenetrability of the love of the Father who forgives all.