

Explain to me about Indulgences – I do not understand them...

Answer: A Catholic indulgence is a remission of the temporal punishment due to sin after it has been forgiven in confession. It does not forgive sin itself but reduces the consequences of sin, helping a person grow spiritually and draw closer to God.

Indulgences can be:

1. Partial (removing part of the punishment) or
2. Plenary (removing all temporal punishment). They are granted by the Church when a person performs certain prayers, acts of charity, or devotions with the right spiritual disposition.

To receive the plenary indulgence, you must:

- Go to confession (preferably within 20 days before or after the act).
- Receive Holy Communion (preferably on the same day).

Here are some concrete ways to obtain indulgences at anytime:

1. Prayer and Devotion
2. Acts of Charity and Mercy
3. Pilgrimage and Sacramental Life