



"We exist to receive and share the love of God"

hurst virtual pilgrimage to lín dísfarne week 4



**pentecost to st aídán's day
31st may-31st august 2020**

week 4 Begins...

Thank you to everyone for your support and prayers as I continue on this physical journey of 309 miles and we spiritually journey together in prayer to Lindisfarne. I have been very grateful for the prayerful support of those whose holy sites I have visited this week.

At the end of last week I had physically walked to and prayed for all the churches in the Ashton deanery by visiting St Andrew's, St Martin's and St Mary's in Droylsden and I had spiritually continued the journey to Bishopthorpe and then on to York Minster where I arrived on the 9th Anniversary of my ordination as a priest. A new week begins... Spiritually I set off from York Minster and continued the 13 miles to Easingwold, and then a further 23.78 miles reaching Stanbrook Abbey and walking a further 1.48 miles on the way to Ampleforth Abbey.

I hope that you will continue to walk with me on this spiritual pilgrimage and that you will make use of this booklet in your prayer over the coming week.

hurst virtual pilgrimage prayer



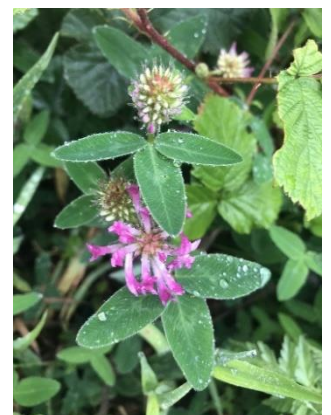
Hurst Virtual Pilgrimage Prayer

**Be by my side Creator God,
Every step I take,
Be before me Saviour God,
Every step I take,
Be behind me Merciful God,
Every step I take,
Be within me Strengthening God
Every step I take.**

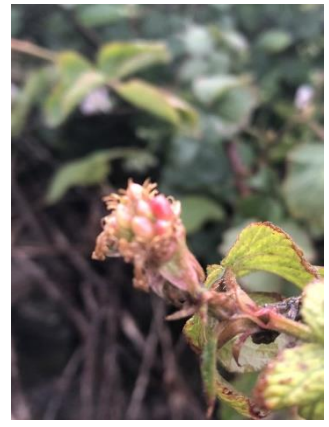
Prayer- Mary Fleeson www.lindisfarne-scriptorium.co.uk

Day twenty two 21st June 5.36 miles

In the last 3 weeks I have walked 75.2 miles and my next stop to Easingwold is 13 miles away. After checking my weather app I set off at just after 7am on Sunday morning when the rain had stopped for a while. I wanted to stay fairly close to home as I would have to be back to do the service at 10am. I set off spiritually to Easingwold 13 miles away. It was a damp and dismal start, brightened by the flowers by the roadside. Praying for Revd Margaret Young and the congregation as I make my way to her church.



I was surprised to see raspberries amongst the fruit growing by the side of the main road as I walked long Lees Road. Praying for fruit growers and all food producers that they have enough labour and resources to harvest their crops and that they receive a fair price for it. Pray that Nestle may have a change of heart about not using Fairtrade chocolate on their Kit Kats anymore.



Flowers refreshed by the rains brighten this dull day. Looking to Hartshead Pike the clouds look like more rain will fall but walking down Alt Hill Lane, ahead Manchester is lit up by glorious sunlight. Lord help us to walk from darkness to light in our pilgrimage with you each day. Amen.



Blue sky beginning to break through the clouds is reflected in the puddles. Slowly the sun breaks through too and warms the colours of the day. Memories of singing the hymn [Colours of Day](#) in primary school. Praying for all pupils returning to school tomorrow and their teachers, support staff and site staff.



Beautiful light filtering through the trees. Praying for those who need light in their lives today. For the families and friends of those who have died in Moss Side and Reading and for those communities in shock and grief. For those who have died, may they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them.



Walking back to St John's to get ready for worship. Thankful for the beauty of the day. Praying for the St John's family as they prepare to worship in their homes. Praying for us as a Church in our preparations to open next week. 5.36 miles walked.



Day twenty three 22nd June 7.54 miles st alban

A very early start, 4.30am, due to a combination of not sleeping well and a desire to see the sunrise. It was worth it!

Praying for all at Hurst Knoll school where I am a Governor as they prepare to open up for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 today.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. Amen.



“Then we your people, the flock of your pasture, will give thanks to you for ever; from generation to generation we will recount your praise.” Psalm 79:13

Walking this path, there is a strong sense of walking in the footsteps of generations in the past. Thankful for those who have trod this path of faith before me, those who have inspired me, encouraged me, walked with me and supported me. Think of all the people who have inspired and supported you in your faith and throughout your life. Spend some time in prayer giving thanks to God for them and the blessing they have bestowed upon you.



Heading toward Holy Trinity Bardsley in Oldham West Deanery, another neighbouring parish-just a valley between us. Praying for The Revd Tony Grant, the PCC and congregation as I walk this beautiful path.



Beginning to see signs of old industry in the area as I near Park Bridge. Nature reclaiming the land which would have been scarred by the iron works here. An encouraging sign of hope and renewal. Where have you seen signs of hope in these last few weeks? Spend some time in prayer thanking God for them.



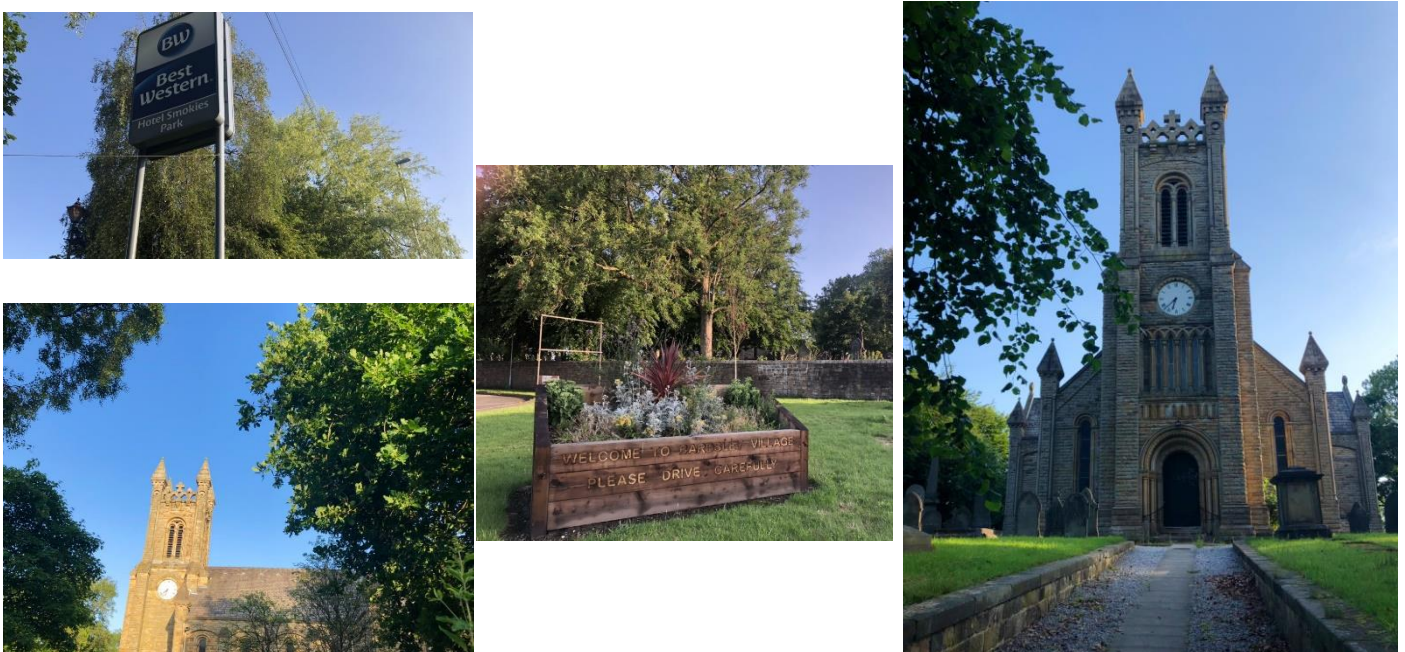
Arrived at the National Lottery Heritage funded Park Bridge Heritage Centre. Praying for all at the National Lottery Heritage Fund, The National Trust, English Heritage and all Heritage sites as they begin to work out how and when they will open and as they struggle with the financial implications of lockdown and possible reduction in the number of volunteers.



Fascinating to see all the history around in this place. Thankful for love of history and learning I developed at The Blue Coat School Oldham. Giving thanks for my teachers and holding them in prayer. Praying for the Blue Coat School and Crompton House as they welcome more students back. Spend some time thinking about who you are thankful for who has passed on their knowledge to you – at school, at work, in family and friends – and give thanks to God for them in prayer



On the main road again walking up Bardsley Brew past Smokies Hotel. Praying for all couples who have had to postpone their weddings. Reached Holy Trinity Bardsley. Praying for Revd Tony and all at Holy Trinity. Praying for St Martin's Fitton Hill school, for the head, staff and pupils.



Walking back home and praying for Willow Wood hospice and the shops which are beginning to open from today which raise vital funds for the hospice. Praying for Waterloo Methodist church and it's outreach. The sign for Bishop Close reminded me to pray for the clergy conference tomorrow. 7.54 miles today – back for 7.30am.



Today is St Alban's Day, the first Martyr in Britain. This [hymn](#) is sung each year at the St Alban Pilgrimage.

Day twenty four 23RD June 0.1miles

Yesterday I walked further than intended and when I added up my miles I realised I was only 0.1 miles away from my next stop of Easingwold! Today was the first day of the Manchester Diocese Clergy Conference so I hadn't intended walking but I walked round to church to get ready for opening on Sunday and for joined evening prayer with Manchester Cathedral online and arrived at Easingwold!

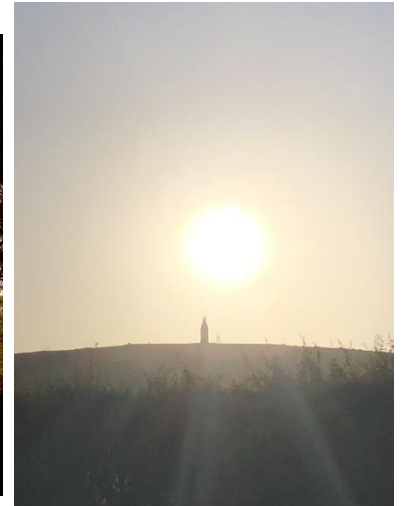


So good to be welcomed at St John the Baptist and All Saints Easingwold by Revd Margaret Young. Particularly good to see Margaret as we trained and were ordained together-as deacons 10 years ago this Saturday (27th June!) Praying for Margaret, the curate Charlotte and the congregation there. Watch Revd Margaret's welcome [here](#) and learn more about the church [here](#).

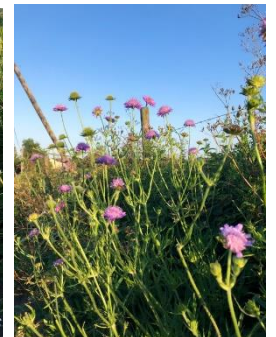


Day twenty five 24th June
5.2 miles
the Birth of John the Baptist

A beautiful morning as I set off on the spiritual journey to the Sisters at Stanbrook Abbey at Wass, 9.3 miles from Easingwold but physically walking towards Alt Hill Lane. Praying for the Sisters in their faithful ministry of prayer.



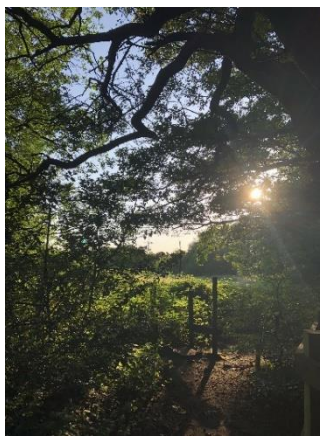
Praying for Bishop David, Bishop Mark (Middleton), Bishop Mark, (Bolton), Archdeacon David, Archdeacon Karen, Archdeacon Jean, Helen Platts, and all the Bishops Leadership Team and the digital clergy conference organisers and contributors. Thankful for colleagues' contributions.



Walking along cycle path to Ashton. Praying for The Diocese of Manchester Environmental Working Group and the Revd John Hughes the Diocesan Environmental Officer and for the work towards us becoming an Eco Diocese. Praying for St John's in working towards the Bronze Award of the Eco Diocese scheme.



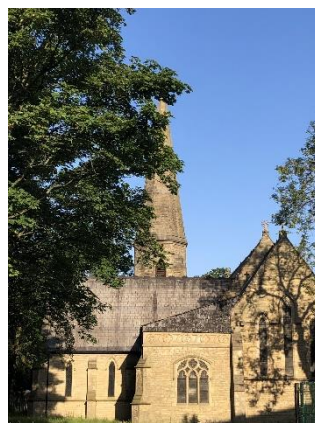
Praying for all priests, Churchwardens and PCC's preparing to open their churches for private prayer and now discerning how and when to open for worship. Praying for those preparing guidance led by The Venerable David Sharples in this Diocese. Praying for our Catholic neighbours opening at St Anne's in Ashton today.



Found a new path home on #HurstVirtualPilgrimage. Praying for all anxious or excited to be following new paths. Continuing to pray for all ordinands and deacons who have had their ordinations postponed.



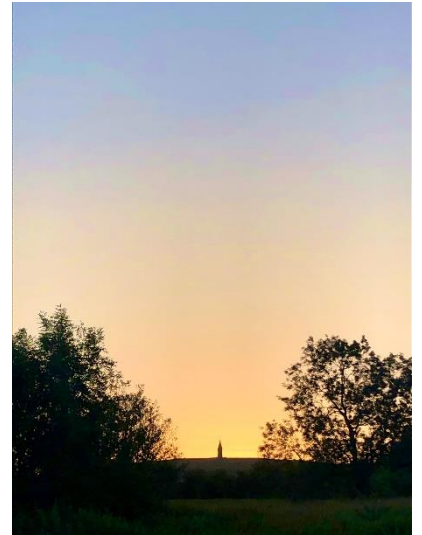
Another 3.76 miles walked today. On this day when we celebrate the Birth of St John the Baptist praying for all whose church is dedicated to him. Prayers especially for neighbouring parish at Mossley and all at St John the Baptist Roughtown, Mossley.



Almighty God,
by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born,
and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Saviour by the preaching of repentance:
lead us to repent according to his preaching and, after his example,
constantly to speak the truth, boldly to rebuke vice, and patiently to suffer for the truth's sake;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Day twenty six 25th June 7.01 miles

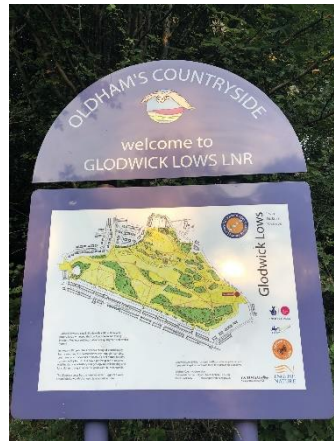
Setting off early on #HurstVirtualPilgrimage to avoid the heat. Praying for the Sisters at Stanbrook Abbey as I make my way to that beautiful holy place. As the sun begins to light up the landscape praying for Ashton United and Ashton United in the Community and all the work they are doing on the community.



Constant chatter and song of the birds accompany me on a long stretch of straight road (Lees Road) as well as a beautiful sunrise. I am physically walking to St John the Baptist, Hey. Praying for Revd Lyn Woodall, the ministry team and congregation there.



Walking on this pilgrimage has made me realise that around here we are never more than 5 minutes away from beautiful countryside walks in the Pennine Edge Forest. Praying for those who manage these sites and giving thanks for these places of natural beauty and biodiversity.



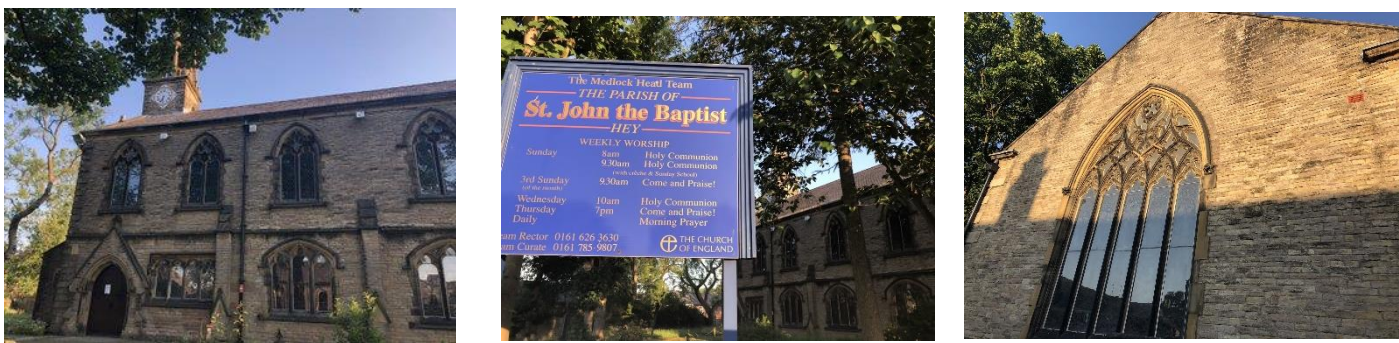
I followed the route on my phone, trusting it more than my own instincts and ended up in a different place than I intended! I took time to recalibrate and begin to walk along the right path. Praying for all who having placed their trust in other people or an institution and have then lost their way or ended up in a place they would rather not be. Praying for those who have suffered abuse at the hands of those in positions of authority – in churches, schools and other institutions.



I passed the Owl & Fox Sculpture on the way to Lees. I discovered a few months ago that members of my family lived right near that sculpture a couple hundred years ago. The old mill looked beautiful bathed in early morning sunlight. Praying for all pubs and other business working out how they can safely open in a week or so.



I arrived at St John the Baptist, Hey on #HurstVirtualPilgrimage. I prayed for Revd Lyn Woodall, Revd Major Paul Robinson, Revd Christine Steel and ordinand and deacon-to-be Amy Sherdian and the congregation. Praying for the ways they are reaching out to their community at this time.

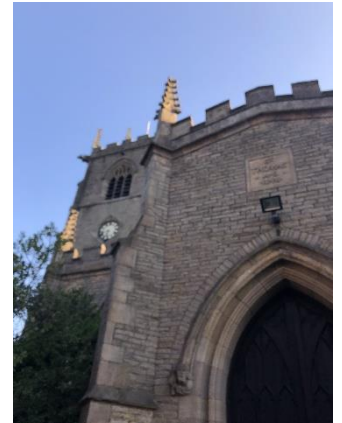


Passed by Lees library, praying for all libraries as they to prepare to open again. Praying for Leesfield School, the Head, staff & pupils there as they open to more pupils in these coming days.



I arrived at St Thomas' Leesfield. Praying for Revd Edith Disley, Revd Ruth Farrar and Revd David Halford and the congregation there and for their outreach into the community.

Walking on through beautiful countryside to St Agnes Primary Leesfield & St Hugh's Primary on #HurstVirtualPilgrimage praying for their Headteachers, staff and pupils and for the church community who usually meet at St Hugh's.



Arriving at St Agnes church I pray for Revd Edith Disley, the rest of the ministry team and the congregation at St Agnes as they work out how to open up safely. Praying also for Edith as she prepares for her retirement in the next few weeks.




Heading home looking back over where I have walked, before the day warms up even more. A total of 7.01 miles walked today.




I've arrived spiritually at Stanbrook Abbey on #HurstVirtualPilgrimage and been welcomed by Sr Philippa on behalf of the Sisters at Stanbrook. The Sisters have given a prayer for the pilgrimage by them written by Dame Gertrude Moore, the great Great Great Gradaughter of St Thomas More and chief foundress of the original Abbey. I've walked a little way on from Stanbrook and am 3.12 miles away from Ampleforth Abbey.

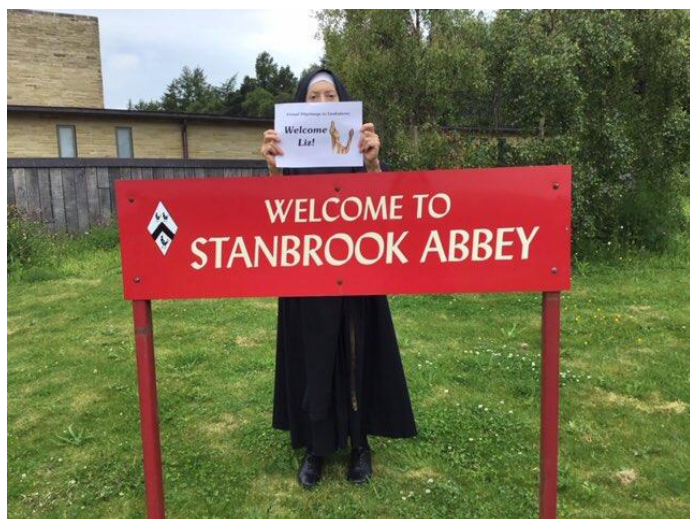
Hurst Virtual Pilgrimage

Prayer written by Dame Gertrude Moore from the Sisters at Stanbrook Abbey



**Lord Jesus Christ,
You are the Way to the Father,
the Truth about existence
and the Life of the world.
We pray that you will draw many
to follow your Way of love,
to seek the Truth which sets free
and to give their Life
to the service of God and neighbour,
for the sake of your name. Amen.**





The Abbey Church at Wass.



The Stanbrook Abbey community now at Wass traces its roots back to seventeenth-century Flanders where it was founded by nine young English women (including a clutch from Yorkshire) in exile. Imprisoned during the French Revolution, a small band of survivors returned to England in 1795, settling in 1838 at Callow End, Worcester. Another 170 years brought the move to North Yorkshire.

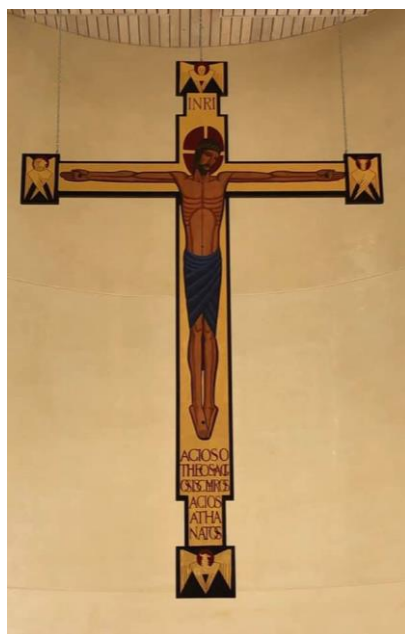




The Old Abbey at Worcester, Shropshire. The Sisters moved to the new Abbey, below in 2009.



Pictures from the Abbey Church.



Stanbrook is celebrated for its traditions of [Gregorian chant](#), devotional literature and fine printing. The Stanbrook Abbey Hymnal is used by many people in the Church. When I posted that I had arrived at Stanbrook Abbey on Facebook, former organist at St John's, and current organist at Grimsby Minster, Steven Maxson, commented that by sheer coincidence he had recorded two hymns from the Stanbrook Abbey Hymnal for the Petertide Service on Sunday for Grimsby Minster. You are able to listen to them [here](#) and [here](#). Thank you for sharing them with us Steven! Steven is enjoying following our Pilgrimage, as well as other people who used to live in Ashton who often comment how good it is to see photos from places that they used to know well.

The Sisters are having a guest house built so they can offer residential retreats in the future. They also rent out some holiday lodges which are set in the Abbey grounds. Wass is in the North Yorkshire Moors National Park so there are many beautiful places to see round and about. You can find out more [here](#).



Stanbrook Abbey was built to be as sustainable as possible. The Sisters say, "As Christians, we believe that God gave human beings stewardship over creation (Genesis 1:26). As Benedictines, we try to treat everything with the same reverence as is shown to sacred altar vessels (see The Rule of St Benedict 31:10). If this holds good for things within the monastery, it extends also to God's creation whose wonders we praise daily in the words of the Book of Psalms. So our rationale for being 'green' springs from our faith and our life as Benedictines." You can hear from the Sisters [here](#) in a video how they are achieving this. There is another 5 minute video [here](#) from when the monastery was first built when they allowed people in to see the building. They are inspirational! Here is the website for [Stanbrook Abbey](#).



Day twenty seven 26th June

Today is my rest day and I also rested from walking. Arriving at Stanbrook Abbey seemed a good way to end the week!

Day twenty eight 27th June

Another rest from walking as I worked on newsletters. A frustrating day as my computer was not very well and made that task difficult, then impossible! Hopefully with a new computer arriving soon the newsletter will be sent out on the usual day again!

At the end of the fourth week since Pentecost I have walked 98.99 miles and have another 210.01 miles to go! My walk on Sunday 28th will have put me over the 100 miles barrier! My next stop is at Ampleforth Abbey which is 3.12miles away.

It is good when it is raining and windy to hold on to a picture of where I am heading. Below is a statue of Cuthbert in the grounds of Lindisfarne Priory by sculptor Fenwick Lawson.

