

Planning a Pilgrimage Around Your Church

Consider the journeys of faith that have had their beginnings, challenges, joys and endings celebrated in your church.

How might you prayerfully pilgrimage around your church and re-connect with your own journey and that of your community? How will your journey focus on renewal, hope and mission?

<p>Where will you start?</p> <p>At the gate?</p> <p>Outside the main door?</p> <p>In the porch?</p> <p>At the baptism font?</p> <p>How long will the pilgrim path be around your church?</p>	<p>Where will you pause to pray along the way?</p> <p>The lectern? The altar? A window?</p> <p>The children's corner?</p> <p>The prayer corner?</p> <p>Your notice boards detailing your church's involvement in the local and wider communities?</p>	<p>What prayers and activities might there be at each stopping place?</p> <p>The touch of water at the font?</p> <p>A verse of Scripture at the Lectern? Psalm 119:105? Micah 6:8? Luke 24:32? John 14:6</p> <p>An invitation to tie a prayer card or ribbon to a prayer tree? Inside or out?</p>
<p>What will you carry with you?</p> <p>A pebble – a symbol of what distracts you from being closer to God.... to hold and to place at the place of completion? What will you do with all the pebbles?</p> <p>A length of cord and tie a simple knot at each stopping place along the way...and the join all the prayer strings together?</p> <p>A simple pilgrim passport* that could be stamped at each prayer stop along the way?</p>	<p>Book of Remembrance?</p> <p>In the churchyard?</p> <p>Where refreshments are served?</p> <div data-bbox="987 1098 1171 1366" data-label="Image"> </div>	<p>A map of your local community? Where is God calling you to make a difference?</p> <p>Wheat and grapes on the altar? Food for our journey...</p> <p>Have some cut out footprints* and write a prayer - a word of hope and renewal?</p> <p>Light a candle as a simple of Christ's light in each one of us?</p>

<p>Where will your pilgrimage end?</p> <p>In front of the High Altar?</p> <p>At the Baptism font and Easter Candle?</p> <p>At the door / gate?</p>	<p>How will people join in?</p> <p>Is your pilgrimage appropriate for all ages?</p> <p>Will people journey as small groups or as individuals? At a certain time or throughout the day?</p> <p>Will people follow a printed leaflet**?</p> <p>You could have a clear invitation at each stop displayed on a stand?</p> <p>Have a photo walk on your website for housebound and visitors to prayerfully journey in your church too.</p>	<p>What will you take away with you to remember your pilgrim journey?</p> <p>A simple prayer card or bookmark*?</p> <p>What would be on it?</p> <p>You could leave room to write a word, a prayer or a symbol of the journey</p>
<p>A moment of reflection?</p> <p>What might God be saying to you?</p> <p>Post-it notes could be available for people to leave a word or phrase sharing what they have heard from God and their companions during the day.</p>		

Included to aid your planning...

* templates

[1] **Pilgrim Passport** - Pilgrims sometimes carry a pilgrim's passport in recognition of the places they have visited along their pilgrimage route. You might like to do this for the stopping at points along the way in your church. A stamp or sticker is needed for each stop. Pilgrims could then take the passport home to remember their journey – and place it in their Bible, prayer space or windowsill... If you have a photo of your church you could pop it on the front of the passport.

[2] **Shell and Footprint outlines** – adapt these and use to support the prayer moments of the day... print on card for prayer trees or prayer boards – or to make prayer cards / bookmarks for people to take home

[3] **Simple bookmark for pilgrims to take home** – with room to add your own image at the centre.. or change the Scripture verse as appropriate for your church community.

** an **example of a leaflet** generously shared by Wye Church – they made a simple floor plan using overlapping shapes.

Pilgrim Passport

Day of Prayer and Pilgrimage

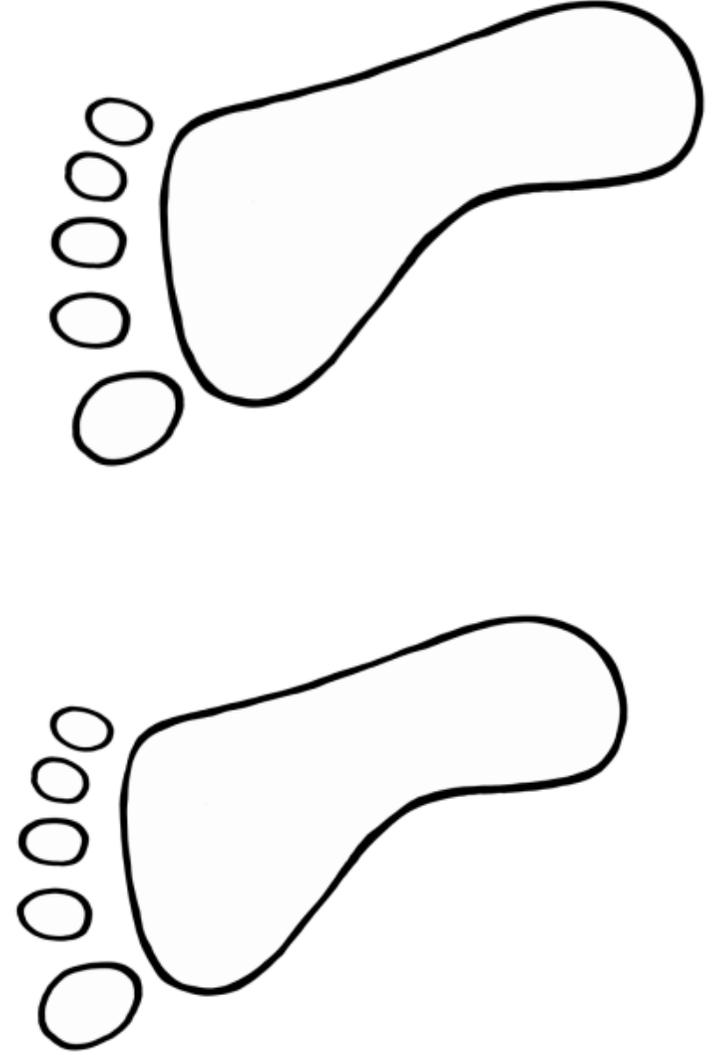
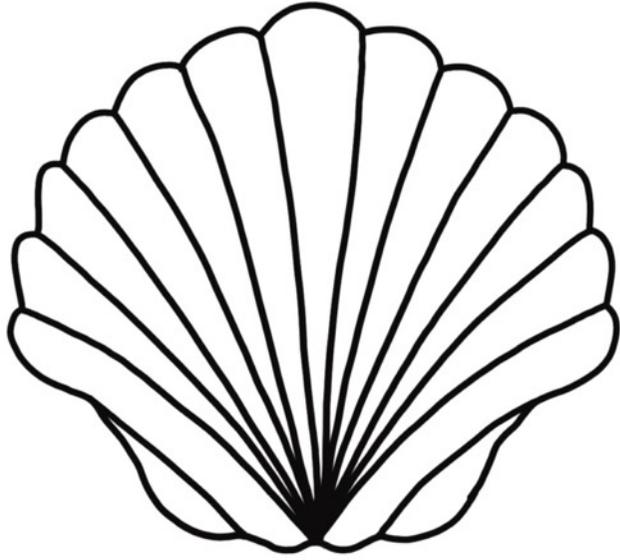
7th / 8th June 2019



As they talked
and discussed,
Jesus himself
drew near and
walked along
with them

Luke 24:15







Day of Prayer
and Pilgrimage

7th / 8th June 2019

*Were not our
hearts burning
within us while he
was talking to us
on the road...*

Luke 24:32



Diocese of Canterbury
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Church of St Gregory & St Martin - Wye, Kent

Welcome ... You are invited to make a prayer journey around our church. There has been a worshipping community in this church since 13th century. Countless people have walked and prayed here... each one welcoming the presence and the blessing of God.



[2] West Window

In the centre is a picture of Christ our King - his hands raised in blessing...

Who do you know that is in need of Christ's blessing? Pray for them now...

[3] Mother and Child

In this sculpture we see the deep connection between Mary and her son Jesus. How close are you to Jesus right now?

What would you like to say to Jesus today?

[4] Altar Here, bread and wine is blessed and shared as a reminder of the meal Jesus had with his friends before he died. He asked his friends to remember him and all that he had taught them.

What words or actions of Jesus do you remember?

[5] Words of Faith

The Creed, 10 Commandments and Lord's Prayer

Read a line or two and then pray about what is in your mind and on your heart...

[1] Baptism Font

Touch the ancient stone. Imagine how many people began their Christian journey here.

Pray for yourself, for your journey with God and the people you meet on the way....

[8] Serving Others

These boards share news about the people this community supports

Pray for God's blessing on all these activities...

[7] Pilgrim Saint This wooden figure reminds us that we are all pilgrims. *Pray for God's direction and a good path...*

[6] Lectern

From here the words of The Bible are read aloud for all to hear. God speaks to us, loves us and guides us through these words. *Give thanks for this gift of Scripture...*

