

The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham



Essential information
for pilgrim group leaders
2022

A message from the Priest Administrator

I am delighted to hear that you are planning a pilgrimage to Walsingham. I look forward to welcoming you and your fellow pilgrims to England's Nazareth and to returning to some kind of normality following the Covid pandemic. It will be wonderful to see pilgrims back again! The following pages provide you with helpful information to assist with planning your upcoming pilgrimage. However, if you do still have any questions please do get in touch with the appropriate department, contact details can be found at the back of the booklet.

A pilgrimage to Walsingham is a unique experience and one where we can set aside some time away from home to allow us to draw nearer to God and to receive his many blessings. All are welcome to England's Nazareth and for those who will be making their first pilgrimage to Walsingham, they can be assured of a very warm reception.

The Shrine Priest or another member of the Shrine team would be happy to meet with groups of new pilgrims to explain the history of Walsingham and to introduce them to the Shrine. If this is something that first time pilgrims in your group would find helpful, please do contact the Shrine Priest directly.

Finally, please be assured of my prayers as you continue to plan and prepare your pilgrimage to England's Nazareth.

Your friend and fellow pilgrim,



Fr Kevin Smith



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Accommodation

There is a variety of accommodation at the Shrine, with a mixture of en-suite rooms, disabled rooms, and rooms where there are shared bathroom facilities. Due to the limited number of single rooms, it will sometimes be necessary for pilgrims to share a room with other members from their group.

Please can all bed lists be returned to the hospitality team at **least 60 days prior to arrival** to ensure that rooms can be allocated accordingly.

The hospitality team will be in contact with you in due course to discuss your group's accommodation needs. However, please do contact the hospitality team if you have any specific requests or questions regarding accommodation for your group. We shall endeavour to meet your requests and to make your stay at Walsingham as comfortable as possible.

Depending on availability it is sometimes possible for us to facilitate last - minute bookings in regard to an increase in the number of pilgrims that you are bringing. Please do speak to the hospitality team if that situation occurs.

Refund requests for a cancelled pilgrimage are at the discretion of the Priest Administrator, please contact his PA if you need to discuss this option.

Please note that the Brandie Gate and any other entrances to the Shrine grounds are closed at midnight, therefore it is important for pilgrims to have returned to the site before then.

Please also encourage your group to be mindful of others when moving around the accommodation buildings late in the evening.

A Night Porter is on duty at all times and is available to assist pilgrims with any issues or emergencies. They can be contacted on 01328 820239

The Refectory

Meals for pilgrims are served in our Refectory which is at the far end of the Shrine Gardens above Nortons Café.

Breakfast 8am-9.15am

Lunch 12.30pm-1.15pm

Supper 6.30pm-7.15pm

Hospitality will be in contact to check your groups dietary requirements but please feel free to contact them if you have any questions or concerns.

On arrival, pilgrims will be issued with a badge, please wear this at all times when in the Refectory.

The Pilgrim Manual

Please encourage all your group members to purchase the manual and to bring it with them for all the Pilgrimage services as it helpfully contains all the words and hymns that are used during the various liturgies and devotions.

The Pilgrim Manual can be purchased in advance, either online or by telephone order from the Shrine Shop, or they can be purchased upon arrival at Walsingham.

Priests and Deacons officiating in the Shrine Church

Please see below the policy set by the Guardians of the Shrine in relation to visiting clergy officiating in the Shrine Church.

Male priests with either a Bishop's Licence or PTO and who are also Priests Associate are welcome to celebrate the Mass in the Shrine. They are also asked to help and assist the Shrine clergy with the Healing ministries, Sprinkling from the Well, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation as required.

Male deacons with either a Bishop's Licence or PTO and who are also Deacons Associate are welcome to assist with the liturgies at the Shrine. They are also asked to help and assist the Shrine clergy with the Healing ministries and Sprinkling from the Well as required.

Female priests and female transitional deacons with either a Bishop's Licence or PTO are welcome to lead their groups in non-sacramental liturgies such as making a First Visit to the Holy House or leading Stations of the Cross. Female clergy are also welcome to sit in the Guardians' Stalls for all of the Pilgrimage liturgies and they are invited to assist with the Laying on of Hands during the Healing ministries.

Female distinctive deacons with either a Bishop's Licence or PTO and who are also Deacons Associate are welcome to assist during the Mass at the Shrine and they are also asked to help and assist with the Healing ministries and Sprinkling from the Well as required.

For more details and to apply to become a Priest or Deacon Associate please visit our website or contact the membership office.

All visiting clergy: male and female, who intend to lead any form of group liturgy, sacramental or non-sacramental, must complete a Safeguarding Declaration Form prior to their arrival. The Priest Administrator's PA will be in contact with visiting clergy to facilitate this process.

The Atmosphere within the Shrine Church and Gardens

To foster an atmosphere that is conducive for prayer and worship we ask our pilgrims and visitors to be mindful of others while moving around the Shrine Church and Gardens and to be vigilant of any services that may be taking place.

Pilgrims will also find it helpful to maintain a few minutes of silence immediately before a service to allow themselves time to prepare for worship.

Services during the Pilgrimage Season

(Easter- end of October)

Daily

7.30 am Mass in the Shrine Church

11.30 am Mass in the Guild of All Souls Chapel (10am on Wednesdays and Solemnities, 5pm on Sundays)

2.30 pm Sprinkling at the Well

5.00 pm Mass in the Shrine Church (Fridays only)

5.30 pm Evening Prayer in the Shrine Church (except Saturdays)

6.00 pm Shrine Prayers (5pm on Saturday)

Weekend Pilgrimage

Saturday

6pm Sung Pilgrimage Mass

8.15pm Procession of Our Lady and Benediction followed by the Healing Ministries

Sunday

11am Parish Mass at St Mary's Church

2.30pm Sprinkling at the Well, Procession of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction, Last Visit to the Holy House

Mid-week Pilgrimage

Tuesday

8.15pm Sprinkling at the Well, Benediction, Healing Ministries

Wednesday

11am Sung Pilgrimage Mass

8.15pm Procession of Our Lady and Benediction

During the months of March and November, if pilgrim groups of sufficient numbers are in residence, then a modified pilgrimage programme will be offered.

On a number of Saturdays each year the Shrine also offers a Day Pilgrimage Programme, please see our website for more details.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

On Saturday and Tuesday during the Pilgrimage season, priests will be available to hear confessions at the conclusion of the evening liturgy. Other times are available upon request.

Please do consider encouraging your pilgrims to make their confession and assure them that if this is a new ministry to them, the priest who hears their confession will gently guide them through the process.

Worship with your own group

The Pilgrim Manual contains a number of liturgies that groups are encouraged to lead on their own, these include:

First Visit to the Holy House

Stations of the Cross

Intercessions in the Holy House

Veneration of the Relic of the True Cross

The Holy Mile and Visit to the Slipper Chapel (Roman Catholic Shrine)

Last Visit to the Holy House

If your group would like to conduct any of these liturgies (except the Holy Mile and Visit to the Slipper Chapel) then it is important that you make contact with the Sacristy team in advance of your pilgrimage to book a time slot.

If any of the above liturgies are new for you or your group, please contact the Shrine Priest who will be happy to explain any of them in further detail. The Pilgrim Manual also contains further details regarding these liturgies.

Sacristy meetings

All visiting clergy and group leaders are asked to attend the Sacristy meetings.

The Sacristy can be entered by a door to the side of the High Altar and near the steps leading up to the Blessed Sacrament chapel.

During the week the Sacristy meetings take place immediately after Evening Prayer at 5.45pm.

On Saturday, the meeting is at 5pm.

Sacristy meetings are important as they allow groups to check the bookings that they have already made in advance, and if needs be, to request any additional liturgies during their stay.

During the Sacristy meeting requests will be made for servers to assist with the Pilgrimage liturgies. If possible, please speak to members of your group in advance and encourage their participation if required.

Please note: The Priest Administrator and Shrine Priest rely on the generosity of priests and deacons who are on pilgrimage to volunteer their assistance at Shrine liturgies. We really do appreciate the willing help of clergy in order to provide the ministries we offer to pilgrims.

Robes

Pilgrims who are willing to serve at the Shrine are encouraged to bring their own robes with them. However, cassocks and cottas can also be borrowed if required.

Clergy are encouraged to bring a cassock and cotta and if they intend to celebrate the Mass, an amice, alb and girdle.

Thanksgiving for the upkeep of the Shrine

Traditionally, when pilgrim groups have offered Intercessions in the Holy House they have also taken a collection for the upkeep of the Shrine. Baskets for this can be provided by the Sacristy team.

All donations are gratefully received and they form a crucial role in securing the future of the Shrine for generations to come.

Shrine Prayers

Daily at 6 pm (5 pm Saturday)

Ever since the Image was restored to the Parish Church by Fr Hope Patten in 1922 and then after its translation to the Shrine Church in 1931, the Rosary has been said daily, interspersed with intercessions.

Pilgrims are most welcome to attend. The leader stands at the window looking into the Holy House, and those participating sit on the benches and stools in the nave, facing the Holy House.

There are leaflets to assist with the prayers, and these will be offered to those attending before the liturgy begins.

Shrine Prayers are now live streamed each day via our website and also on our social media platforms.

Pilgrims who would like to make a prayer request for Shrine Prayers are encouraged to use the slips and the box to the side of the Holy House near the entrance to the Fountain Courtyard.

Alternatively, prayer requests can be made via our website.

Groups with children and young people

Children and young people are most welcome at the Shrine. Inside the Shrine Church you will find activity booklets for older children and toys and books for younger children.

Please contact our Education Department for more information and to request helpful resources.

Each year the Shrine offers specific pilgrimages for children and young people. In March we offer the Children's Pilgrimage which is aimed at 7 to 11 year olds; the Youth Pilgrimage in August for 11-18 year olds and the Families Pilgrimage in November is open to children of all ages.

Please see our website or contact the Education Department for more details.

Cash Machine

Please note that Walsingham does not have a cash machine although the village shop does provide a cash back service

Socialising at the Shrine

Groups are most welcome to meet together during an evening in one of the common rooms in our accommodation wings. However, please do be mindful of the needs of others.

The Shrine also has its own on-site Café and Bar- Norton's, located under the Refectory. Serving food throughout the day and with the added advantage of also being a licensed bar, it is a great place for pilgrims to meet!

The Shrine Shop

This is found in the Common Place, just outside of the Shrine gardens and up the road towards the High Street and car park.

Stocking a wide variety of books, gifts, cards, rosaries, clerical shirts and sacristy supplies, it is well worth a visit during your pilgrimage. It is also an excellent way for pilgrims to financially support the work and ministry of the Shrine.

Please note, the Shrine Shop has its own website and orders can be placed and delivered throughout the year.

<https://www.shrineshoponline.co.uk/>

Membership

The Society of Our Lady of Walsingham

The Society was founded by Fr Hope Patten in 1925 as part of the Shrine's outreach to enable pilgrims and visitors to keep in touch with the Shrine and its work. The Society prospers today with around 5000 members.

Members of the Society receive a Membership badge and card and the current edition of the Shrine's magazine, *The Walsingham Review*. Thereafter members receive two *Walsingham Reviews* a year, at Assumptiontide in August and Candlemas in February.

For more information and to join please visit our website or contact our Membership department.

Cells of the Society

Groups of Society members are invited to create a Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham for mutual support and to pray for the work of the Shrine. The group needs to be led by a Priest Associate of the Holy House, who becomes the Cell Superior

For more information please visit our website or contact our Membership department.

Contact details

If you would like to make a booking, or if you have questions relating to your existing booking, please contact our **hospitality team**:

Tel: 01328 820239 Email: accom@olw-shrine.org.uk

If you would like to book any services for your group during your pilgrimage please contact the **Sacristy team**:

Tel: 01328 824202 Email: sacristy1@olw-shrine.org.uk

If you would like to contact the **Shrine Priest**, please contact Fr Ben Bradshaw:

Tel: 01328 824203 Email: shrine.pr@olw-shrine.org.uk

If you would like to know about the services and resources that we provide for children and young people, please contact our **Education Department**:

Tel: 01328 824205 Email: schools@olw-shrine.org.uk

If you are interested in joining one of the membership groups, please contact **the Membership team**:

Tel: 01328 820582 Email: membs@olw-shrine.org.uk

If you would like to contact the **Shrine Shop**:

Tel: 01328 824201 Email: shop@olw-shrine.org.uk

If you would like to contact the **Priest Administrator's PA**, please contact Venetia Davies:

Tel: 01328 824204 Email: v.davies@olw-shrine.org.uk

If you would like to contact the **Priest Administrator**, please contact Fr Kevin Smith:

Tel: 01328 824204 Email: pr.adm@olw-shrine.org.uk

www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk