

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton annually organises an Ecumenical Walking Pilgrimage where up to a hundred pilgrims rediscover the rewards of undertaking the old way of journeying to a holy shrine.

This is a special year for us as we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the walking pilgrimage and the 50th anniversary of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton. For this reason we have chosen to return to our roots to the communities of Surrey and Sussex as we walk from Chertsey to Arundel Cathedral. The theme that we are reflecting on this year is "Christian Community through the Ages" By the time we celebrate at Arundel we will have walked about 160 miles. As far as possible we follow footpaths, bridleways, tracks and lanes and learn to appreciate the beauty of our land that is a welcome distraction from sore feet and aching legs.

*To know more or receive details of future pilgrimages write to:*

The Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Ecumenical Walking Pilgrimages, The Christian Education Centre, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 6RD

**Follow our progress online at our website:**  
[www.thepilgrims.org.uk](http://www.thepilgrims.org.uk)

## **Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Ecumenical Walking Pilgrimages**

### THE ARUNDEL PILGRIMAGE

**2015**

*CHERTSEY – Send – Wonersh – Dorking – Redhill –  
WORTH ABBEY – Haywards Heath – Uckfield –  
Hailsham – Seaford – BRIGHTON – Upper Beeding –  
Storrington – ARUNDEL*

*15th – 30th August 2015*

*Details: [www.thepilgrims.org.uk](http://www.thepilgrims.org.uk)*

### **Join us for a day**

#### **Who are these people?**

A group of Christians making a walking pilgrimage.

#### **What is a pilgrimage?**

A physical journey, usually made to some holy place with the intention of making progress on a spiritual journey. The purpose might be to give praise to God, to do penance, to petition God for some favour, or to ask the intercession of a Saint.

#### **Whose bright idea is this, anyway?**

The general answer is that no one knows. Certainly the Israelites took the Ark of the Covenant on pilgrimage to Jerusalem. These pilgrimages were likened to the long trek from slavery in Egypt to Sion, the Promised Land. They can be seen as an anticipation of Christ's journey to Jerusalem for our salvation and so Christ leading us on our earthly pilgrimage towards the heavenly kingdom.

#### **And this pilgrimage?**

It is part of our life journey. Geoffrey Chaucer in his Canterbury Tales sums up the proper attitude for making a pilgrimage:

"Christes lore and his Apostles twelve  
he taught, but first he followed it himselfe."

So by our example of Christian living we are trying to show what the teaching of Christ and his Christian Church actually means today.

#### **Why Chertsey to Arundel?**

Pilgrimage is as much about the journey as the arrival. .

We will be visiting many of the deaneries of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton in this Jubilee year. We have found a route from the ancient abbey ruins of Chertsey in the northwest travelling through the Surrey Hills, the rolling mid-Sussex countryside and following the East Sussex coast before joining the South downs toward our destination, Arundel Cathedral.

As we walk through the countryside, we stop at churches to pray for the communities that we pass through. We stay in school, church or village halls each night, living and growing as a Christian community over a two week period.

#### **Pilgrimage Theme**

This year we are focussing on Christian communities through the ages and what these can teach us about discipleship today.

**Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?**

**Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travellers on the road; we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.**

**When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony, born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.**

Richard Gillard

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