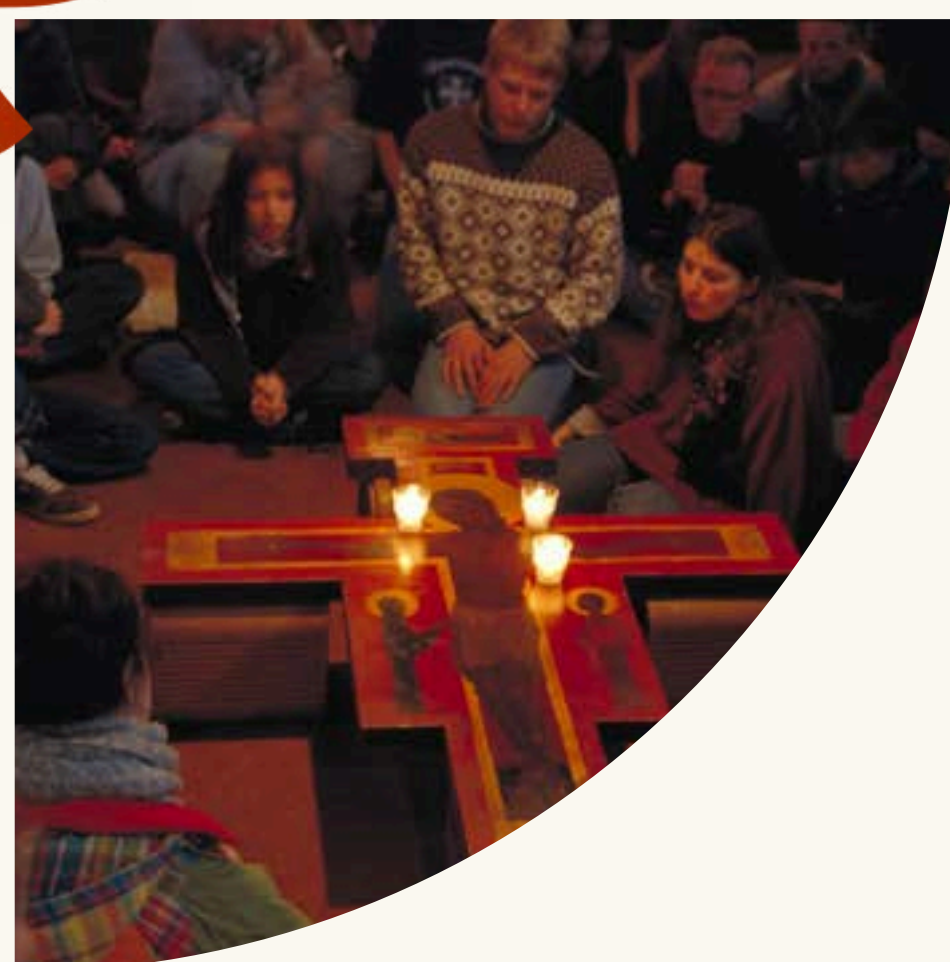


DIOCESE OF
YORK



Taizé Pilgrimage
19th - 27th July 2025



Pilgrimage to Taizé

19th - 27th July 2025

The Diocese of York is leading a pilgrimage to Taizé in July 2025 for young adults, aged 18-30. We will be joining with our friends from the Diocese of Leeds and the Diocese of Bath and Wells, and it is hoped that Archbishop Stephen may join us for some of the week.

Taizé is an inspirational place of pilgrimage. Its vocation to offer its life particularly to people under 30 gathers people from across the world every week of the year. Simplicity and joy of heart define Taizé, and it has been a place where many have found or deepened their faith, their life of prayer, emerged in a daily rhythm with God which many then take home with them.

This booklet provides an invitation and basic information about the pilgrimage. You may want to come on your own or with a group of friends. We will travel together from York as part of the pilgrimage, getting to know one another and growing together as a community of fellow pilgrims.

We hope you will be able to join us, and encourage other young adults from across the Diocese of York. Information about how to book your place is in this booklet. If you have never experienced Taizé before, we have some opportunities to experience prayer in the style of Taizé which all are welcome to attend.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Sammi Tooze
Diocesan Discipleship Adviser



What is Taizé?

The Taizé Community is an ecumenical Christian monastic community in Taizé, Burgundy, France. Founded in 1940 by Brother Roger, the Taizé Community comprises around eighty brothers from different church backgrounds – Catholic, Anglican, Protestant – and from nearly thirty countries. By its very existence, it is a “parable of community”: a tangible sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and separated peoples. The Rule of Taizé written by Brother Roger shaped the community’s life together.

Taizé has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage, with a focus on youth. Over 100,000 young people from around the world make pilgrimages to Taizé each year for prayer, Bible study, sharing, and communal work. Through the community's ecumenical outlook, they are encouraged to live in the spirit of kindness, simplicity and reconciliation.



From its beginning the community has been inspired by two aims: to live in communion with God through prayer and to be a leaven of peace and trust in the midst of the human family. A stay at Taizé is an opportunity to seek communion with God in prayer, singing, silence and reflection. It can be possible to rediscover an inner peace, a meaning to life and a new impetus. Experiencing a simple life shared with others reminds us that daily life is the place where Christ is waiting for us.

Daily programme

Whilst in Taizé, we join around the community of brothers who live there. Together, we enter fully into the rhythm of community life for the whole week – gathering with the brothers for prayer three times a day, joining with people from other countries for meetings, meals, small group discussions and practical tasks (serving meals, washing up, etc.), simple living conditions, respecting the silence at prayer time and during the night. Bible reflections take place each day, led by a brother of the community or a sister of Saint-Andrew.

The meetings at Taizé are about searching, listening and thinking about what it means to be a human being, and how we can do something to bring justice, peace and hope to our world. They provide a space where young adults can meet people their age from other countries and talk about important things.



A typical day at Taizé begins with morning prayer, then breakfast. This is followed by an introduction to the day with a brother of the community, and quiet reflection or small group discussion. There is prayer at midday, then lunch and optional song-practice. During the afternoon, we are invited to join in international small groups or practical work. This is followed by workshops, exploring themes such as faith and life touching on work, society, art and culture, social justice and world peace. After supper, each day concludes with evening prayer, then vigil with songs in the church, and by night silence.

Practical Information

Dates and travel

The pilgrimage to Taizé will take place between **19th and 27th July 2025**. A coach will be leaving from York on 19th, and we will travel over to France together. Once there, we will meet with groups from other Church of England dioceses. Once the week at Taizé has concluded, we will return by coach together, arriving back in York on 27th.

Accommodation and food

Simplicity and joy of heart are key to Taizé. Accommodation is therefore simple. You are encouraged to bring a tent, sleeping bag, pillow, and a towel. If you aren't able to bring a tent, you are welcome to stay in dormitories of between 6 to 10 people. There are shower facilities on site.

All meals are provided for at Taizé, it is a very large communal eating experience! All dietary needs are catered for. As with accommodation, food is simple too - you are welcome to bring supplements if you want, such as biscuits or dried fruit.

Cost

The full cost of the week is **£375 per person**. This includes travel, accommodation and food.



Things to bring

- Valid in-date passport
- Travel insurance
- Bible, notebook and pen
- Money - card and cash, pounds and euros
- Toiletries and towel
- Sleeping bag and pillow (you might also want a neck pillow for the coach journey)
- Insect repellent and any personal medication
- Suitable clothing - light raincoat, light and warm clothing, suitable outdoor shoes

Prayer in the style of Taizé - taster

In advance of the pilgrimage, we are hosting a couple of evenings of prayer in the style of Taizé, to which all are welcome. The first of these is at Heslington Church, York, on Wednesday 26th March at 7pm. The second will be on 11th April at St Luke's Church, York, at 7.30pm.

Book your place

We hope very much that you will join us on our shared pilgrimage. Taizé itself as a place, a community and a space of worship is a wonderful experience for us all. If you are aged 18-30 and would like to join us, please contact Sammi Tooze, Diocesan Discipleship Adviser, to book your place. You will be sent a registration form to gather your details, and your place will be confirmed once we have received your payment. A pilgrim guide with further details will be shared nearer the time.

You can make contact with Sammi by emailing:
sammi.tooze@yorkdiocese.org

We do hope you will be able to join us

Jesus our joy, you want us to have hearts that are simple, a kind of springtime of the heart. And then the complications of existence do not paralyze us so much. You tell us: don't worry; even if you have very little faith, I, Christ, am with you always.

A prayer of the Taizé Community



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