



ST MARY'S
ATTLEBOROUGH

Parish Pilgrimage to England's Nazareth

The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

Friday 8 June (afternoon) –
Sunday 10 June (evening)

Total cost c. **£145**

including accommodation, travel and all meals
(£90 for children; under-5s free with a small travel supplement)

Please sign up on the list near the church door
and let the Office have a
(non-refundable) £10 deposit
by Sunday 19 November



*Please turn over
to find out more*

'One of the most important spiritual centres in Northern Europe'
Archbishop Justin of Canterbury

GOD OUR FATHER is for ever seeking his people. So they, too, seek him. They are drawn to him by cords of love. For over nine hundred years Christians have gone in pilgrimage to Little Walsingham, nestled in the valley of the Stiffkey, on the road to Wells and about an hour's drive from Attleborough. They have gone in **thanksgiving** and in **need**. They have gone to seek **refreshment** from the deep wells of God's love. They have gone to join their prayers with the powerful prayer of **Blessed Mary, Mother of the Lord**, for themselves and for the whole world.

At the centre of the pilgrimage is the **Holy House**, a replica of the home in Nazareth where the Child Jesus lived with Mary and Joseph. Destroyed at the Reformation, it was rebuilt in 1931. St Mary's has been going on pilgrimage there since at least the 1950s. The house is a sign of the humility of God in coming to dwell among us in Christ. So Walsingham is known as 'England's Nazareth.' Countless Christians have found it a 'thin place', where the boundaries between heaven and earth seem less solid than usual, where prayer comes more naturally.

A weekend pilgrimage offers a wonderful opportunity to **encounter the Lord** in the signs of his love and in the friendship of our fellow members in the Family of the Church. There'll be time to **pray** and to **listen**, to receive the **waters** of the well and the **ministries of healing**, to celebrate the **Eucharist**, to join in the **powerful liturgies** by candlelight and song, and to **relax** in each other's company in a beautiful place. The food is plentiful; accommodation is simple but comfortable. (Bathrooms are shared and occasionally, when space is short, two friends will be asked to share a room.) We will be joining with pilgrim groups from elsewhere in the country (and the world!) and this is a lovely reminder of the richness and variety of the Church. A pilgrimage is not a holiday, but it is 'holy-day': a chance, with our friends, to renew our focus on the Lord.

We'll leave at about 3pm on the Friday and be back by about 6pm on the Sunday. **All are welcome – and especially if you've never been before.** We'd love to take a good number of pilgrims so do think about it – and, if you'd like to know more, please have a word with the Curate or visit

www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk

One member of our group wrote this in the *Link* after our pilgrimage in 2016: 'Going on pilgrimage to Walsingham is **rewarding on so many levels**. I would urge anyone to go and immerse themselves in this **wonderful experience**.'