



Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady Walsingham

Carmelite Pilgrimage

Saturday 27 June 2020

Timetable for the day

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| 11am | Talk by Fr Matt Blake OCD
(Chapel of Reconciliation) |
| 12 noon | Pilgrims' Mass (Chapel of Reconciliation) |
| 1-2pm | Picnic lunch in grounds of the Shrine |
| 2pm | Silent procession to the Church of the
Annunciation Walsingham Village |
| 3pm | Exposition and Benediction at the Church
of the Annunciation |
| 4pm | Depart |

All Welcome

For further information email jpmacinnnes@gmail.com

About the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham was established in 1061 when according to tradition, Richeldis de Faverches prayed that she might undertake some special work in honour of Our Lady. In answer to her prayer, the Virgin Mary led her in spirit to Nazareth. There she showed her the house where the Annunciation occurred and asked her to build a replica Holy House in Walsingham to serve as a perpetual memorial of the Annunciation

The spirit of Walsingham is the spirit of Mary's house at Nazareth. At Nazareth, Mary found that an openness to the reality and love of God could alone bring lasting peace and joy. Through Mary's assent to Almighty God the world gained its Saviour. As long as men and women desire peace and meaning in their lives, as long as they are open to the coming of the Saviour of the world, then Walsingham will continue its unique mission as England's Nazareth.

Around 1130 a community of Augustinian Canons took charge of the growing shrine and Walsingham soon became one of the foremost places of pilgrimage in medieval Europe. Every English king from Henry III to Henry VIII came to Walsingham on pilgrimage. At the Reformation the Priory property was seized and the famous statue of Our Lady of Walsingham was taken to London and burnt. Nothing remained of the original shrine and Walsingham ceased to be a place of pilgrimage.

However, in 1896 Charlotte Boyd bought the then derelict Slipper Chapel outside the village and in due course it was restored for Catholic use, being declared the National Shrine of Our Lady in 1934. During this same period the vicar of Walsingham, Fr Alfred Hope-Patten, established an Anglican shrine church in Little Walsingham with a new Holy House, holy well and pilgrim hospice.

Today a quarter of a million people visit the National Shrine every year and there is considerable sharing of hospitality and devotions between Catholic and Anglican visitors. Pope Francis has given the Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham a rare honour. The shrine – specifically 'the church of the Sanctuary' – has been granted Minor Basilica status. The Slipper Chapel now joins only three other locations in Britain with this honour: Downside Abbey in Somerset, St Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham and Corpus Christi Priory in Manchester (now closed). Walsingham is the first site to be given such status since 1941

The Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary 2020

The bishops of England and Wales have designated 2020 as the year of Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary. This follows the two-year Dowry Tour which saw the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham being taken to different cathedrals around the country accompanied by a programme of prayer calling upon Our Lady to guide and protect our country by her prayers in the years to come.

We pray that the people of our country may work together to build a common good. May the truth of the Gospel inspire us to create a culture that respects life and embraces the great diversity of our people. May it open our hearts to serve our community, seeking the good of others before ourselves, especially those who are poor and marginalised.

The Timeline for the Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary

(A spiritual renewal to help facilitate the New Evangelisation)

- **21 February 2020:** All Catholics and anyone else who wants to join in will be invited to begin a personal 33 day consecration to Jesus through Mary following the method of St Louis de Montfort. This includes an invitation to go to the Sacrament of Confession.
- **Free copies of “33 days to Morning Glory”, written by Fr Michael Gaitley, are available from the Shrine, on request. These have been distributed throughout the Tour. (www.shop.walsingham.org.uk/33-days-to-morning-glory)**
- **Wednesday 25 March 2020 (Feast of the Annunciation):** All who are following the consecration will consecrate themselves to Jesus through Mary on this day.
- **Thursday 26 - Saturday 28 March 2020:** a three day tridium of prayer during which all will be invited to recite the Litany of Saints and Martyrs of England, pray the Rosary and go to confession in preparation for the rededication.
- **Sunday 29 March 2020:** a personal rededication of England as Dowry of Mary. This will be done in Westminster, Walsingham, every Cathedral, every parish and as many homes as possible. It is a personal rededication following the guidelines in the book ‘The Angelus Promise’ which can be obtained from the shrine.

Where to stay when visiting the shrine

Elmham House, Pilgrim Bureau in Walsingham village has accommodation starting at £35 for bed and breakfast: elmhamhouse@walsingham.org.uk

Dowry House Retreat Centre, Shepherds’ Huts also offer accommodation depending on availability. Please see the Shrine website for further information:
www.walsingham.org.uk

The Anglican Shrine offers B&B from £47.50 : www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk/visit/staying-with-us/

Bed and breakfast is also available at The Little Way Association 12 Friday Market Place, Walsingham, tel 01328 820222, and The Bake House, 33 High Street, Walsingham, tel 01328 820454.

There is also plentiful visitor accommodation in the surrounding area. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Other places to visit

The **city of Norwich** (30 miles) is worth visiting for its two Cathedrals: our own Cathedral of St John the Baptist (sjbcathedral.org.uk), Norwich Cathedral (cathedral.org.uk); and the restored Cell of Mother Julian of Norwich (juliancentre.org).

Oxburgh Hall (28 miles) near Swaffham is a National Trust property (nationaltrust.org.uk) which has been the home of the Bedingfields, an old Catholic family, since the Wars of the Roses. Its story is one of the family's unshakable faith down through the centuries.

Castle Acre Priory (17 miles), an English Heritage property near Kings Lynn (englishheritage.org.uk), is the largest and best preserved monastic site in the region and dates back to 1090. It was the home of England's first order of Cluniac monks and their love of decoration is evident in the extensive ruins.

Church of St Mary and the Holy Cross, Binham (4 miles) is a large and impressive, mainly Norman church surrounded by the picturesque ruins of a Benedictine Priory.

For details on how to find the National Catholic Shrine of Our Lady, please visit the Shrine website: www.walsingham.org.uk.