

# Franciscan Peace Pilgrimage



**ON NEW  
ROADS**

2026 Peace Pilgrimage

*Find out more*



[www.spiritoffrancis.com](http://www.spiritoffrancis.com)



Franciscan Peace Pilgrimage



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Email: [pilgrimage800@franciscans.org.uk](mailto:pilgrimage800@franciscans.org.uk)  
To sign up for news or share your plans



[www.franciscans.org.uk/donating-to-us/](http://www.franciscans.org.uk/donating-to-us/)

Financial donations are crucial  
for SSF's Christian witness  
and ongoing work with marginalised groups

**Doing Penance | Bringing Peace | Living Hope**

*Dear friends,*

In 2026 the world will mark 800 years since the death of St Francis of Assisi, a man whose life still shines with simplicity, peace and joy.

Francis lived the gospel of Jesus Christ in a way that spoke to everyone: rich and poor, young and old, believer and seeker. He discovered that when we open our hearts to God's love, we also find peace with one another and with all creation.

Today, our world faces deep divisions – fear between people and faiths, inequality between rich and poor, violence and war, and a growing wound to the earth itself.

Yet the story of Francis offers a different path, a way of penitence (turning back to love), peace, reconciliation and hope.

His life reminds us that change begins not with power, but with humility, kindness, and the courage to start again.

## *The Pilgrimage*

will be making over 70 overnight stops along the route from the Friary in Alnmouth to the Friary in Plaistow. The places and dates of rest days are shown below:

### **July**

**18 Alnmouth Friary<sup>†</sup>**

24 Durham

### **August**

03 Leeds

08 Manchester

15 Ashbourne

21 Birmingham<sup>†</sup>

**25 Glasshampton Monastery<sup>†</sup>**

27 Worcester

30 Gloucester<sup>†</sup>

### **September**

06 Wells

**11 Hilfield Friary<sup>†</sup>**

16 Salisbury

**23 Freeland Convent<sup>†</sup>**

28 Reading

### **October** (not rest days)

**01 Southwark<sup>†</sup>**

**02 Plaistow Friary<sup>†</sup>**

03 Christchurch, Blackfriars (to celebrate the Transitus)

† signifies Franciscan houses

For the detailed route visit:

[www.spiritoffrancis.com](http://www.spiritoffrancis.com)

## *Why this matters*

The Spirit of Francis belongs not only to churches but to the whole world.

He reminds us that each person, creature and place is loved by God. In celebrating Francis 800, we hope to build bridges between faith and community, between people and planet – between the past and the future.

Please share this invitation widely so that others may join this movement of peace and renewal.

We would love to hear from you and how you might be thinking of giving thanks for the legacy of St Francis in 2026.

## *Who we are*

The Society of St Francis (SSF) is an Anglican Religious Order made up of men and women who live as brothers and sisters of the First Order, following a common life of poverty, chastity, and obedience; and members of the Third Order, married and single, who live a vowed Franciscan life in their homes and daily work.

Together we seek to follow Christ in the footsteps of St Francis and St Clare – sharing in God's work of peace, reconciliations, and joy for the whole creation.

# An Invitation to Walk with Us

You and your community can take part in many ways:

- On New Roads

The 2026 Pilgrimage of Peace, Reconciliation and Hope, a walking pilgrimage across Britain from 17 July to 2 October

- Prayer and Song

simple acts of worship and community music along the way

- Following at home

With resources for personal pilgrimages from the comfort of your armchair

- Greenbelt 20 - 30 August

‘Francesco’ by Daniel Zappi, the story of Francis as a living spiritual journey

- **celebrating the ‘Transitus’**

The passage of Francis to God 800 years ago on 3 October

*See website and FaceBook for more details*