

INFORMATION FOR PILGRIMS ATTENDING THE GLASTONBURY PILGRIMAGE

SUNDAY 9th JULY 2023

The Pilgrimage theme is ‘**Mary, Queen of Peace**’ and will have four main focal points:

St Mary’s Church will be a Chapel of Exposition and Silent Adoration and will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation, until 3pm.

Immediately opposite the Church, just inside the Abbey Gate, will be a single tented Chapel for Private Healing Prayer.

The traditional Pilgrimage Procession will start in the Abbey grounds at 2.15pm.

The Pilgrimage Mass will be celebrated in the Abbey Grounds, as usual, at 3.30pm.

If you are able, please bring your parish and organisations banners to carry in the procession, and display near the Altar during Mass. Afterwards, during Mass, they will be displayed at the side of the Altar.

St Mary’s Shrine Church: Silent Chapel of Exposition

Rosary: 11.30am

You are invited to visit St Mary’s Church, the Shrine of Our Lady of Glastonbury, to join the Rosary, starting at 11.30am, followed by Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation until 3.00pm.

Simple Benediction and Reposition of the Blesséd Sacrament: 3.00pm

In the Abbey Grounds

Pilgrimage Entrance - Magdalene Street Gate: Entry Badges and Programmes. Gift stalls in the grounds.

Adhesive badges, which you must wear to gain entrance to the Abbey grounds, and programmes containing full details of the procession and the Mass in the Abbey grounds, can be obtained at the Magdalene Street Gate to the Abbey, which is the designated entrance for the Pilgrimage. An entrance fee towards Pilgrimage expenses is requested. (£2 per adult is suggested) Badges can also be obtained from the stewards on duty at the coach set-down point, where programmes are also available. Rosaries, postcards, prayer cards, candles and other gifts may be purchased from stalls in the Abbey grounds.

Sacrament of Reconciliation and private Healing Prayer: 12noon until 3.00pm

The Sacrament of Reconciliation with visiting priests is, this year, being offered in St Mary’s Church, from 12 noon until 3.00pm.

A tented chapel for private Healing Prayer will be found immediately opposite St Mary’s Church, just inside the Abbey Gate. Members of the Shrine Healing Ministry will be available for private Healing Prayer for those who would like to receive it.

The Rosary Procession: 2.15pm

Pilgrims wishing to take part in the procession should assemble in the Abbey grounds at 1.45pm – 2.00pm, to prepare for the procession which will start at 2.15pm. The procession will walk around the Abbey grounds, exiting via the Abbey House Gardens and will process through the centre of Glastonbury via Chilkwell Street, High Street and Magdalene Street, returning to the Abbey through the Magdalene Street Gate, opposite the Shrine Church, at about 3.00pm. Priests are invited to join the procession.

Mass in the Abbey Grounds: 3.30pm

At 3.30pm the Pilgrimage Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Declan Lang. Areas near the centre aisle will be set aside for the disabled and near the front for those with impaired hearing for whom an induction loop system will be available as well as a sign language lectern. Please be guided by the stewards during the distribution of Holy Communion, when yellow and white umbrellas will indicate the positions of priests giving Communion. An offertory collection will be taken during Mass, towards the upkeep of the Shrine of Our Lady of Glastonbury. Collections will also be taken at the gate as you depart after Mass, for those who missed the opportunity during the offertory.

Stewards assistance - three key locations:

On arrival in Glastonbury there will be stewards present at three locations: the coach set-down point in Magdalene Street, the Magdalene Street Gate entrance to the Abbey opposite St Mary’s Church, and in the Abbey grounds. Identifiable by the gold ‘Stewards’ armbands or Knights collars they will be wearing, they will be happy to answer any queries you may have.

Refreshments, toilet facilities and safety:

Light refreshments, sandwiches, hot and cold drinks, will be available from a tea-tent in the Abbey grounds, until half an hour before the Mass commences and again directly after the Mass. Toilet facilities will be available for all in the Abbey grounds. An Ambulance and First Aid staff will be on duty in case of emergency.

General consideration:

As you will be guests of the Trustees of Glastonbury Abbey, will you please treat their property with respect, leaving it in good order and free from litter. Thank you.

NB: Entrance Badges and Programmes must be obtained at the Pilgrims’ Entrance immediately inside the Magdalene Street gate to the Abbey. There will be no stalls outside the Shrine Church.