

Pilgrimage to

# Walsingham

England's Nazareth



18–20 September 2026

Friday – Sunday

## WHY WALSINGHAM?

## A Journey to the Heart of England's Faith

In 1061, a noblewoman named Richeldis received a vision of Our Lady, who led her in spirit to the house in Nazareth where the Angel Gabriel had announced the birth of Jesus. Mary asked her to build a replica of that holy house in the Norfolk village of Walsingham — and so England's own Nazareth was born.

*"A place where every Christian might come to honour Our Lady and meditate on the mystery of the Incarnation."*

For five centuries, kings and queens, saints and ordinary pilgrims made their way to Walsingham. It became one of the four great shrines of medieval Christendom — alongside Jerusalem, Rome and Santiago de Compostela. After the Reformation it fell silent, but was never forgotten. Today, over a quarter of a million pilgrims visit each year.

For us as Catholics, Walsingham is also a place of deep ecumenical meaning. The Anglican and Catholic Shrines stand side by side — united in honouring Mary and her Son. We will be staying at the Anglican Shrine, with the Catholic Slipper Chapel just a mile away along the ancient Holy Mile.

This is not just a trip away — it is an invitation to walk in the footsteps of centuries of English faith, and to walk together as a parish community.

## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## A Weekend of Prayer & Community

**FRI** FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

- Arrive in Walsingham by 4:30pm
- Welcome & introduction at the Shrine
- Supper together at 6:30pm

**SAT** SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

- Mass
- Shrine activities & time for reflection
- Walking the Holy Mile — the ancient pilgrim path to the Slipper Chapel (for those who are able)
- Evening prayer & community time

**SUN** SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

- Morning Mass
- Final reflections
- Lunch at the Shrine (12:30–1:15pm)
- Depart for home

**Total cost: £188 per person**, inclusive of full board accommodation — all meals from Friday supper through Sunday lunch.

A non-refundable deposit of **£40 per person is required by 5 May** to secure your place. The balance of £148 is due two weeks before departure.

**Places are limited** — please register your interest as soon as possible.

To register your interest or for more information, please speak to a member of the Pastoral Council or use the contact details alongside.

REGISTER INTEREST

**Hilda Havran**

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# Practical Information

Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham · September 2026

## ACCOMMODATION & MEALS

- ✦ Full board at the Shrine for 16 persons
- ✦ Arrive Friday for supper (6:30 – 7:15 pm)
- ✦ Depart Sunday after lunch (12:30 – 1:15 pm)
- ✦ Rooms available from 3:00 pm Friday
- ✦ Rooms must be vacated by 10:00 am Sunday
- ✦ Group reference: **GA002103**

## GETTING THERE & PARKING

- ✦ The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Norfolk NR22
- ✦ The Mill Car Park, NR22 6DH — a pay and display car park nearby
- ✦ Please aim to arrive by 4:30 pm on Friday
- ✦ Car sharing is encouraged where possible

## WHAT TO BRING

- ✦ Comfortable walking shoes for the Holy Mile
- ✦ Smart, modest dress for the Shrine
- ✦ Personal toiletries
- ✦ Prayer book and/or Rosary
- ✦ Small amount of spending money
- ✦ Any personal medications

## SHRINE GUIDELINES

- ✦ No smoking in any Shrine buildings
- ✦ Quiet hours: 11:00 pm – 7:00 am
- ✦ No candles or incense outside the Shrine Church
- ✦ No pets (registered guide dogs excepted)
- ✦ Room keys returned on day of departure
- ✦ Lost key charge: £15

## PAYMENT DETAILS – DEPOSIT & BALANCE

**Account Name:** Sacred Heart Church

**Sort Code:** 40-05-20

**Account No:** 11077198

**Reference:** WALS + your name



*We very much look forward to making this a wonderful and memorable pilgrimage together. This journey offers us a chance to deepen our faith, support one another in prayer, and experience the grace that Walsingham offers to all who come seeking.*