

PILGRIM PACK



PILGRIMAGE TO LAUNCESTON
SEPTEMBER 13TH 2025

WHAT'S A JUBILEE YEAR?

The idea of a Jubilee in the Bible appears almost exclusively in the book of Leviticus. *“You will declare this fiftieth year to be sacred and proclaim the liberation of all the country's inhabitants. You will keep this as a jubilee: each of you will return to his ancestral property, each to his own clan. This fiftieth year will be a jubilee year for you; in it you will not sow, you will not harvest the grain that has come up on its own or in it gather grapes from your untrimmed vine. The jubilee will be a holy thing for you; during it you will eat whatever the fields produce”.* (Lev 25:10-12)

The jubilee offered all Israelites the opportunity to have a fresh start and a whole year of sabbatical rest. All debts had to be cancelled. Every plot of land should be returned to its original owners. Everyone sold to servitude or slavery had to be set free. The land was to lie fallow. And everyone was to eat and live out of God's providence.

There is no evidence, however, that Israel ever celebrated the jubilee and the Catholic Church herself did not celebrate it until the year 1300. It was the beginning of a new century and also a time of great precariousness and uncertainty, exacerbated by certain interpretations of Rev 20:7.

But it was not until the following jubilee, though, when Pope Clement VI in 1345 establish the theology behind it, in the bull "Unigenitus Dei". *"Since Christ redeemed us not at the price of corruptible things such as gold and silver, but with his precious blood, an inexhaustible treasure has come to the Church"*. This "inexhaustible treasure", he explained, is accessible to Peter and his successors who hold the keys of the Kingdom. It is their responsibility, therefore, to open the treasury of spiritual goods and distribute them to the faithful.

Since then, the Church has proclaimed a jubilee every 50 or 25 years and offered the faithful not only the forgiveness of their sins but also a plenary indulgence, that is, the remission of all "temporal punishments" (Purgatory).

This year 2025 Pope Francis opened once again the "inexhaustible treasure" offering indulgences to the faithful who repenting of their sins, visit one of the designated places of pilgrimage, go to confession, receive Holy Communion and pray for the intentions of the Pope. <https://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/DecreePlenaryIndulgences.pdf>

JOURNEYING HOME

Pilgrimages are not a purely Christian practice. Many men and women throughout history and across continents have travelled to places marked by a special divine presence. However, the Scriptures and centuries of tradition have given Christianity a unique understanding of pilgrimages.

In Old Testament times, the Israelites journeyed on pilgrimage to many places: Bethel, Shechem, Beersheba, Ophra, Zorah, Shilo (where the Tent of Meeting and the Ark were initially kept), Mizpah, Gilgal, Gibeon and Dan.

But once the Ark of the Covenant was brought to Jerusalem and the Temple construction concluded, Jerusalem became the centre of all religious worship and the sole place of pilgrimage to which every Jew had to travel three times a year for the feasts of Passover, Weeks and Tabernacles.

When the persecution of the Roman Empire to Christianity ended, Jerusalem became also the destination of Christian pilgrims. Their desire was, in the words of St Paulino of Nola, to *“see and touch the places where Christ was physically present, and to be able to say from our very own experience: ‘we have gone into his tabernacle and adored the very places where his feet have stood’”*.

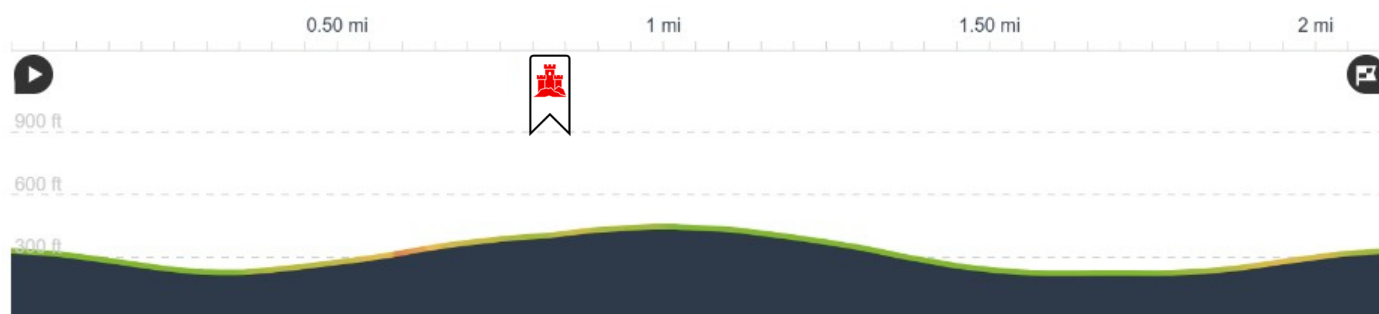
Other Christian places of pilgrimages were established over the centuries, like Rome or Compostela. In this country Canterbury or Walsingham have welcomed many pilgrims even from overseas. All these places have a unique importance and value, but the reality is that pilgrimages, regardless of their destination, have one main purpose: to help the faithful realise that our life is a pilgrimage towards the heavenly Jerusalem, our real home.

“Our visible churches, holy places, are images of the holy city, the heavenly Jerusalem, toward which we are making our way on pilgrimage”. (CCC §1198)

This journey to Launceston, short as it may be, will give us an opportunity to leave all the non-essential things behind, and walk, pray and strive together towards our destination. Thus, we are reminded of the spiritual journey we all need to make. Through ups and downs, dangers and distractions, we won't have nor need anything other than the company of each other, the help of the saints and the presence of God, traveling light, as we are, towards home.

SCHEDULE AND ROUTE DETAILS

10.30 AM	EXIT FROM ST PETER'S CAR PARK (15 Boniface Ln. Plymouth, PL5 3AX)
11.30 AM	ARRIVAL AT ST CUTHBERT MAYNE CHURCH (21 Mayne Cl, Launceston, PL15 8XQ)
TEA & COFFEE AVAILBLE	
12.00	MORNING PRAYER
13.00	INITIATE WALK TOWARDS THE CENTRE OF THE TOWN
14.00	LUNCH AT CASTLE GREEN (Packed lunch)
15.00	PILGRIMAGE WALK TO ST CUTHBERT MAYNE CHURCH, STOPPING AT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOWN SQUARE • CASTLE DUNGEON • LAUNCESTON PRIORY
16.30	MASS AT ST CUTHBERT
TEA & COFFEE AVAILBLE	



WAY TYPES



- **Hiking Path:** 191 yd
- **Path:** 283 yd
- **Street:** 0.31 mi
- **Road:** 1.16 mi
- **State Road:** 0.37 mi

SURFACES



- **Paved:** 0.86 mi
- **Asphalt:** 1.04 mi
- **Gravel & Cobblestone:** 368 yd



1 TOWN HALL



2 TOWN SQUARE



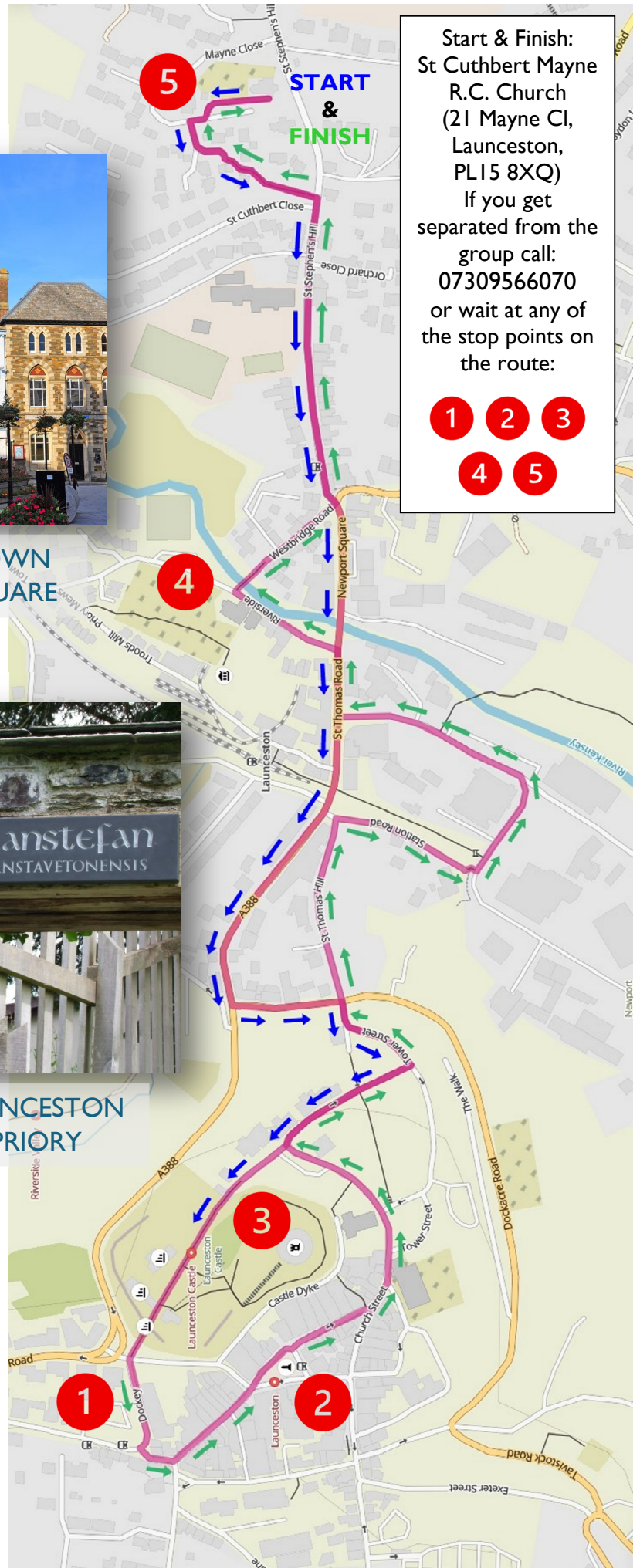
3 CASTLE DUNGEON



4 LAUNCESTON PRIORY



5 ST CUTHBERT MAYNE CHURCH



INSTRUCTIONS



**Be aware of
vehicles and bikes
all the time.
Cross the road
using established
crossings points.**



**Walk on the
pavement when
possible.
Be aware of
uneven, slippery
surfaces and steps.**



**The walk is 2.1
miles long.
There are some
steep slopes.
We recommend
using trainers.**



**Bring your own
packed lunch.
Bring plenty of
fluids especially if
the weather is hot.**



**Children must be
accompanied by
their
parent/guardian at
all times.**



**Emergencies:
999
Non-emergency:
07309566070
Safeguarding:
martin.christmas-
nelson@prcdtr.org.uk**