

St Michael's Pilgrimage 2018

We plan to organise a pilgrimage for St Michael's folk and invited friends walking the Peak Pilgrimage trail from Ilam to Eyam, a journey of about 33 miles, over three days, Thursday 5th July to Saturday 7th.

The Peak Pilgrimage trail is a well-established route starting at the Church Of The Holy Cross, Ilam, where we will find the tomb of St Bertram, a Saxon saint and hermit who lived here. Ilam has been a place of pilgrimage since his time. The trail takes us to a dozen churches along the way, finally arriving at St Lawrence in Eyam, the village famous for its sacrifice during the plague of 1665-66.

This will not be residential – we will travel out and back each day with a minibus in which we can transport about 15 people. Pilgrims may, of course, share cars for transport each day and the minibus will act as support vehicle to return drivers to their cars and to collect walkers who choose to finish early.

Pilgrims need not walk every day – you are more than welcome to join us just for one or two days. Nor are you required to walk the whole distance on any given day. We will pass through a number of villages where weary pilgrims may decide they have done enough for the day and await the minibus.

On the final evening, Saturday 7th, all pilgrims will be invited to take supper together. It may be possible to eat together on one or both of the other two evenings but this has yet to be confirmed.

We may be able to arrange a short service in each church a prayer, a reading, perhaps a chant or song. Again, this has yet to be confirmed but would add greatly to the sense of pilgrimage and companionship.

There will be a modest cost to cover the hire of the minibus and diesel. People may also wish to buy a guide book for £7.99. You will need to provide your own packed lunch or patronise the various cafés and pubs along the way. There's more about the pilgrimage on the website at www.peakpilgrimage.org.uk

The walk takes in:

Day 1: Ilam, Dovedale, Milldale, Alstonefield, Wolfscotedale, Hartington, Tissington Trail, Parsley Hay.

Day 2: Parsley Hay, Monyash, Lathkilldale, Over Haddon, Bakewell.

Day 3: Bakewell, Edensor, Chatsworth estate, Baslow, Derwent valley, Stoney Middleton, Eyam.

You do not need to confirm anything yet but if you would be seriously interested in participating in this pilgrimage then please fill in the form below; tear it off and give it to me, Paul Simms.

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Name(s): _____

Interested in walking (tick all that apply): Thursday 5th July , Friday 6th , Saturday 7th

Would join evening meal on (tick all that apply): Thursday 5th July , Friday 6th , Saturday 7th

Preferred transport: Minibus , Own transport .

If 'Own transport' would you be able to offer a lift? _____