

Franciscan Jubilee Year 2026



DEADLINE OF REGISTRATION

28 FEBRUARY 2026

First Group of Pilgrims

18-22 September 2026

Chaplain and Contact Person: Fr. Desire, OFM

15 MARCH 2026

Second Group of Pilgrims

09-13 October 2026

Chaplain and Contact Person: Fr. Yusuf, OFM

Email address: stratfordassisi160@gmail.com

COST £550.00 Excluding Air Fare

"We'll keep you posted as plans develop about the possible group booking. Thanks for your patience!"

Pilgrim's Charter

1. Nature and Purpose of the Pilgrimage

This parish pilgrimage to Assisi is centred on the holy sites associated with Saint Francis of Assisi and Saint Clare of Assisi.

The principal focus of our pilgrimage will be:

- Visiting the sacred places connected with the lives of St Francis and St Clare
- Participation in Holy Mass and communal prayer
- Guided reflection and formation
- Living simply and fraternally in the spirit of the Franciscan tradition

The Franciscan leader and guide will arrange the daily programme of prayer, liturgy, visits, and reflection.

A pilgrimage is a shared spiritual journey, not a holiday. Out of respect for the group and the sacred nature of the visit, pilgrims are asked:

- To participate fully in the programme
- To follow the agreed timetable
- To be punctual for all events
- To support a prayerful and recollected atmosphere

2. Responsibilities

Group Organisers

The organisers coordinate the programme, accommodation, and group arrangements. They cannot accept responsibility for matters outside their control (including airlines, transport providers, personal loss, or unforeseen disruption).

Individual Pilgrims

Each pilgrim is responsible for:

- Personal possessions
- Carrying valid travel documentation
- Informing organisers in advance of relevant medical or mobility needs
- Conducting themselves in a manner consistent with the spirit of pilgrimage

Pilgrims are expected to:

- Behave appropriately at all times
- Observe local customs and Church norms
- Dress modestly at sacred sites and during liturgy
- Respect the privacy, dignity, and personal space of others
- Maintain patience and fraternity within the group

3. Travel Insurance

All pilgrims are strongly advised to arrange their own comprehensive travel insurance.

This should include adequate cover for:

- Trip cancellation or curtailment
- Medical treatment and repatriation abroad
- Lost, stolen, or delayed possessions
- Personal accident and personal liability

The parish and group organisers cannot accept responsibility for personal financial loss, medical costs, or travel disruption experienced by individual pilgrims. Proof of appropriate travel insurance may be requested prior to departure.

4. Conduct and Behaviour

- Personal time and deportment should reflect the sacred nature of the pilgrimage.
- The consumption of alcohol is discouraged.
- Alcohol is not permitted within the accommodation.
- Recreational drugs are strictly prohibited.
- Disruptive behaviour that undermines the prayerful nature of the pilgrimage may result in appropriate action by the group leaders.

5. Use of Images and Social Media

Images or videos of pilgrims may not be taken, shared, or uploaded to social media without the explicit consent of the individuals concerned.

Special care must be taken regarding:

- Images of children or vulnerable adults
- Images taken during prayer, confession, or private devotion

The dignity of each person and the sacred character of the pilgrimage must always be respected.

6. Safeguarding Commitment

The organisers and leaders of this pilgrimage are fully committed to the safeguarding policies of the Roman Catholic Church, in accordance with diocesan and bishops' conference guidelines. This commitment flows from the Church's belief that every person is made in the image and likeness of God and possesses inherent dignity.

Every pilgrim has the right to expect:

- The highest level of care and protection
- Respect and encouragement
- A safe and secure environment

Where concerns or allegations of abuse arise:

- They will be taken seriously
- They will be reported promptly to the appropriate diocesan safeguarding authorities and, where required, to statutory authorities
- Victims will be supported
- Other vulnerable persons will be protected where possible
- Procedures will be followed lawfully and transparently

All leaders will comply with diocesan safeguarding requirements.

No adult should be alone with a minor in private settings. Spiritual conversations and sacramental ministry will take place in appropriate, safe environments in accordance with Church safeguarding practice.

A named safeguarding contact person will be identified to the group at the start of the pilgrimage.

7. Spirit of Pilgrimage

We travel to Assisi not simply as visitors, but as pilgrims seeking to walk in the footsteps of St Francis in humility, simplicity, fraternity, and peace.

Pilgrims are encouraged to:

- Embrace simplicity of lifestyle during the pilgrimage
- Practice courtesy and service toward one another
- Maintain silence where appropriate
- Support those who may need assistance

Pilgrim Declaration

I have read and understood this Pilgrim's Charter and agree to abide by its principles and expectations.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

NB. Please submit this by replying to this email stratfordassisi160@gmail.com and attach a copy of your valid ID or passport. Alternatively, you may drop it off at the parish office.