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Pilgrim Paths

Chipping Norton Deanery

Daylesford - Chastleton

5.5 Miles

A pilgrimage is a spiritual journey to a sacred place

This leaflet offers Bible passages and reflections to accompany your journey, with suggestions of places to pause. Please allow much more time than you would usually spend on a walk to be able to contemplate the journey.

The circular walk includes some road walking through villages, footpaths through woods and fields and negotiating some stiles. You may also, at any time, encounter sheep, cattle or horses grazing in the fields.

Arriving

Park in Daylesford 'village' in the triangle by the red telephone box. The lychgate and path to the churchyard is in the shrubbery beside it, opposite the pretty lodge cottage by the drive to Daylesford House.



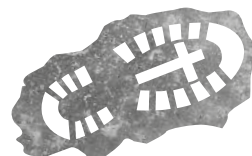
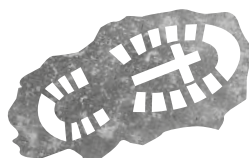
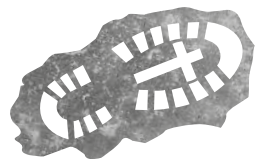
This remarkable church is not usually open, but it is well worth taking a walk round the outside to admire the complex design and rich detailing.

In the graveyard is a memorial to Charles Edward Baring Young, a Christian philanthropist who founded nearby Kingham Hill School, for boys who needed a boarding education because of their home circumstances.



Before we start

We are going to use the words of a Psalm as we walk. A Psalm is one of the ancient songs of worship to God, and they are found in both the Jewish and Christian scriptures.



*As you begin this pilgrimage,
you will not know what to
expect, as that is the nature of
pilgrimage.*



Leaving: At The Church Door

Prayer

Lord God, be with us as we set out on our journey.
Help us to hear your voice singing in our ears,
Bless us in all that we experience. Amen



Turn Left

Turn **left** and walk 500m up the minor road until you reach the A436 Chipping Norton to Stow-on-the-Wold road. **Cross** the road and enter the grounds of Adlestrop Park beside another attractive lodge cottage.

Psalm 6

J n p t s p n b f n u k _ l c g g v s p
l _ k c g _ j j r f c c _ p f V s f _ t c q r
v s p e j n p g r f c f c _ t c l q



Walk thoughtfully through the park:

Reflect on the landscape that surrounds you - the result of people and nature working together to produce a harmonious whole.

Look at the way the light of the sun highlights different aspects of the park; think of the way the different characteristics of God light up your life.

Continue

As you follow the drive through the park you will see, to your right, views towards the charming 1760 Gothick front of Adlestrop Park. Designed by the gentleman architect, Sanderson Miller, this conceals an earlier house to the rear.

Follow the drive as it bears **right**, skirting the cricket field, but then head to a wooden field gate, to the right of a spinney and a small lake, and enter a short section of green lane

'Incline us, O God'

Jane Austen

After 250m you will see, on your **left**, Adlestrop House, the 17th-century former rectory where Jane Austen often stayed with her uncle, Rev. Thomas Leigh. On your **right** is the parish church.

'Incline us o God to think humbly of ourselves, to be severe only in the examination of our own conduct, to consider our fellow-creatures with kindness, and to judge of all they say and do with that charity which we would desire from them ourselves' - Jane Austen



Enter

the church of St Mary Magdalene
Pause and pray.....



*"When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers, the
moon and the stars, which you
have set in place.
What is mankind that you are
mindful of them, human beings
that you care for them!"*

Psalms 8:3,4

**Call to mind the ways in which God
has shown his care for you.**

**Give thanks for what you see of His
love in those around you.**



'Yes. I remember Adlestrop'

Turn **right** out of the churchyard and continue up the lane to the T-junction where you turn **left** past the thatched village shop and post office. At the next T-junction, notice in a shelter to your right the station sign immortalised by Edward Thomas's 1915 poem 'Adlestrop' with a copy of the poem itself.

'And for that minute, a blackbird sang'.....

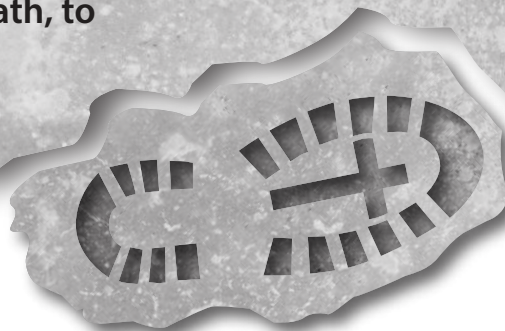
**Pause and listen to the many sounds of the countryside. Give
thanks for all your senses and the way they add to your
appreciation of God's creation.**

Cross the road



Cross the road to a track signed 'Macmillan Way' and continue through the field. **At the far end go through a wooden field gate** and bear half left, continuing to follow the Macmillan Way. The path cuts across the field to follow the hedgerow on your left, and there are attractive views to the right of Fern Farm on rising ground. Head for a metal gate and stile in the corner of the field.

As you walk, pay attention to the different surfaces your feet tread on. Jesus told a parable about different types of soil representing various attitudes of heart; from the hardness of a path, to the ploughed soil.



Prayer

St. Richard of Chichester's prayer

Day by day, day by day,

O dear Lord, three things I pray;

To see Thee more clearly,

Love Thee more dearly

Follow Thee more nearly,

Day by day.

Amen



Continue

Cross a further stile by an oak tree in the fence on your **left**, but continue in the same direction along the bottom of a field of very pronounced ridge and furrow which rises up on your left. On reaching a gate and stile in the far corner, continue up the hill on the same line, across the middle of the next field, towards a gate at the left-hand end of a wood on the horizon.

Pause and look back

Notice the glorious view; Stow-on-the-Wold's church tower is on the horizon to your right, and the remarkable, complex pattern of ridge-and-furrow in the field you have just crossed.



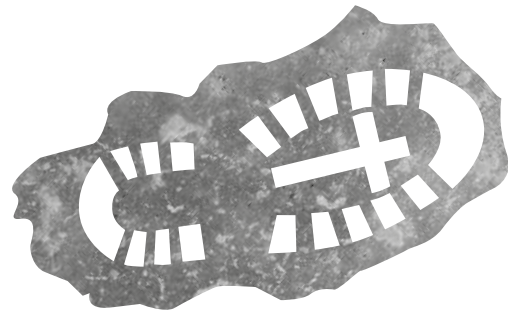
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Psalm 8
You made them rulers
over the works of your
hands;

7

you put everything
under their feet:

Proceed



Proceed up a steep bank and across the next field, heading to the point of the wood on your right. At the gate you re-enter Oxfordshire and Chipping Norton benefice. **Continue straight** down the fine avenue of limes and then, beyond the National Trust car park for the disabled, turn right on the road.



Please draw your map here . .

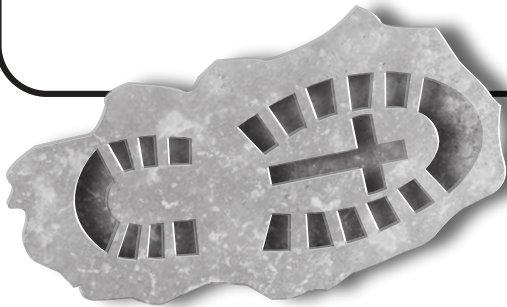


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Look

The view of Chastleton House grouped with its brewhouse and the church tower is memorable.



Shortly after passing the entrance arch that frames the main front so beautifully you will find the gate to the churchyard on your left.



St Mary's Church



Psalm 9

- 1 I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds
I will be glad and rejoice in you;
- 2 I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High.

Giving thanks:

**What things in your life would you like to give thanks for?
If you were to look back over the whole of your life, what
'wonderful deeds' of God would you want to tell other people
about?**



Turn left

Turn left out of the other churchyard gate and cross the road to the start of the path to the National Trust car park. However, don't take this path but instead go **straight ahead** up the hill on a permissive footpath, past the pretty gabled dovecote dated 1762. Head for a pedestrian gate where the fence meets the hedge, then follow a line of new trees and **go through** another gate.



Journeying-Climbing

From here you have a wonderful view of the hills and landscape of the Cotswolds

Consider your role as steward of God's creation.

How are you fulfilling that role?
How might you do this better?



Turn left on a bridleway that climbs up through the wood. Once through the gate at the top, turn **right**, cross the spinney and enter a large field with magnificent views to a distant horizon.



Take the path veering away from the wood on your **left** that follows a boundary between arable and pasture. You will eventually **go to the right** of another wood after passing a tumulus on your left. Keeping close to the wood, go to the end of the field, then turn **right** on a signed path across to the head of a long woodland belt.

The path continues for nearly half a mile down this belt, known as The Long Drive, before emerging onto a minor road.

Cross this road and go through a double field gate to turn left on a path following another tree belt. After 250m you will reach a gate on the A436 Chipping Norton to Stow-on-the-Wold road.

Turn **left** on the verge, **cross** the main road at the Adlestrop turn, and **continue** on the other side until you reach a signed footpath into woodland between estate gates and the turning to Cornwell. The path goes through the spinney but turns **right** and then **left** to join the west drive to Daylesford House.

Faith

As you follow the twists and turns of the path, reflect on your life's journey so far, with its challenges and triumphs, its sorrows and joys. What has been your experience of God's love throughout these experiences?

Refuge

Psalms 9

'The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.
Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you'.

The Lord
is my
Refuge

On nearing a gate where the drive enters a clump of mature trees, the path is signed to the **left** again and runs between fenced paddocks before crossing a stone bridge. The track then follows a line of chestnuts to cross the north drive and continues to the stables.



What gives you hope in your life and in the life of those you love?

But God will never afflict the needy; the hope of the afflicted will never perish
(Psalm 9:18)



Once beyond

Once beyond a big stone barn on your right, turn **right** on an estate road signed "Gardens". After 400m you will start to pass a walled garden on your **right** and the road will follow the wall as it bends to the right. Continue down the drive for another half a mile until it joins the public road.



Turn right to return very soon to Daylesford 'village', possibly stopping for refreshment at the organic farm shop on your left if your purse will stretch to it!

The Finish



Pause in the churchyard or the porch
to reflect on your thoughts throughout this pilgrimage.

PRAYER

Lord God, you have brought us back to this place
where we began.

Time has passed and our hearts and minds are
changed by what we have experienced.

Seal in our hearts those words that you have spoken.

Our feet are weary and we are ready to rest.

As we go from here, may we continue to hear your
voice singing new songs of mercy, peace and joy.

Amen.



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Notes



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