

## Interested?

Wheatley URC Youth Team, supported by the Wessex Synod of the URC, are joining forces with the Diocese of Oxford in a pilgrimage for young adults to Taizé. The pilgrimage from 13th - 20th August 2023 is open to all young people of the URC, aged between 16 and 25.

The Bishop of Reading is leading the pilgrimage joined by Revd Mark Williams and Elisa Pizzo from the URC.

There will be an opportunity to connect with others in the group before going.

Travel will be by train from St Pancras International to Mâcon, and then a short onward journey to Taizé by bus.

The cost will be held at £375 per person, to cover food, accommodation and travel starting at St Pancras International, London. You will need to get yourself to St Pancras 60 minutes before departure. You'll also need to bring a packed lunch for the outward journey (or money to buy food).

Accommodation at Taizé will be camping. All meals are provided. You'll need a good tent, appropriate clothing for camping, a passport and a Bible. Bear in mind that the weather may well be very hot in August but can also rain, so bring waterproofs! Please let us know if cost, access to camping equipment or getting to London on the day of travel is a barrier to you coming.

Please do be in touch with Elisa Pizzo if you have any questions at [youthworker@wheatleyurc.org.uk](mailto:youthworker@wheatleyurc.org.uk).

## Dates and deadlines

Mon 1st May: Cut-off date for bookings

Sun 13 August: depart from St Pancras International

Sun 20 August: arrive back in St Pancras

## Further details

To register your interest, find out more, or download a copy of this leaflet, then please visit [wheatleyurc.org.uk/taize2023/](http://wheatleyurc.org.uk/taize2023/)

 **DIOCESE of  
OXFORD**

 **The  
United  
Reformed  
Church  
Wheatley &  
Wessex Synod**

 **Taizé**

**Pilgrimage for  
young adults**

**13 - 20 August 2023**

## Age 16 – 25?

This summer travel to Taizé in France with young adults from across the URC and the Diocese of Oxford and join thousands of others from around the world in community, worship and prayer.

Taizé in France is an extraordinary place – quite different from anywhere else. It combines a religious monastery with the feel of a huge youth camp! Young adults from many different backgrounds and denominations travel to Taizé for a unique Christian experience of openness, solidarity and encounter.

You'll experience a wonderful sense of freedom, prayer and community. There's nothing compulsory about Taizé, but it's not a holiday resort.

## What's it like?



Meetings at Taizé are about searching, listening to God and to each other and thinking about what it means to be human. Together we discover how we can act to bring justice, peace and hope to our world.

You'll camp, eat out of plastic bowls, stay up late and spend amazing amounts of time singing and talking and sharing.

No one who has been to Taizé comes back unchanged. So why not join this pilgrimage and see what there is to discover?

**You are precious in God's sight, honoured, and He loves you**

## In community

There is space to meet with others and space to discover how to be on your own too. Three times a day you'll gather with the Taizé community in the church for prayer with singing, Bible reading and silence.

The brothers of the community introduce daily biblical reflections organised by age and language groups, followed by a time of discussion in small groups. Each afternoon workshops explore themes of faith and life touching on art and culture, social justice, environment and world peace. Every day your group will be responsible for a work task.



## Oyak

'Oyak' is the community area at Taizé and the location for a great time of socialising each evening with refreshments, singing, dancing and much more. If that's not your thing, then the church is always open for quiet time and reflection.

The pilgrimage to Taizé is a unique opportunity to experience life as part of an ecumenical Christian faith community.