



Pilgrimages & Events 2023



The Friars

Aylesford Kent ME20 7BX

Tel: 01622 717272

e-mail: pilgrim@thefriars.org.uk website: www.thefriars.org.uk

THE FRIARS, AYLESFORD

A meeting place and centre of Christian spirituality
with a Carmelite community at its heart;
a space where people of all ages and all faiths, or none,
will find a welcome, where the sacred is expressed through
prayer, the arts and nature.

Be still and know that I am God (Ps. 46:10)

The Carmelites first arrived at Aylesford in 1242 from Mount Carmel in the Holy Land, remaining here until 1538 - the time of the Dissolution of the Monasteries. The Carmelites returned to their ancient home in 1949. Aylesford has been a place of pilgrimage ever since. The Shrine is dedicated to the Glorious Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Simon Stock.

REGULAR SERVICES AT THE FRIARS

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|-------------|-----------|------------|
| Mass | Sunday | 10.15 am |
| | Mon - Sat | 12.00 noon |

Sacramental Confession*

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| Monday-Saturday | 10.30 am - 11.30 am 2.30 pm - 4.00 pm |
| Sun | 2.30 pm - 4.00 pm |

*Please call at Reception. Subject to the availability of friars. There are no Confessions when Mass is taking place.

Very occasionally times and services may change - please ring or check website

Each Sunday (except for the third Sunday of the month) the Syro-Malabar Community celebrate Mass at the Friars. The Mass is said in *Malayalam* using the *Syro-Malabar Rite*.

Retreats at The Friars By prior arrangement a friar may be available for a private guided retreat. Email: prior@thefriars.org.uk

Pilgrims Newsletter - Aylesford Sent quarterly on request by post or email. Email: newsletter@thefriars.org.uk or available on the website.

Cover picture: Marian Procession at the Syro-Malabar Pilgrimage.

JANUARY

- Sun 1 **MARY MOTHER OF GOD**, 10.15 am Mass
- Fri 6 **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**, 12 noon Mass
- Sun 15 **AYLESFORD FARMERS' MARKET**, 9.30 am – 1.30 pm

FEBRUARY

- Sun 20 **AYLESFORD FARMERS' MARKET**, 9.30 am – 1.30 pm
- Wed 22 **ASH WEDNESDAY**, 12 noon Mass

MARCH

- Fri 17 Feast of St Patrick, 12 noon Mass
- Mon 20 Solemnity of St Joseph, 12 noon Mass
- Sat 25 Solemnity of the **ANNUNCIATION**, Mass at 12 noon
- Sun 19 **AYLESFORD FARMERS' MARKET**, 9.30 am – 1.30 pm

APRIL

- Sun 2 **PALM SUNDAY**, 10.15 am Mass
- CATHOLIC TAMILS PILGRIMAGE**, 11.15 am Mass, 2.30 pm Way of the Cross, 3.30 pm Benediction

- Thurs 6 **MAUNDY THURSDAY**
8.00 pm **Mass of the Lord's Supper**
- Fri 7 **GOOD FRIDAY**
3.00 pm **Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord**
8.00 pm Prayer at the Cross
- Sat 8 **HOLY SATURDAY**
9.00 pm **Easter Vigil**
- Sun 9 **EASTER SUNDAY**
10.15 am **Mass**
12 noon **Mass**

- Sat 15 **DIVINE MERCY PILGRIMAGE**, 12 noon Mass
2.15 pm Adoration and Divine Mercy Devotions
- Sun 16 **AYLESFORD FARMERS' MARKET**, 9.30 am – 1.30 pm
- Sun 23 **ALL FORD CAR SHOW**, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm
- Sat 29 **COMMISSIONING DAY FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
OF HOLY COMMUNION**, 2.30 pm Mass and Commissioning
MAY
- Mon 1 **ALTAR SERVERS' PILGRIMAGE**, 10.00 am Registrations,
11.30 am Mass
- Sat 6 **CORONATION DAY**, Mass at 9:15 am. No Mass at 12 noon
- Sat 13 **LEGION OF MARY PILGRIMAGE**, 12.00 noon Mass,
3.00 pm Rosary 3.30 pm Benediction
- Sun 14 **MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY & CO-WORKERS
PILGRIMAGE**, 12 noon Mass
- Sat 20 **SOUTHWARK UCM PILGRIMAGE**, 11.30 am Mass,
2.00 pm Rosary Procession and Benediction
- Tue 16 **FEAST OF ST SIMON STOCK**, 12 noon Mass
- Thurs 18 **ASCENSION DAY**, 12 noon Mass
- Sun 21 **AYLESFORD FARMERS' MARKET**, 9.30 am – 1.30 pm
- Sat 27 **NATIONAL SYRO-MALABAR PILGRIMAGE**, 12 noon Rosary
1.00 pm Mass, Mar Joseph Srampickal (Bishop) Eparchy of Great
Britain presiding. 3.00 pm St Alphonsa procession
- Sun 28 **PENTECOST SUNDAY**, 12 noon Mass
JUNE
- Sun 4 **MOST HOLY TRINITY**, 10.15 am Mass
ITALIAN PILGRIMAGE, 12 noon Mass
- Thurs 8 **SOUTHWARK EDUCATION COMMITTEE AND MISSION
TOGETHER**
- Fri 9 **WOODTURNERS' EXHIBITION** until 19th June

- Sun 11 **TAMILS' CORPUS CHRISTI PILGRIMAGE**, 12 noon Mass
- Sat 17 **FATHERS' DAY REMEMBRANCE SERVICE**, 2.30 pm
- Sun 18 **KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA PILGRIMAGE**, 12 noon Mass
- AYLESFORD FARMERS' MARKET** 9.30 am – 1.30 pm

Sun 25 **FRIARS' SUMMER FAYRE**

11.00 am—4.30 pm
 Entertainment, music, games, refreshments and craft stalls.
 Admission fee
5.00 pm Mass (No 10.15 am Mass)

JULY

- Sun 2 **PILGRIMAGE FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITIES**, 4.00 pm Mass

Sun 16 **OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PILGRIMAGE**
No 10.15 am Mass today

11.30 am Mass with Third Order Professions & Renewal
 of Promises, Fr Brendan Grady O. Carm., Prior
 Provincial presiding

3.00 pm Rosary Procession, Exposition & Benediction followed
 by Scapular Enrolment

- Sun 9 **KIT CUSTOM & AMERICAN CAR SHOW**

- Sun 16 AYLESFORD FARMERS' MARKET**, 9.30 am – 1.30 pm

- Thurs 27 **SUNBEAM ALPINE OWNERS' RALLY** until 30th July

- Sun 30 **CARIBBEAN PILGRIMAGE**, 12 noon Mass

AUGUST

- Sun 6 **TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**, 10.15 am Mass

VINTAGE MOTORCYCLE RALLY - PUBLIC DAY

- Sun 13 **PILGRIMAGE OF THE SICK with the Society of Our Lady of Lourdes**, **No 10.15 am Mass**, 11.30 am Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick, 3.00 pm Rosary Procession, blessing of the sick with Benediction followed by Scapular enrolment.

Archbishop Kevin McDonald presiding.

Sun 20 **CATHOLIC TAMILS' MARIAN PILGRIMAGE**, celebrating
Our Lady of Madhu, 12 noon Mass

AYLESFORD FARMERS' MARKET, 9.30 am – 1.30 pm

Sun 27 **KERALA CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY PILGRIMAGE**,
12 noon Mass, 2.30 pm Rosary Procession,
3.30 pm Benediction

Mon 28 **DIVINE MERCY PILGRIMAGE**, 10.30 am—4.30pm with Divine
Bank Holiday Mercy Devotions, Adoration, 12 noon Mass, Veneration of
Merciful Jesus Image and Relics of St Faustina

SEPTEMBER

Sun 3 **POLISH NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE**, 12 noon Angelus,
1.00 pm Mass, 4.00 pm Rosary and Procession and
Benediction

Sun 10 **KENT CLASSIC CAR SHOW**, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Sun 17 **POLISH SCOUTS & GUIDES PILGRIMAGE**, 11.30 am Rosary,
12 noon Mass. Activities and campfire singing
AYLESFORD FARMERS' MARKET, 9.30 am – 1.30 pm

Sun 24 **GOAN PILGRIMAGE**, 10.00 am Confessions, 11.00 am Rosary,
12.30 pm Mass

OCTOBER

Sun 1 **LITTLE FLOWER SOCIETY ST THERESE PILGRIMAGE**,
12 noon Gathering Service, 2.15 pm Roses Blessing, 3.00pm Mass

Sun 8 **FILIPINO MARIAN PILGRIMAGE**, 1.30 pm Rosary, 2.00 pm Mass

Sun 15 **AYLESFORD FARMERS' MARKET**, 9.30 am – 1.30 pm

NOVEMBER

Wed 1 **ALL SAINTS**, Mass 12 noon

Thurs 2 **ALL SOULS**, Mass 12 noon

Fri 3 **WOODTURNERS' WINTER EXHIBITION** until 20th Nov.

Sun 19 **AYLESFORD FARMERS' MARKET**, 9.30 am – 1.30 pm

DECEMBER

Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd December

THE FRIARS' CHRISTMAS FAYRE

10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Seasonal entertainment, craft and gift stalls. Entry charge

Sat 2nd Vigil Mass at 4.15 pm (No 12 noon Mass)

Sun 3rd Mass at 4.15 pm (No 10.15 am Mass)

Fri 8 **ECUMENICAL ADVENT SERVICE**, 8.00 pm

Sun 10 **LIGHT UP A LIFE**, Heart of Kent Hospice Service, 4.30 pm

Fri 15 **CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT CONCERT**, 7.15 pm
with Medway Concert Brass Band. (Admission fee)

Sun 17 **AYLESFORD FARMERS' MARKET**, 9.30 am – 1.30 pm

Sun 24 **CHRISTMAS EVE**, 9.00 pm First Mass of Christmas

Mon 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY**, 10.15 am Mass

Sun 31 **THE HOLY FAMILY**, 10.15 am Mass

The Carmelite Family

We seek to follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ through prayer, community and service. With Mary and the Prophet Elijah as our models we work in a variety of ministries, pointing to the presence of God.

For information about **becoming a friar**, email: vocations@carmelite.org

For information about **becoming a Lay Carmelite**, see www.laycarmel.org

Prayer requests

Please contact the Prior at: prior@thefriars.org.uk

Spiritual Directors' Training Course in accompaniment. For details email: tpsdayerlesford@gmail.com

Pilgrimages, Day Trips and Tours.

Why not organise a day trip (weekends and weekdays) or tour (weekdays only) to Aylesford for your parish or group? Apply to *The Shrine Secretary*. Email: alan.ashfield@thefriars.org.uk

Guesthouse Accommodation

Accommodation available for individuals and groups seeking peace and quiet. Apply to *Reception*. Email: reception@thefriars.org.uk

Conferences

The Friars has a variety of conference rooms for groups large and small. For all enquiries apply to the Hospitality department.
Email: karen.stevens@thefriars.org.uk

Giftshop and Tearoom

Opening Hours:

May-October Monday - Sunday 10.00 am - 5.00 pm

November-April Monday - Sunday 10.00 am - 3.30 pm

HOW TO REACH AYLESFORD IN KENT

Aylesford (The Friars) is just over 30 miles from London and is easily reached by road or train.

BRITISH RAIL: London (Victoria) to Maidstone East, (or Barming—closer but infrequent) then Taxi to The Friars OR London (Charing Cross) to Aylesford (change at Strood), then 20 minute walk via Aylesford Village (turn left on leaving the station).

TRAVEL INFORMATION

British Rail 08457 484950

ROAD:

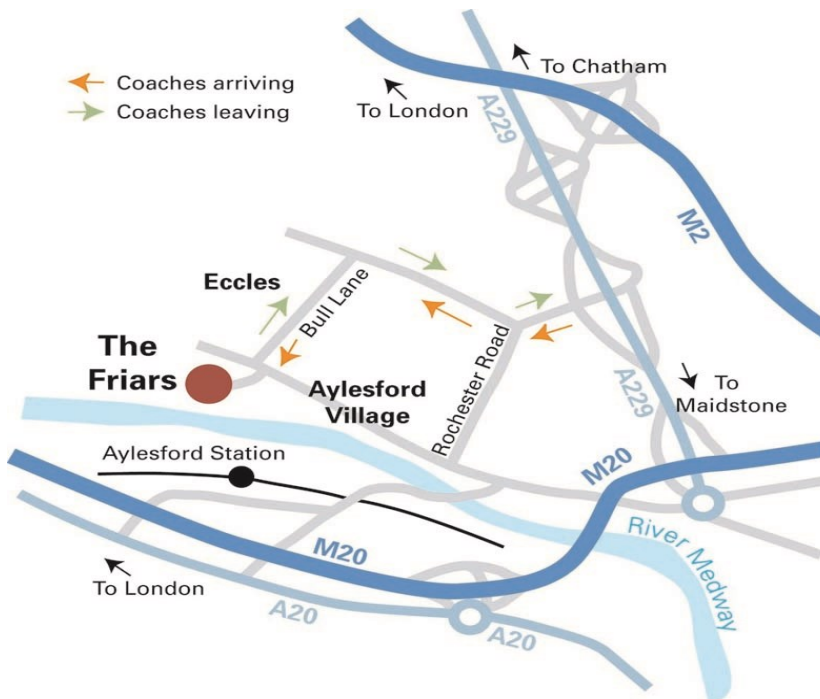
(1) **A2/M2:**

Exit A229 for Maidstone (Junction 3) then follow signs for The Friars,

(2) **M20:**

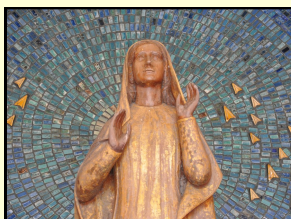
Exit A229 (Junction 6) then follow signs for The Friars.

COACHES: must approach and leave via ECCLES and NOT via AYLESFORD VILLAGE. Coach drivers should use ME20 7BY for Sat Nav



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The Friars, Aylesford is home to a community of Carmelite Friars. Coming originally from Mount Carmel in the Holy Land in 1242, their lives are characterised by a spirit of prayer, community and service. They seek to follow in the footsteps of Christ, inspired by the courage and compassion of the prophet Elijah and the trusting confidence of Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

The unique atmosphere of Aylesford Priory has become for many *a touch of peace in the heart of Kent*. With our spacious grounds, shrine to Our Lady, historic buildings, conference centre and guesthouse we welcome thousands of visitors each year.

Our newsletter serves to unite visitors and friends of The Friars. To receive your free copy, call 01622 717272.

The Carmelite Community prays with gratitude for all of its benefactors at its daily Community Mass.