Event Itinerary

Pilgrimage to St Magnus Kirk, Birsay 08:45 – 14.30

It would be helpful if you intend to go on this pilgrimage that you register at the Information Desk at Our Lady and St Joseph's Church, Junction Road, Kirkwall between 10:00 and 18:00 on Friday 28th July.

The full St Magnus Way is 55 miles, and so only part will be undertaken! The first part of the walk is about 4 miles on grass, and the second part is about a mile, mainly on road.

Birsay is where St Magnus's body was first buried. Buses will pick up from the Birsay Community Hall to bring pilgrims back to Kirkwall. Please note, there is no parking at the Costa end of this pilgrimage, nor in Birsay village. The itinerary is as follows:

08:45 – Gather for hired buses in Old Bus Station, opposite Lidl (Pickaquoy Road/Great Western Road), Kirkwall

09:00 - Hired buses leaves Kirkwall for Costa

09:45 - Commence walk to Birsay

12:00 – Ecumenical Service at St Magnus Kirk, Birsay

12:30 – Leave Birsay for remaining walk to Birsay Community Hall (soup and rolls available)

13:30 – Gather in car park at Birsay Community Hall

13:45 – Hired buses leave Birsay Community Hall for Kirkwall

14:30 – Hired buses arrive at Old Bus Station, opposite Lidl (Pickaguoy Road/Great Western Road), Kirkwall



Saint Magnus Cathedral Steve keiretsu

Event Itinerary

SUNDAY 30TH JULY 14:30 - 16:30

The main event of the weekend is a Mass in St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall at 2.30pm. The Aberdeen Diocesan Choir will be led by Elizabeth Meiklejohn and accompanied by the Orkney County Organist, Heather Rendall. The Master of Ceremonies will be George Brand.

Useful websites

Aberdeen Diocese: www.rcda.scot

Orkney Parish website:

www.catholicchurchorkney.org.uk

Orkney tourism website: www.visitorkney.com Magnus 900 website: www.magnus900.co.uk

We would like to extend a very warm invitation to everyone who may be staying in Orkney at this time to attend any of the events listed apart from our pilgrimage to Egilsay which is fully booked.

A Pilgrimage Prayer

Be thou a bright flame before me, Be thou a guiding star above me, Be thou a smooth path below me, Be thou a kindly shepherd behind me, Today, tonight and forever.

(St Columba)



RC Diocese of Aberdeen Charitable Trust. A registered Scottish Charity Number SC005122



2

Event Itinerary

Gilbert OSB

Dear Pilgrims,

Welcome to the Orkney Islands, a jewel in the crown of our diocese of Aberdeen! Welcome to these days of pilgrimage in honour of St Magnus, Earl of Orkney! Orkney, with its kindly creative folk, is rich in history and prehistory, landscape and seascape, poetry and music. Our Church is also blessed with a culture of sanctity. We believe that the Body of Christ is not confined to the present, and that the holy men and women of the past are still our companions today and help us live lives that will be fruitful for the future.

Welcome from Bishop Hugh

In this 2017. Orkney is celebrating the 900th anniversary of its martyr for peace, Earl Magnus, a layman, a Norseman, a key figure in the Christianisation of the northern edges of Europe. The diocese of Aberdeen and the Catholic Church in Scotland wants to mark this anniversary too, and chose this weekend of 28 to 30 July. The events planned are outlined in this leaflet, with other necessary practical details. The climax will be Mass in the beautiful Cathedral of St Magnus in Kirkwall, at 2.30 on the afternoon of Sunday 30th. I am touched that so many of my fellow-bishops in Scotland are taking part, along with the bishops of Copenhagen. Oslo and an auxiliary bishop from Westminster. Our celebrations have met with the warm support of the Orkney Island Council, the Cathedral of St Magnus and other groups and churches. At a time when there is often a deadly deficit of peace and reconciliation this Pilgrimage will be a moment to celebrate and revive those very values, and to grow in our appreciation of the decisive and continuing Christian contribution to our culture. May this pilgrimage be a time of grace, prayer and solidarity for us all! St Magnus, pray for us!"

+ Hugh Gilbert OSB, Bishop of Aberdeen

FRIDAY 28TH JULY

6.30pm

A series of 30 min talks on the theme, Introducing St Magnus: Past and Present, in the St Magnus Centre, with an interval for tea and coffee. The talks will be preceded by a short film about St Magnus. Limited parking includes some designated 'disabled' spaces.

Dr Ben Whitworth - *Celebrating St Magnus in music*. Dr Alison Gray - *A Light Still Burns*. Fran Flett-Hollinrake - *The history of St Magnus Cathedral*.

Rev. Fraser Macnaughton (Orkney Pilgrimage Group) - *The St Magnus Way*.

Dr Ben Whitworth has done much research on St Magnus and has lectured on these topics. Fran Flett-Hollinrake is the Custodian of St Magnus Cathedral. Alison Gray is the author of *George Mackay Brown: No Separation*. George Mackay Brown wrote the book *Magnus* on which Peter Maxwell Davies based his opera *The Martyrdom of St Magnus*. The Orkney Pilgrimage Group has been instrumental in developing a new pilgrimage route, the St Magnus Way, which was inaugurated this year and covers 55 miles, following the probable route of St Magnus's bones to the Cathedral.

SATURDAY 29TH JULY

There are two events and pilgrims can choose which to attend. At the end of the day, there will be a Vigil Mass at 6pm at Our Lady and St Joseph's church, Kirkwall.

Pilgrimage to Egilsay 07:30 – 15:10

For those who have booked Egilsay Ferry Tickets, these can be collected at the Information Desk at Our Lady & St Joseph's Church between 10:00am and 6.00pm on Friday 28th July.

If you intend to travel by car to Tingwall please make sure you arrive before 08.15 (This only applies to those who have already booked via the Diocesan website)
Pilgrimage to Egilsay will include transport from Kirkwall,
Mass at St Magnus Church and Junch on Egilsay.

St Magnus was martyred on April 16th on the island of Egilsay. Although now ruined, the church of St Magnus on Egilsay is a place of pilgrimage. It is a 12th century round-towered Viking church. An itinerary follows:

Event Itinerary

07:30 – Gather for buses in Old Bus Station, opposite Lidl (Pickaguoy Road/Great Western Road), Kirkwall

07:45 – Hired buses leave Kirkwall for Tingwall

08:15 – Arrive Tingwall (Orkney Ferries want us to gather at this time)

08:40 – Ferry leaves Tingwall for Egilsay

09:25 - Ferry arrives at Egilsay, walk to St Magnus Kirk

10:00 – Service in St Magnus Kirk and free time

12:00 – Lunch in the Egilsay Community Hall

13:15 – Arrive at pier to catch ferry (Orkney Ferries want us to gather at this time)

13:35 – Ferry leaves Egilsay

14:30 – Ferry arrives Tingwall

14:40 – Hired buses leave Tingwall for Kirkwall

15:10 – Hired buses arrive at Old Bus Station, opposite Lidl. Kirkwall

The Saint Magnus Way

