

# Templar Pilgrimage Trust



courtesy caminodocumentary.org

## A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER

We will all look back on 2020 as an extraordinary year. Like many other organisations, we found it different from what we had expected and unlike any previous year.

Despite these differences and resulting changes, 2020 did not affect our ability to continue helping pilgrims.

The year began with a high number of applications. By the end of February there were more than in the whole of 2019.

A month later, pilgrimages were being postponed and pilgrimage sites closed to safeguard public health. Many pilgrims decided not to travel at all.

Some pilgrims whose pilgrimages had been postponed retained their grants for travel later in 2020 or in 2021.

Altogether during 2020, we made 12 grants amounting to £4,550, which was less than in 2019, a year that had seen historically high numbers.



We have no paid staff and no office to run. Trustees are not paid and do not claim expenses. We keep expenses to a minimum.

Apart from insurance premium and website maintenance costs (together less than £400 a year) all donations are used to give grants to pilgrims, helping them to travel.

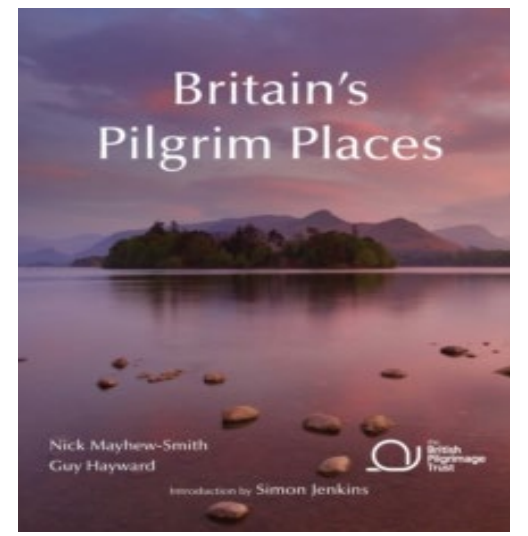
If you can, please donate using [this link to our website](#).

Thank you.

## BRITAIN'S PILGRIM PLACES

With overseas travel restricted because of COVID, there has been more interest in pilgrimage to places in Britain. The British Pilgrimage Trust has published a book focusing on British pilgrim places and routes. Places such as Canterbury, Lindisfarne and Walsingham, all visited by pilgrims we have helped, are among the hundreds of sites mentioned. There is a wealth of maps and pictures.

The Introduction to '*Britain's Pilgrim Places*' comments on the continuing appeal of pilgrimage, which is a sign there will be more pilgrims needing our help to travel.



For centuries, people have been drawn to and interested in pilgrimage. In *The Canterbury Tales*, Chaucer explained that *For in their hearts doth Nature stir them so Then people long on pilgrimage to go.*

That stirring and that longing to go on pilgrimage continue, even while travel is restricted because of the pandemic.

Whenever restrictions are lifted and pilgrimages restart, we will be ready to help make pilgrims' journeys possible. If you do not currently support the Trust and are able to do so to, **please donate** to help us to help them.

May God the Father who created you, guide your footsteps,  
May God the Son who redeemed you, share your journey,  
May God the Holy Spirit who sanctifies you, lead you on life's pilgrimage, and  
May the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you wherever you may go.  
Amen.

From 'Pilgrimage Prayers' by Jenny Child

## Facebook Page

Having launched a new website in 2020, this year we have been working on our **Facebook page**, which includes clips, news items, prayers and photos pilgrims have sent to us, as well as copies of this Newsletter.

Visit the **Facebook page**. We hope you will like it and share our posts.



**The Templar Pilgrimage Trust**  
@templarpilgrimustrust