

# OXFORD DIOCESE PILGRIMAGE MAP

**PILGRIM GOD**, you are our origin and our destination. Travel with us, we pray, in every pilgrimage of faith, and every journey of the heart. Give us the courage to set off, the nourishment we need to travel well, and the welcome we long for at our journey's end. So may we grow in grace and love for you and in the service of others. through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.  
+ **John Pritchard, Bishop of Oxford**



South Newington  
*Exceptional medieval wall paintings*



St Michael, Stanton Harcourt  
*Shrine of St Edburg*



St Margaret, Binsey  
*Alice in Wonderland's treacle well*



St Swithun, Compton Beauchamp  
*Unique 20th century furnishings*



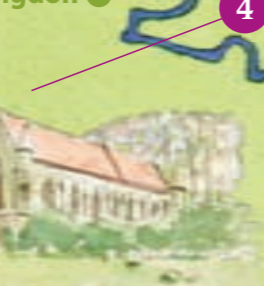
St Mary the Virgin, Speen  
*Medieval pilgrimage to the Lady Well*



St Thomas of Canterbury, Goring  
*Site of an ancient priory*

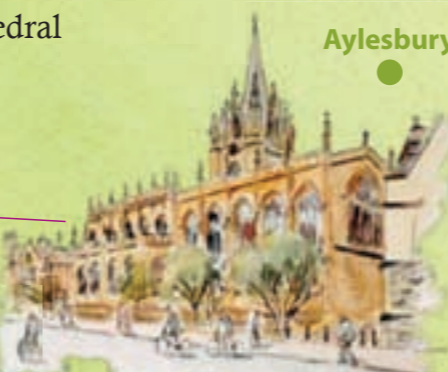


Dorchester Abbey  
*Ancient abbey church*



University Church, Oxford  
*Spiritual heart of ancient university*

Christ Church Cathedral  
*Shrine of St Frideswide*



Holy Trinity, Cookham  
*Stanley Spencer*



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, North Marston  
*Shrine of John Schorne*



St Mary the Virgin, Drayton Beauchamp  
*Richard Hooker's church*



St Giles, Stoke Poges  
*Gray's 'Elegy'*



St Michael & St Mary Magdalene, Easthampstead  
*Windows by Morris and Burne-Jones*



### 1 ST PETER AD VINCULA, SOUTH NEWINGTON

South Newington parish church is one of only 15 in England dedicated to St Peter ad Vincula (St Peter in chains). Before the dissolution of the monasteries it was under the control of the Benedictine Abbey at Eynsham. It is most famous for its exceptional medieval wall paintings, described by Pevsner as the finest in Oxfordshire. The paintings were hidden under whitewash for many centuries and only revealed in 1893.

<http://bit.ly/southnewington>

**Exceptional medieval wall paintings**

OX15 4JF



### 5 ST SWITHUN, COMPTON BEAUCHAMP

There was a church at Compton Beauchamp in Norman times. The only definite trace left seems to be the fragment of the Norman font in the South transept. The present building dates from the 13th century; the North transept and South wall of the nave are 14th century. The Porch is 15th century. The Patron Saint is St Swithun. The special significance of this church is its 20th century unique collection of Martin Travers' furnishings.

<http://bit.ly/stswithun>

**Unique 20th century furnishings**

SN6 8NP



### 8 ST MICHAEL & ST MARY MAGDALENE, EASTHAMPSTEAD

St Michael and St Mary Magdalene, Easthampstead is a holy place with treasures from every age. In 635 St Birinus baptised King Cyngils here before moving to Dorchester. From the stone church of c1160 many furnishings survive. Rebuilt 1865-7, the present church is an impressive monument to the Arts and Crafts and Pre-Raphaelite movements, with windows by Morris and Burne-Jones.

[www.stmichaelsesthampstead.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelsesthampstead.org.uk)

**Windows by Morris and Burne-Jones**

RG12 7ER



### 12 ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, NORTH MARSTON

North Marston was once the destination for hundreds of pilgrims who came to worship at the shrine of a former rector, John Schorne, and to sample curative water from his Holy Well. Four hundred years later, and as a token of gratitude following a bequest from a local land-owner, Queen Victoria commissioned a refurbishment of the church's chancel, including a new, ornate east window.

[www.northmarston.org/church](http://www.northmarston.org/church)

**Shrine of John Schorne**

MK18 3PH



### 2 ST MICHAEL, STANTON HARCOURT

Stanton Harcourt, mentioned in the Domesday Book, lies in a bend of the River Thames. It is thought to have been built in 1130 by Queen Adeliza, the second wife of Henry I, who owned the Manor. The church is famous for the shrine of the Anglo-Saxon female St Edburg, rescued from Bicester Priory during the Dissolution of the Monasteries. The Perpendicular Harcourt Chapel contains the monuments of the Harcourt family.

<http://bit.ly/stantonharcourt>

**Shrine of St Edburg**

OX29 5RJ



### 6 ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SPEEN

St Mary the Virgin, Speen is the oldest church in the Newbury area. Modern visitors follow in the footsteps of medieval pilgrims as they walk between the church and the Lady Well, a holy well whose origins are now lost in time. Despite being threatened with closure in recent years, the church is now growing in strength and breadth.

[www.st-mary-speen.org](http://www.st-mary-speen.org)

**Medieval pilgrimage to the Lady Well**

RG14 1SA



### 9 ST GILES, STOKE POGES

There has been a church at Stoke Poges since Saxon times. The church today is mainly Norman, with an Elizabethan side chapel integrated by the Victorians. The church is important because of its links with the poet Thomas Gray (1716-1771), who wrote his 'Elegy written in a Country Churchyard' here and is buried in the churchyard. Another memorial to Gray stands in the adjacent meadow owned by the National Trust.

[www.stokepogeschurch.org](http://www.stokepogeschurch.org)

**Thomas Gray's 'Elegy'**

SL2 4NZ



### 13 ST PETER & ST PAUL, OLNEY

Olney is a picturesque town with a rich history, and famous for three men in particular. John Newton, the reformed slave trader and abolitionist, was curate of this church. Another curate, Thomas Scott, was a founder member of the Church Missionary Society. And Henry John Gauntlet, who composed the melody of Once in Royal David's City and is known as the father of English church music, played the organ here.

[www.olneyparish.org.uk](http://www.olneyparish.org.uk)

**John Newton and 'Amazing Grace'**

MK46 4AD



### 3 ST MARGARET, BINSEY

St Margaret's Binsey (whose foundations are Norman) is built on the site of a monastic convent founded by St Frideswide in the late seventh century. In the churchyard you can find the 'treacle well' where St Frideswide cured the sick. This was a place of pilgrimage throughout the late middle ages for people seeking cure for their ailments. The treacle well was made famous in modern times by its appearance in Alice in Wonderland.

[www.friendsofbinsey.com](http://www.friendsofbinsey.com)

**Alice in Wonderland's treacle well**

OX2 0NG



### 7 ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, GORING

St Thomas of Canterbury is in the heart of Goring, close to the River Thames. The church was built in the 11th century and was once surrounded on three sides by a substantial nun's priory. Various additions have been made over the years. In 2008/9, the church was refurbished and extended to make the building accessible and versatile, fit for worship and for serving the wider community in the 21st century.

[www.st-thomas-goring.org.uk](http://www.st-thomas-goring.org.uk)

**Site of an ancient priory**

RG8 9DS



### 10 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, COOKHAM

Holy Trinity Church, Cookham lies next to the Thames. Its tower rises above the trees and welcomes travellers, crossing Cookham Bridge from Bourne End, to a village which provided a source of inspiration to our local artist, Sir Stanley Spencer (1891-1959), and is beloved by those who live here now.

[www.holytrinitycookham.org.uk](http://www.holytrinitycookham.org.uk)

**Stanley Spencer**

SL6 9SP



### 14 CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

Christ Church, the mother church of the diocese, is one of the smallest but most beautiful English Cathedrals. Built in the 12th century on the site of a medieval monastery, it is unique in the Church of England in that it is both a Cathedral and a College chapel. The St Frideswide Shrine was a major medieval pilgrimage site. Today in term-time you can enjoy daily choral services sung by the Cathedral Choir.

[www.chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral](http://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral)

**St Frideswide shrine**

OX1 1DP



### 4 DORCHESTER ABBEY


The numinous atmosphere of Dorchester Abbey has been honed and held over centuries in paintings, carvings and glass, and affirmed through prayer. These are enjoyed by all who enter our sacred space. Those who linger experience the vibrancy of worship and welcome generated by the congregation through music, liturgy and action. Here is a place of beauty to encourage discipleship and support all who seek meaning in life.

[www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk](http://www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk)

**Ancient abbey church**

OX10 7HZ

## OXFORD DIOCESE PILGRIMAGE MAP



"People have always gone on journeys to enrich their spiritual lives. The desire seems deeply ingrained in human nature. Pilgrimages nurture and sustain our inner life, our 'sacred centre'. I hope you'll use this map to help you find your way to a handful of the many wonderful sacred places within our diocese."

John Pritchard,  
Bishop of Oxford

OXFORD DIOCESE OF OXFORD



### 11 ST MARY THE VIRGIN, DRAYTON BEAUCHAMP

St Mary's, a picturesque church in a field, is a living, worshipping community embracing its rich history. Retrace the early career of Richard Hooker, Rector here in the 16th century, and see fine medieval craftsmanship in the font, the Credo East window and the brass memorials. Other features include the Cheyne monument, an 18th century memorial in marble with life-size figures, and the angel pulpit.

[www.s-marys.org.uk](http://www.s-marys.org.uk)

**Richard Hooker's church**

HP22 5LU



### 15 UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN

Standing in the very centre of Oxford, the University Church of St Mary the Virgin is the spiritual heart of the oldest university in Britain, and has been the focus of Christian worship and of debates about religion, politics, and morality for over 700 years.

[www.university-church.ox.ac.uk](http://www.university-church.ox.ac.uk)

**Spiritual heart of ancient university**

OX1 4BJ