

The Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham

# 2024 Ordinariate Scotland Pilgrimage and Conference

Friday 5th to Monday 8th April

## Remembering Pope Benedict XVI and *Anglicanorum coetibus*



at Pluscarden Abbey near Elgin

[www.ordinariate.scot/pluscarden](http://www.ordinariate.scot/pluscarden)

# Ordinariate Scotland Pilgrimage and Conference

## Remembering Pope Benedict XVI and *Anglicanorum coetibus*

We are delighted once again to have our annual Ordinariate Scotland Pilgrimage and Conference at **Pluscarden Abbey** and are most grateful to **Abbot Anselm Atkinson** and the community for making this possible.

Standing in the Glen of the Black Burn, six miles southwest of Elgin, it was founded in 1230 by Alexander II for the Valliscaulian Order. In 1454 Pluscarden Priory became a Benedictine House. The Scottish Reformation saw its decline and by 1680 it was in a ruinous condition. Some work took place in the late 19th cent but restoration began in 1948 with the arrival of monks from Prinknash Abbey in Gloucestershire. In 1966 the Priory received its independence and in 1974 was elevated to an Abbey. Today it is home to a thriving Benedictine community living in the only medieval British monastery still being used for its original purpose.

There is an important link between Pluscarden and the Ordinariate in that the community can trace its roots back to an Anglican community of monks on Caldey Island off the south coast of Wales who in 1913 were received into the Catholic Church as a group, the forerunners of the Ordinariates.

The theme of our Pilgrimage and Conference this year is: **Remembering Pope Benedict XVI and *Anglicanorum coetibus***, just over a year on from his death on 31st December 2022 at the age of 95. The **Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham** in Great Britain was established by Benedict XVI when he published the **Apostolic Constitution *Anglicanorum coetibus*** (meaning “*Groups of Anglicans*”) in November 2009.

Reflecting on the life and legacy of Pope Benedict XVI, **Mgr Michael Nazir-Ali**, formerly the Anglican bishop of Rochester, now an Ordinariate priest, has said that the birth of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham was a “*prophetic step to take*” because it provided those involved in ecumenical dialogue with “*a concrete example of what unity could look like*”.

Over three days we will be reflecting on **Pope Benedict XVI** and his great vision in creating the Ordinariates. **Fr Benedict Joseph OSB** will reflect on *The Writings of Benedict XVI* and **Fr Benedict OSB** on *Benedict XVI: The Spirit of the Liturgy*. On Saturday evening **David Chapman** will speak on *My Journey with Our Lady of Walsingham*, who has been so important to him in his journey of faith.

On Saturday we will visit nearby **Birnie Kirk** for **Holy Mass** in the ancient church, built no later than 1140 and where Christian worship has continued uninterrupted for almost 900 years. Closed by the Church of Scotland in November 2023 it now echoes to regular Ordinariate worship through the **St Margaret Declaration**.

Morning and Evening Prayer, our Talks and Meals will be in St Scholastica’s Guest House - ***Day Visitors welcome*** - plenty of comfortable chairs, and tea, coffee, etc, will be available at all times. The cost of our weekend is kept low because all our meals will be prepared by our own ***In-house Team***. The custom of the Abbey is not to charge guests, but those who are able to make a donation for accommodation, will have the opportunity to do so, and it will, of course, be gratefully received.

# 2024 Ordinariate Scotland Pilgrimage and Conference

## Remembering Pope Benedict XVI and *Anglicanorum coetibus*

### Friday 5th April - Easter Friday *(all events are in St Scholastica's Retreat House unless otherwise stated)*

- 3pm onwards Arrive and check in at St Scholastica's Guest House
- 4.30pm **Welcome** - Fr Len Black and Mgr Keith Newton  
followed by a **Guided Tour of Pluscarden Abbey** led by Bryan Miller
- 6pm **Evening Prayer**
- 6.45pm *Pre-dinner refreshments*
- 7.15pm **Dinner**
- 8.30pm **Talk 1: Remembering Pope Benedict XVI and *Anglicanorum coetibus*** - Fr Len and Mgr Keith
- 10.30pm **Compline** - *followed by: period of Silence begins*

### Saturday 6th April - Easter Saturday

- 8-9am Breakfast *(in silence)*
- 9.30am **Morning Prayer** *(silence ends)*
- 10.30am **Talk 2: The Writings of Benedict XVI** - Fr Benedict Joseph OSB
- 11.30am Leave for **Birnie Kirk** *(by cars - 5 mins.)*, the nearby ancient church, built no later than 1140 and where Christian worship has continued uninterrupted for almost 900 years which now echoes to regular Ordinariate worship.
- 12 noon **Holy Mass** *(in Birnie Kirk)* followed by signing of the **St Margaret Declaration** between the Ordinariate and Birnie
- 1pm Lunch *(in Birnie Kirk Parish Hall)*
- 1.45pm **Benediction** *(in Birnie Kirk)*
- 2pm *Return to Pluscarden Abbey (by cars) for some free time*
- 4.30pm **Talk 3: Benedict XVI: "The Spirit of the Liturgy"** - Fr Benedict OSB
- 6pm **Evening Prayer**
- 6.45pm *Pre-dinner refreshments*
- 7.15pm Dinner
- 8.30pm **Talk 4: My Journey with Our Lady of Walsingham** - David Chapman
- 10.30pm **Compline** - *followed by: period of Silence begins*

### Sunday 7th April - The Second Sunday of Easter

- 8-9am Breakfast *(in silence)*
- 9.30am **Morning Prayer** *(silence ends)*
- 11.45am **Solemn Mass** *(in the main Abbey Chapel)*
- 1pm Lunch . . . *followed by free time*
- 1.30pm *Extended free time to explore the grounds of the Abbey and the hills around*
- 5.30pm Afternoon Tea with Highland shortbread
- 6pm **Evening Prayer**
- 6.45pm *Pre-dinner refreshments*
- 7.15pm Dinner
- 8.30pm **Ordinariate Reports: Whithorn, Edinburgh, Birnie Kirk, Inverness + Open Forum** . . . *and social time*
- 10.30pm **Compline** - *followed by: period of Silence begins*

### Monday 8th April - The Annunciation of the Lord

- 8-9am Breakfast *(silence ends before breakfast)*
- 10am **Conventual Mass** *(with the monks in the Abbey Chapel)*
- 11.30am Coffee and depart

# Booking for the Annual Pilgrimage and Conference

Accommodation is in single rooms each with a wash basin, wardrobe, table and bed. Separate areas provide showers and toilets. Bedding and a towel are provided. Men are accommodated in St Benedict's Guest House next to the Abbey and women in St Scholastica's Guest House. Fr Stanley Bennie's executor gave his two mobility scooters to the Abbey. These will be available throughout the weekend.

**GETTING THERE:** Elgin bus and rail stations are 7 miles from the Abbey and we will arrange to collect you from there. We can also arrange to collect you from Inverness airport. Detailed directions for drivers will be provided.

Our weekend is Full Board: 3 course dinner (with wine) on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (*with vegetarian option*), Breakfast on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, and Lunch on Saturday and Sunday. Tea, Coffee, etc, will be available at all times and there will be a free bar in the evenings serving wines, spirits and alcohol-free drinks.

We have been able to keep the cost of our weekend very low because all meals will be prepared by our own *In-house Team* - Sammy Stewart, Brian Robertson, Bryan Miller - thus avoiding past problems. The custom of the Abbey is not to charge guests, but those who wish may make a donation, which will be gratefully received.

## TOTAL COST:

**Adults: £75 OR Students/under 18s/unemployed: £45**

**A DEPOSIT of £25** (*non-returnable*) is required when booking and the balance is due by 1st April - *a reminder will be sent.*

### DAY VISITORS are most welcome:

**£15** for all or part of the weekend - please book in advance and join us for *any meals* - *there will be no charge.*

**PLACES ARE VERY LIMITED ... SO PLEASE BOOK SOON**

**DEPOSIT PAYMENT** (*for Residents and Day Visitors*) can be made online by Debit/Credit Card **OR** by Bank Transfer ...

*... further information at:* **[www.ordinariate.scot/pluscarden](http://www.ordinariate.scot/pluscarden)**

## BOOKING FORM

**USE THIS FORM ONLY IF PAYING BY CHEQUE**

Name(s): .....

Address: .....

Post Code: ..... Telephone No: .....

Special Requirements (*allergies, etc*): .....

DEPOSIT: £25 per person payable to *Ordinariate Scotland* - send to:

**Ordinariate Scotland, 49 Laurel Avenue, Inverness IV3 5RR**