



# Chapter Leader Guide

## THREE HEARTS PILGRIMAGE

2023 Edition



# The Purpose of a Pilgrimage

WHY A PILGRIMAGE? “We should consider... how we have the opportunity to walk on a pilgrimage of sacrifice as thousands of Catholics from centuries past have done to venerate Our Lord. We would do well to remember that a pilgrimage is not simply a religiously-themed vacation, but a serious endeavor undertaken for a great purpose. What are the specific reasons for making a pilgrimage? Certainly many could be given, but traditionally, there are four: to make atonement for sin, to venerate a particular place or object, to request a significant favor, to give thanks for favors received. A more succinct way of stating these would be: Atonement, Adoration, Petition, and Thanksgiving. The catechized pilgrim will recognize these as the four ends of prayer. A pilgrimage considered thus becomes a prayer we make with our whole being. The faculties of body, mind and soul come together for a common purpose. Every step we take along the way is another act of adoration, another tear shed for sins, another act of gratitude for favors received, another humble request that our petitions be granted. In preparing our intentions for a pilgrimage, we should spend a great deal of time in prayer. We should remember that we are not going to 'impress' God with our efforts, ability, or piety. A pilgrimage is designed to get OUR attention, not God's.

A pilgrimage will not change God's mind; but ours. Taking the time to properly form our intentions, will better dispose us to receive the very favors for which we ask. As a suggested exercise, make an 'Intentions' list with the four headings of Adoration, Atonement, Petition, and Thanksgiving. Under each, try to think of some fitting intentions. Or, simply write down the intentions you have, and fit them under the appropriate headings. One or two intentions in each would certainly suffice, but feel free to have as many as you would like. God is not bound by quantity! Let us pray for each other in the coming months!” – A Chartres Pilgrimage Chaplain, 2019



## What Is A Pilgrimage Chapter?

A “chapter” is a group of pilgrims that walk, pray, and sing together during their trek. This grouping together of pilgrims into sections helps to keep the structure of the walk ordered and safe, and facilitates camaraderie and fellowship among the participants. It also provides a way for friends and family to stay together in a group and find each other easily should they become separated.

### REQUIREMENTS TO FORM A CHAPTER

Chapter Leader

Designated Security  
Leader Minimum of 20  
people\* Chapter Name

Chapter Banner

Chaplain\*\*





## The Purpose of a Pilgrimage

As a **CHAPTER LEADER**, it's important to consider how a pilgrimage is an opportunity to sacrifice as thousands of Catholics from centuries past did to venerate Our Lord. A pilgrimage is not simply a religiously-themed vacation, but a serious endeavor undertaken for a great purpose. Keep in mind the specific reasons for making a pilgrimage:

### REASONS TO MAKE A PILGRIMAGE

ATONEMENT | Make reparation for sin

PETITION | Request a significant favor

ADORATION | Venerate a specific place or object

THANKSGIVING | Give thanks for gifts received





# Chapter Leader Duties & Notes

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1. The Chapter Leaders will have a few certain tasks to be accountable for before and throughout the pilgrimage as well as working with the chapter's Chaplain and Security Leader.
2. The Chapter Leader will want to create a rough schedule of meditations (with the help of your chaplain), rosaries, songs to assist in group morale and spiritual engagement during the walk,
3. Keep your group together and on schedule during the walk. Bring a megaphone in order to make announcements, pray the rosary, give meditations or sermons, or start songs.
4. Communicate issues with pilgrimage coordinators. There will be a few Zoom meetings to attend with other Chapter Leaders.
5. Banners and Flags - facilitate the design and making of your chapter banner. Chapters are also encouraged to bring a flag to represent their state.
6. Schedule a rotation of people to carry the banner and flag.
7. Be familiar with the Schedule of Events, and Pilgrimage Guide. We'll email you a list of all Chapter Leaders for you to collaborate with before and during the pilgrimage.
8. Chapter Leaders will be responsible for communicating with their members and getting information out to them.
9. Don't hesitate to delegate tasks to other capable people in your Chapter. (such as leading meditations, leading the rosary, creating the banner or a booklet of songs for your chapter members to use etc.)
10. Before signing up for the Chapter Leader ticket, please contact the [Chapter Leader Manager, Joseph Montag](mailto:chapters@threeheartspilgrimage.org) at [chapters@threeheartspilgrimage.org](mailto:chapters@threeheartspilgrimage.org)



# FORMING CHAPTERS: FAQs

1. **WHAT IS A CHAPTER?** A chapter is a group of pilgrims that walk, pray, and sing together on a pilgrimage. This grouping together of pilgrims helps to keep the structure of the pilgrimage ordered and facilitates camaraderie and fellowship among the pilgrims. It also provides a way for friends and family to be able to stay together in a group and more easily find each other if separated during the walk. Chapter requirements include:

- *Chapter Leader*
- *Designated Security Member*
- *Minimum of 20 people\**
- *Chapter Name*
- *Chapter Banner*
- *Chaplain\*\*\**

2. **WHAT IS A CHAPTER DESIGNATED SECURITY MEMBER?**

The *Chapter Designated Security Member* will be responsible for helping with traffic control, safety of the pilgrims within their chapter, and assist pilgrimage coordinators with keeping pilgrims on the correct side of the road and when crossing intersections. They are also responsible for helping coordinators keep pilgrims in their chapter as best they can to avoid chapters breaking into sections.

3. **DO CHILDREN COUNT AS PART OF THE 20 PEOPLE IN A CHAPTER?** Yes, children count as part of your 20. However, it is strongly recommended a min. of 20 adults in a chapter.

\*Please Note\* Chapters that are formed without 20

members by the sign-up cut-off date will be deleted and the signed-up members will be asked to join another chapter.

4. **WHAT SHOULD I NAME MY CHAPTER?** Chapters are usually named after a favorite saint, patron saint, a parish, school, religious apparition or event. (i.e. Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Benedict etc...

5. **WHAT IS A CHAPTER BANNER?** A visual representation of your group that is carried at the front of the chapter by the members for the duration of the pilgrimage. Creation and transportation of the banner is the responsibility of the chapter leader or other member of the chapter. (For examples of what a chapter banner might look like, see the image in the previous page.)

6. **WHAT ABOUT A CHAPLAIN?** It is strongly recommended that each chapter have their own chaplain to provide pilgrims with meditations, spiritual talks, and confessions during the pilgrimage. However, it is not a requirement to forming a chapter if you cannot find one that can join.

7. **HOW DO I START SIGNING UP MY CHAPTER?**

Chapter leaders and their security member must first sign up on the Three Hearts Pilgrimage [website](#) in order to create a chapter. Please look for the "*Chapter Leader*" ticket. After the chapter leader and security member have successfully signed up, your chapter's name will be added to a sign-up page with a list of chapters, which we will send out to others upon purchasing tickets. They will be allowed to sign-up for the chapter they would like to join.



# HOW TO FORM CHAPTERS

Pilgrimage Chapters are groups of 20-60 people grouped together under a particular name (a Saint, a Pope, etc) and led by a Chapter Leader, a Chaplin, and Security Team Leader. Chapter's help keep people organized and safe throughout the three day event.

To form a chapter, you must:

- \* Have a designated Chapter Leader AND Security Leader  
Reach out to our Chapter Leader Manager to discuss your chapter [chapters@threeheartspilgrimage.org](mailto:chapters@threeheartspilgrimage.org)
- \* Register for the Chapter Leader / Security Leader tickets option at [threeheartspilgrimage.org/register](https://threeheartspilgrimage.org/register) (It will be the same ticket)
- \* Follow instructions for setting up your Chapter's sign-up page
- \* Chapter Leader and Security Leader should participate in any group discussions or meetings with other Chapter Leaders

