



St Boniface Way

wander and wonder

STAGE 4

Church of our Lady, **Upton Pyne**
to Mary Harris Chapel, **Exeter University**



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

STAGE 4

Upton Pyne to Exeter University



On leaving the Church of our Lady, turn right onto Upton Pyne Hill.

Continue along the road, passing the memorial on your left, for 500m and at the junction, take the turning on your left into Burridge Road. Follow this road for 500m and, just after the wooded area on your right, take the Bridleway into the field on your right and walk along the right-hand side of the field. After the first field you will join a clear farm track, which you follow all the way down the hill until you reach the farm at Woodrow Barton.

Pass through the farm, with the farm buildings on your left and pass the farmhouse on your right.

Continue to follow the obvious farm track down to a crossroads at the bottom of the hill, where you continue straight over, heading towards the railway. Carefully cross the railway and take the footbridge to your right on the opposite side of the tracks.

After you have crossed the River Exe, continue past the National Grid pylon, then take the public footpath signposted on your left. Follow the overgrown path round the riverbank to a turnstile which leads onto Stoke Road (A396). **This is a busy road, so please be careful.**

Cross the road and walk 10 metres to the right, where you will see a small gap in the hedges on your left. Take this well-marked path and follow it uphill through Stoke Woods (Forestry England). When you reach the main trail, turn right then immediately bear left at the hairpin corner and continue uphill.

At the top, turn left and follow the main track uphill for about 100m before heading up some steps on the right.

When you next meet a path, turn left again, and after a short while, right.

Follow this path uphill and at the top keep ahead with the car park on your left to exit onto Pennsylvania Road.

At the road, turn **left** and follow the road downhill for 100m. On the right you will see a Public Bridleway sign for Stoke Hill Farm. Follow this path and please keep dogs on a leash as sheep freely roam this field. As you continue along this path, take a look to your left for some breathtaking views over farmland towards Brampford Speke and Stoke Canon.

When you reach the farmhouse, pass through the gate and follow the Bridleway round to the right hand side of the house. Turn right at the end of the farmyard, and follow the Bridleway through the trees for 1 kilometre until you reach Stoke Valley Road. Carefully cross the road and turn right, then turn left onto the main Pennsylvania Road.

Follow the pavement downhill for 150m and cross at the island. Turn **right** onto Argyll Road and immediately right again into Duryard Park Estate. Immediately turn left onto Belvidere Road. Follow Belvidere Road past the end of the houses and into the trees ahead.

In 200m you will see some steps down on the left (marked Exeter Green Circle route).

This will take you along the left-hand side of Exeter Community Garden and turn right at the bottom onto the road (Higher Hoopern Lane).

As you drop down the hill (about 50m) you will see a path in front of you leading into the trees, along the left bank of Taddiforde Brook. Follow this path, cross the bridge and turn right, then bear left at the fork (where you will see a bench) to emerge onto Rennes Drive at a roundabout. Head straight across into North Park Road, passing the Laver Budling on your right to come up to the Northcott Theatre. Swing right in front of the theatre and then take the next left turn into Queens Drive.

As you head down the hill, you will then see a sign for the Mary Harris Chapel to the left, just as the road swings right.

You then reach the chapel off the parking area. Head inside for a well-deserved rest in the tranquillity of the chapel, remembering to look up and admire the wonderful ceiling.



Reflection and Prayer

You will notice that the interior walls of Upton Pyne church are a pink brown, reminiscent of the colour of the local soil and in keeping with the original colour that would have been used inside the church.

It's significant that the rich, red-brown colour is quite particular to this area of Devon. It is good soil for growing a variety of crops, both for livestock and people. Much of the surrounding area is used for agriculture, and as we journey we can reflect on the work of the land.

The rhythm of the seasons provide moments of pause as we recognise the change

from one to the next. Ploughing, planting, growing, harvesting, pruning and fallow.

These seasons can be reflected in our own work too.

What season of work are you in at the moment? Is this a season you are enjoying, or is it one that you long to leave behind?

Notice the colours of the seasons as you walk and bring to God the season of work you are currently inhabiting.



O God, whose love we see in sunshine and flowers,

Great spreading trees, sunset and dawn,

And all the wondrous pageantry of the changing year,

We praise you that you come to us through all the beauty of the world.

We thank you for the sudden glimpses of your beauty, a sudden slight of flowers, raindrops shining in the sun, cobwebs gemmed with dew, stars reflected in a puddle, shadows moving up a grassy slope, leafy trees, green moss on a stone wall, sun of the bark of a fir tree. For these and all sudden showing of your beauty, we praise and adore you.

Amen.

Lord God, help me to find happiness in my acceptance of what is Your purpose for me:

In friendly eyes, in work well done, in quietness born of trust,
And most of all in the awareness of Your Presence in my spirit.

Amen.

Celtic Daily Prayer © The Northumbria Community Trust

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