

**SACRED HEART PARISH, FLITWICK
 PILGRIMAGE TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA
 9 – 16th May 2014**



We had an amazing and uplifting week part walking the Camino Way with parishioners from Flitwick, Dunstable, Shefford, Bedford & Turvey. The 'Camino Frances' is the ancient pilgrim route from France, which weaves westward across northern Spain. With twenty-four fellow pilgrims we learnt about the ancient route, the exquisite churches and cathedrals along the route and many of the pilgrims managed to walk 40 kilometres of the Camino itself.



Each day we were blessed, by communal celebration of Morning and Evening prayer prepared by Fr. Krzysztof Tomczak, where we all gathered in a room in our hotels. The days were further blessed by daily Mass in the most amazing locations, one of our hotels was previously a Monastery and we were so privileged to have Mass in their chapel, also chapels in the Cathedrals at Burgos, and the Romanesque basilica of St Isadore in Leon, a stunning monastic chapel, local churches and a modern chapel just outside of Santiago where one of Fr. Krzysztof's Order were based. This all culminated in Mass in a side chapel across the aisle from the very spot where the relics of St James the Apostle have rested for centuries!



On the final day we attended the evening pilgrim Mass in the Cathedral at Santiago, watching in awe as the Botafumeiro swung across the transept of the church. All in all, this pilgrimage far exceeded all expectation on so many counts....the hotels were fabulous, our guides well informed and with excellent weather every day, the fellowship of all the Pilgrims together in faith came together and will last beyond time....

"Friendships begun in this world will be taken up again, never to be broken off"
St. Francis de Sales

Pilgrims walking 'The Camino Way'



Ros Penn
 Pilgrimage Co-Ordinator