

# Meditation on pilgrimage and vocation

(from Mothers' Union)

This is a representation of the labyrinth marked out on the floor of the nave of Chartres Cathedral, France. It greeted the mediaeval pilgrims as they went through the great West Door, and invited them to think about life's pilgrimage. They would have walked round it on foot (or on their knees). The twists and turns of the path symbolise the reality of life's experiences. Although the labyrinth is about 15 yards in diameter, the path is 330 yards long.

Using the handout, follow the labyrinth with a pen until you reach its centre. Along the way reflect on how your life has changed throughout the years. Think of both positive and negative things or anything that comes to light while you are following the line of your pen around the labyrinth. Afterwards you may like to think about the questions below:

We can reflect on the labyrinth as our path towards Christ who is continually calling us. Christ is at the centre of our being, yet still sometimes feels very distant from us.

We ask God to help us keep Christ at the centre of our lives, and to recognise that the path he calls us to follow may not be a simple one, and may not always follow the same course. Even when the road is full of twists and turns, when we can't see beyond the next stage, help us to believe that God calls us onwards towards him, and is waiting for us with open arms.



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## Question

- ⚙ What experiences in your life have felt like twists and turns along an unknown path?
- ⚙ Have you experienced God's call leading you in different directions at different times? Have there been times when have you felt that your path was particularly in tune with God's will and call to you?
- ⚙ Have you had any experiences that at the time felt like twists away from God, but which you now recognise as part of the pilgrimage God has called you to follow?
- ⚙ What one dream do you have, no matter how small, for yourself at this moment in your life? How can you help to make it happen?

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