

Taizé Pilgrimage Frequently Asked Questions

What is Taizé?

Taizé is an international ecumenical Christian monastic community in France. Thousands of youth gather weekly for prayer, conversation, service, and spiritual growth.

Who can attend?

High School students (ages 15-18) sponsored through congregations of the Diocese of Newark. Must be 15 by the time of travel.

What will participants do at Taizé?

Participants will:

- Attend communal prayer three times daily
- Join international small discussion groups
- Participate in simple service jobs (cleaning, food prep, etc.)
- Engage in Bible study and reflection
- Experience global Christian worship and music

Where will participants stay?

Housing at Taizé is intentionally simple and communal. Participants may stay in dormitory-style rooms or basic group housing.

What is included in the trip cost?

The \$3,000 trip cost includes:

- Round-trip international airfare
- Ground transportation in France
- Lodging in Paris and Taizé
- Meals
- Program fees

Are scholarships available?

Yes. Financial assistance is available to ensure accessibility. If assistance is needed, please reach out to Rev. Asa Coulson by Monday, March 2: acoulson@gracenutley.org

Do participants need a passport?

Yes. Passports must be valid through at least January 2027 (six-month validity rule).

Who are the Chaperones?

Chris Whitaker, Christ Church in Short Hills
The Rev. John Mennell, St. Luke's, Montclair
A female chaperone, to be determined.

How is safety handled?

- Adult chaperones are Safe Church trained
- Group travel supervision
- Emergency contact procedures prior to travel

How physically demanding is the trip?

Participants should be comfortable:

- Walking daily
- Living in simple accommodations
- Participating in a structured group schedule

What makes this trip special?

Taizé offers a rare opportunity for youth to experience:

- Global Christianity
- Contemplative prayer
- Faith exploration in community
- Cross-cultural friendships