

# 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](mailto: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