

# TAIZÉ PILGRIMAGE PRAYER LIST

This March, nineteen Immanuelites will make a Lenten pilgrimage to the humble, spiritual beacon community of Taizé in France. For over seventy years, the brothers at Taizé have been living out the beauty of the gospel in a predominantly post-Christian environment. Please join us in prayer as we commit to a week of prayer, learning, and serving among these faithful servants!

## JON BURDICK

I'VE BEEN ATTENDING IMMANUEL FOR ABOUT 6 YEARS. I'LL BE FINISHING UP MY MASTERS PROGRAM THIS SPRING AND FIGURING OUT NEXT STEPS FOR WORK AND/OR SCHOOL. I'M GOING ON THE TAIZÉ PILGRIMAGE TO STEP AWAY FROM RESPONSIBILITIES, SPEND INTENTIONAL TIME LISTENING FOR THE LORD'S LEADING, AND TO PICK UP SOME RHYTHMS TO PUT INTO PRACTICE.

- To relax into the Taizé rhythms
- For patience in a time of discernment
- For the Lord to clarify next steps

## SERINA CARRASCO

I AM IN THE MIDST OF PURSUING A PATH OF HOLISTIC HEALING. IT HAS BEEN A SUPER FUN ADVENTURE BETWEEN ME AND THE LORD. THE MOST PRESSING INVITATION I HAVE FROM OUR DAD IS TO QUIET MY SOUL AND LIVE IN THE REALITY THAT I AM HIS KID. TAIZÉ IS ANOTHER STEP FORWARD IN THIS GRAND ADVENTURE OF HOLISTIC HEALING AND IN MY RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.

- The Lord would help me quiet down and rest
- That he would help me learn more each day what it looks like to be his kid

## GAVIN CHASE

AS I TRANSITION OUT OF MOODY, I ANTICIPATE MANY CHANGES, SUCH AS MARRIAGE IN JUNE, SEARCH FOR AN INITIAL JOB, AND FIGURING OUT HOW TO ATTEND TO THE PLACE GOD HAS BROUGHT ME (AND MY FIANCÉE). TAIZÉ HAS COME AT SUCH AN OPPORTUNE MOMENT. GOING INTO THIS PILGRIMAGE, I DESIRE TO STRETCH MY BOUNDARIES OF SOLITUDE AND CONTEMPLATION WITH GOD IN A SET-APART, FOREIGN PLACE. I LOOK FORWARD TO GROWING AMONGST OUR FELLOW CHICAGOANS, AS WELL AS PARTICIPATING IN TRANS-ETHNIC WORSHIP AS THERE WILL BE PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

- For a tender heart and a posture of listening
- To not be idealistic of what I will gain from this trip. That I may go with clear mind and open arms

## FR. AARON DAMIANI

MY NAME IS FATHER AARON DAMIANI, AND I'M A CHICAGO PRIEST WITH A LOVE FOR FRANCE. I'M EXCITED TO TAKE THIS PILGRIMAGE WITH FELLOW IMMANUELITES, EXPERIENCE THE PRESENCE OF GOD AT TAIZÉ AND OBSERVE THEIR EXAMPLE OF BEING A SPIRITUAL BEACON EXPRESSION OF THE GOSPEL.

- Safety for our team, and for my family back home
- Fun, joy and celebration for this pilgrimage

## ALICE HANSEN

GOING ON THIS PILGRIMAGE IS ACTUALLY A SURPRISE FOR ME. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO JOURNEYING ALONGSIDE THE OTHER IMMANUEL PILGRIMS AND SHARING IN WORSHIP WITH OUR INTERNATIONAL BROTHERS AND SISTERS. RESPONDING TO THE LORD'S CALLING TO GO ON THIS PILGRIMAGE HAS BEEN AN ACT OF FAITH, FIRSTLY BY RESPONDING TO HIS INVITATION TO GO WHEN SAYING "YES" FELT IMPOSSIBLE, AND SECONDLY BECAUSE THE ARTHRITIS IN MY KNEE HAS SUDDENLY WORSENERED. I RECENTLY MET WITH MY DOCTOR, WHO CLEARED ME FOR THE TRIP.

- For the safety of my knee
- For a time of spiritual refreshment and rest

# TAIZÉ PILGRIMAGE PRAYER LIST

BRIAN  
HINKLE

I WORK IN SOFTWARE ENGINEERING AS A FULL-TIME REMOTE WORKER, AND LIVE IN ALBANY PARK. FOR ME, THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS HAVE HAD SOME CHALLENGES AS I'VE CHANGED JOBS AND HOMES AND DEALT WITH SOME SIGNIFICANT FAMILY UPHEAVAL. I'M HOPING TO ENCOUNTER GOD IN A NEW WAY THROUGH SIMPLE LIFE AND PRAYER AS I GO ON PILGRIMAGE.

- To be fully present
- To learn new rhythms of simplicity & prayer
- Healing from some of the difficulties of the past couple of years

ISAAC  
JONES

WHAT TO SAY ABOUT MYSELF? I AM CURRENTLY WORKING AS A DATA SCIENTIST, AND I JUST STARTED MY FIRST STEP TOWARDS BECOMING A RELIGIOUS TRAUMA COUNSELOR. AS A CHRONICALLY RESTLESS PERSON, I'VE OFTEN FOUND MYSELF DRAWN TOWARDS STILL AND QUIET PLACES - PLACES WHICH PUT INTO PERSPECTIVE HOW SMALL MY CORNER OF CREATION TRULY IS. HAVING RECENTLY MOVED TO CHICAGO, IT'S BEEN INCREASINGLY EASY TO GET SWEEPED UP IN MY OWN MANUFACTURED BUSINESS. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO LEARNING FROM THOSE WHO HAVE DECIDED THAT TO SIT, TO PRAY, AND TO LISTEN IS LIFE ENOUGH FOR THEM.

- Openness to what the Lord is offering me
- Willingness to listen, even in the silence
- To seek the Spirit's presence instead of just answers

ALLISON  
KEEPORT

I AM A SINGER, VOICE TEACHER, AND MUSIC/WORSHIP PROFESSOR AT MOODY BIBLE INSTITUTE. OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS, I'VE BEEN LEARNING A LOT ABOUT CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER VIA TRANSFORMATION INTENSIVE, SO THIS TRIP TO TAIZE FEELS LIKE A CAPSTONE OF SORTS TO THAT STUDY. I AM ALSO EXCITED TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TAIZE MUSICAL TRADITIONS AND HOPEFULLY USE WHAT I LEARN THERE TO BLESS OTHERS WHEN I RETURN.

- Surrendering work concerns
- That Christ would be the deepest animating factor during the trip

DANIEL  
MEIER

DANIEL MEIER HERE. THREE YEAR ATTENDER AT IAC (BUT NEW MEMBER ☺). I WANT TO GO TO TAIZÉ TO BE RESPONSIVE AND FAITHFUL TO GOD'S STILL, SMALL VOICE.

- For an increase of faith, hope, and love.
- For connection and community with fellow pilgrims

JULIA  
PANHORST

I'M A JUNIOR AT MBI, STUDYING LINGUISTICS WITH THE HOPES OF BECOMING PART OF A BIBLE TRANSLATION TEAM OVERSEAS. I AM LEARNING ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO TRULY LIVE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE. HOWEVER, IT HAS BEEN A DIFFICULT AND EXTREMELY BUSY COUPLE OF YEARS. I'M HOPING THAT MY TIME AT TAIZE WILL BE BRING REFRESHING CLARITY TO MY FAITH AS I CONTINUE TO SEEK WHAT GOD HAS FOR ME.

- Listening to the Lord without distraction
- Silencing of anxieties about the trip
- Increased love for the universal church and in my relationships

TAMMY  
PERLMUTTER

AS A BENEDICTINE OBLATE (A LAY MEMBER OF A MONASTERY), AND A MEMBER OF AN INTENTIONAL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY, JESUS PEOPLE, I AM BEYOND EXCITED TO EXPERIENCE A NEW COMMUNITY WITH PEOPLE OF FAITH FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. MY HOPE AND PRAYER IS THAT I WILL MEET THE LORD IN A DEEPER WAY, SURRENDER TO REST, SERVE THE OTHER PILGRIMS AND THE BROTHERS JOYFULLY, WHILE ALSO BEING AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO THOSE WHO ARE JOURNEYING ALONGSIDE ME.

- Time and space to prepare my heart
- Physical protection and relief from chronic pain
- A quiet heart and mind to listen and receive

# TAIZÉ PILGRIMAGE PRAYER LIST

KIRSTEN  
RIECK

I WORK AS A CHILD AND FAMILY THERAPIST. I HAVE A LITTLE BIT OF AN OBSESSION WITH MY 65 LB DOG, NEVI AND CAN BARELY MAKE IT THROUGH A CONVERSATION WITHOUT TALKING ABOUT HIM. I HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME SLOWING DOWN, WHICH MAKES THIS TAIZÉ JOURNEY SIMULTANEOUSLY EXCITING AND A LITTLE DAUNTING.

- To open myself to however God calls me to come in each moment
- Dependence on regular moments of meeting with the Lord

KELLY  
ROSS

I HAVE CALLED IMMANUEL MY CHURCH HOME FOR ABOUT THREE YEARS AFTER DISCOVERING ANGLICANISM IN COLLEGE (OR PERHAPS IT FOUND ME?). THE RHYTHMS OF A SACRAMENTAL LIFE HAVE BEEN A NURTURING GIFT TO MY FAITH SO I AM EXCITED FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEAN INTO SILENCE & RETREAT. I'VE BEEN ITCHING TO TRAVEL SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE PANDEMIC AND AM EXCITED TO MEET OTHERS TRAVELING FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD!

- For a quiet heart to be with God and openness for his leading in the coming season
- To be filled with joy
- For health for our team!

ALEANA  
SALDAÑA

I'M A HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER IN THE MIDDLE OF A NEW CAREER, NEW DEGREE PROGRAM, AND A MAJOR TRANSITION INTO MARRIAGE. ALL OF THIS FEELS MEANINGFUL, BUT NOISY. I DESIRE DISCIPLINE AND TAIZÉ HAS IT IN ABUNDANCE. LET'S GET LENTEN.

- Jesus feels far sometimes
- Openness to the challenges that come with silence

EMMA  
SOSA

I JUST GRADUATED FROM NORTH PARK UNIVERSITY WITH A DEGREE IN CURATORIAL STUDIES. IN THE MIDST OF A DIFFICULT SEASON IN MY FAMILY, I FELT CALLED TO TAIZÉ TO EXPERIENCE THE GRACE AND LOVE OF AN EVER-PRESENT, UNFAILING FATHER. HIS INVITATION TO REST AND RENEWAL HAS BEEN FIRMLY PRESSED ON MY HEART – I AM EAGER TO BEGIN THIS JOURNEY!

- A quiet my mind in order to hear the Spirit's promptings & the voice of the Father.
- That I would continue to experience His profound healing

DAVID  
WHITED

I AM VERY EXCITED TO BE LEADING A GROUP OF PILGRIMS TO TAIZÉ, MY SPIRITUAL HOME. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO COMING OUT OF A PRETTY COMPLICATED AND BUSY STAGE OF LIFE INTO SOME STILLNESS AND SIMPLICITY.

- To be reminded again of the beauty of Jesus
- To practice simplicity of heart
- For deep conversations with new and old friends

PAUL  
BRUTSKY

TIMOTHY  
GAVRILENKO

DREW  
SMITH