

# The Taizé Pilgrimage of Hope, in Cape Town in September

Dear sisters and brothers

Greetings to you in the Name of our risen and ascended Lord!

We have just celebrated Pentecost Sunday and Trinity Sunday, and my prayer is that the fulness of the love of God has been revealed to all of you!

This letter is to remind you of the huge opportunity of this wonderful international event that is happening in Cape Town, 25 - 29 September, for young people 18 -35 years. Many people have been blessed over the years by the ministry of the Taizé community, and particularly their music, which because of its depth, reaches from the head, to the heart and the soul. The Taize community reminds us that we are not simply singing choruses, but that when we sing, we are praying to God from our hearts.

This is a huge opportunity for the church to grow the spirituality of our young people and is unlikely to happen in South Africa again in our lifetime as they move to a different African country every 3 or 4 years. Most Christian youth events focus on being as noisy as possible – what is different about this one is that it focuses on silence, stillness and contemplation, on connecting with God, humanity and creation. Someone has said that “Silence is God’s first language” and we all know how many of us have come to meet God when we follow the instruction to “Be still and know that I am God”.

We are now about a month away from the close of registration, and I wish to remind you of some of the information they shared with us when they visited Anglican Ablaze:

1. Registration closes on 21 July. To register groups and individuals, please go to [http://www.taize.fr/en\\_article25024.html](http://www.taize.fr/en_article25024.html)
2. The R250 registration fee covers the participants accommodation in Cape Town, 7 meals and all the local bus travel.
3. Once you have registered, you will receive all the extra registration information.
4. Over the 5 days of the Pilgrimage, the young people will stay with pre-selected families in Cape Town, who will provide breakfasts and accommodation. Transport will be from local church hubs.
5. During the days, they will visit "places of hope" and have two big prayer sessions at the central venue (which is Marist School, in Belmont Road, Rondebosch) and in the afternoons they will attend workshops on various topics.
6. They are expecting about 8000 people from more than 20 different countries to attend.

I appeal to all of you to prayerfully discern whether you are able to attend this pilgrimage and to register yourself or a group before 21 July. Those who are older than 35 are of course welcome to attend, but only if they lead a group of young adults between the ages of 18 to 35. Local people in Cape Town over 35 are welcome to sing in the mass choir, there are no age restrictions for this. Rehearsals take place on the first three Saturdays of September. Please pray for the organisers, and for God to do a mighty work in our young people that is life changing for them and for our churches.

If you need more information than that which is supplied above, please call the following people:

Brother Luc	076 576 9474
Revd Wilma Jakobsen	071 117 7342
David Daniels:	064 659 4376

May God bless you as you discern and pray for this important event.

Revd Trevor Pearce