

Xn online

Lent Lecture 1: Pilgrimage to Iona

11 March 2014



In the first of St. James' Finchampstead's Lent Lectures, Cathy Clayton, Youth Leader, detailed the journey and venues on the pilgrimage made by some of the younger parishioners to Iona, a remote island off the West of Scotland.

The island is home to the Iona Community - men and women from different walks of life and different traditions in the Christian church. There are two residential centres, the Abbey and McLeod Centres - places of welcome and engagement offering visitors a unique opportunity to live together with people of every background from all over the world.

The Community believes that "worship is all that we are and all that we do, both inside and outside the church, with no division into the 'sacred' and the 'secular'."

The group's week-long stay on Iona in August 2013 proved to be a mix of fun and reflection, worship and work, laughter and conversation; finding out what it is to live out faith in a way that is relevant, whilst being both creative and enjoyable. And it was to illustrate this to those attending the lecture in St James' Church Centre that some of the pilgrims (pictured) then staged a number of workshops, namely Craft, Singing, Prayer, Reading and Sermon.

All elements created in the workshops were then joined together to form the inspiring Iona-style church service which concluded the first lecture.

Pictured: Left to right: back row - Cathy Clayton, Youth Leader, Lemuel Lucan-Wilson, Anna Kennington, Sharon White. Front row - Steve Kennington, Paige White, Jack Clayton.