



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

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Pilgrimage of Trust in St. Louis to Promote Unity

Taizé Community Invited by Archbishop Carlson to Help Heal Divisions After Ferguson Unrest

ST. LOUIS – The greater St. Louis community is invited to participate in a “Walk of Trust” on Sunday, May 28, as part of the larger “St. Louis Pilgrimage of Trust” taking place over Memorial Day Weekend 2017. Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson, Archbishop of St. Louis, brothers of the Taizé Community from Taizé, France, and other faith and civic leaders in the region will lead the walk and weekend-long event. The Pilgrimage of Trust is intended to help heal some of the deep divisions in our community that have surfaced since the unrest in Ferguson.

The Walk of Trust on Sunday, May 28, starting at 2 p.m., will anchor the weekend’s events. The walk will begin at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis (4431 Lindell Boulevard), before heading north to Delmar Boulevard, and concluding at Chaifetz Arena on the campus of Saint Louis University. This incredibly important event is open to everyone in our community who wonders “What can I do?” to help heal our community. More information about the Walk of Trust can be found at walkoftrust.com.

In addition, all churches in St. Louis – Catholic and non-Catholic – are invited to ring their bells when the Walk of Trust begins at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 28, as a visible mark of unity in our region.

For over a year the Taizé brothers, along with a diverse team of volunteers, have been meeting with Catholic parishes and various non-Catholic churches in St. Louis to organize multiple evenings of prayer and dialogue in preparation for this important weekend and to help heal many of the divisions that exist across our St. Louis community.

Although the St. Louis Pilgrimage of Trust actually began more than a year ago when the Taizé brothers first arrived, the main events will take place May 26-29, 2017, at Saint Louis University, which is situated as a cultural and geographical crossroads within the city. More information about the Pilgrimage of Trust and a complete schedule of events, prayer services, and workshops, can be found at pilgrimageoftruststl.com.

The brothers of the Taizé Community were invited to St. Louis by Archbishop Carlson in 2015. The Taizé Community was founded in France in 1940 to work for reconciliation between divided Christians and throughout the human family. The Pilgrimage of Trust was launched over 35 years ago by Taizé’s founder, Brother Roger, in order to foster trust between people through living and praying together, discussing and discovering common ground. Over the years, it has brought together hundreds of thousands of young adults worldwide. Brother Roger received numerous awards for the Community’s work with young adults, including the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education (1988), the Templeton Prize (1974), the Robert Schumann Prize (1992), and the 1996 Notre Dame Award for international humanitarian service. He was assassinated in 2005, at the age of 90, during evening prayer in the church at Taizé.

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