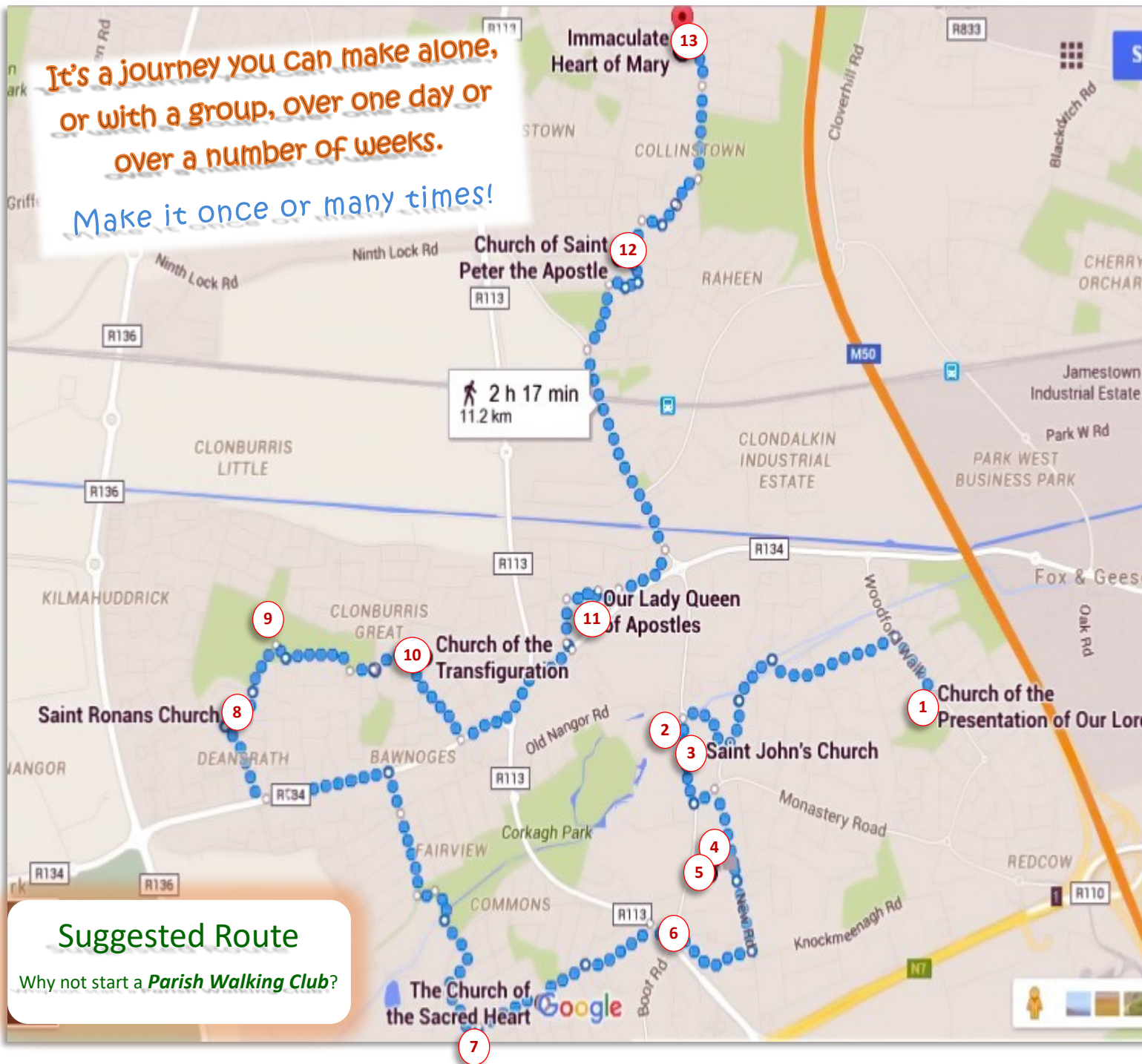


It's a journey you can make alone,  
or with a group, over one day or  
over a number of weeks.  
Make it once or many times!



## Suggested Route

Why not start a **Parish Walking Club**?

## Suggested Places to Visit

1. Church of the Presentation of the Lord, *Knockmitten*
2. National Monument - Round Tower
3. St John's, COI Church
4. Church of St Killian & BVM
5. Presentation Convent
6. St Bridget's Holy Well
7. Church of the Sacred Heart, *Sruleen*
8. St Ronan's Church, *Deansrath*
9. Old Kilmahuddrick Church, St Cuthbert's
10. Church of the Transfiguration, *Bawnogue*
11. Our Lady Queen of the Apostles, *Clonburris*
12. Church of St Peter the Apostle, *Neilstown*
13. Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, *Rowlagh-Quarryvale*



## What is A Pilgrimage?

A pilgrimage is a journey a pilgrim makes to a sacred place for the purpose of venerating it or to ask for heavenly aid, and ultimately to come to know God better. Christian pilgrimages were first made to sites connected with the birth, life, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Shortly after, pilgrimages started being made to Rome and other sites associated with the Apostles, Saints and Christian martyrs, as well as places where there had been apparitions of the Virgin Mary. In the past, pilgrims would leave their homes, families, and comforts to walk for hundreds of miles with nothing but what they could carry on their backs. Just as the pilgrims from the early centuries, we modern pilgrims also leave our homes, families and comforts in order to journey to sacred places.



Joy cannot be held at heel: it must be let go. Joy is a pilgrim virtue. It is a gift that walks, walks on the path of life, that walks with Jesus: preaching, proclaiming Jesus, proclaiming joy, lengthens and widens that path.

— Pope Francis —

The practice of pilgrimage has a special place in the Catholic Church, because it represents the journey each of us makes in this life. Life itself is a pilgrimage, and the human being is a pilgrim travelling along the road, making their way to the desired destination. The destination is Jesus, who is our home.

Many travel to places such as Lough Derg, Lourdes, The Camino or Rome, etc., on retreat or Pilgrimage.

**"We are a pilgrim people"**



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The distillation of centuries of wisdom and spirituality in such places offer opportunities for growth and renewal. Such pilgrimages are not a possibility open to us all.

So we are **inviting YOU** to rediscover and make a pilgrimage to our **Local Holy Places** - Walking on the hallowed ground, feeling the energy of the prayers of previous generations and being open to the grace of encounter.

It is a journey you can make alone or with a group, over one day or a number of weeks. However you chose to do it, do it in a spirit of reflection and prayer, gifting yourself the space and time, switching off from the busy-ness – Amongst other things allow it to be an antidote to the stresses of modern living.

*When you arrive at each place maybe light a candle if you can, take a moment to say a prayer of thanks for the journey made and a prayer of guidance for the road ahead.*

### A Prayer for the Pilgrim

Teach me, O God, to see my life here on earth as a pilgrim's path to you; my rest and my home.  
Give me grace to tread it courageously in the company of my community of faith.

Help me to not get discouraged when the road gets tough, not get disheartened when tiredness creeps in, nor fearful when the unexpected happens. For I know that I never walk this journey alone. You are there supporting me every step of the way with endless mercy, compassion and love.

May I always be aware of your presence and support along the way and ever be a witness to this as I encounter other pilgrims on my way. **Amen**



*Working in unity to build a community of faith, hope and love in our parishes*

Combined Catholic  
Parishes of Clondalkin

