5 The Labyrinth

Pilgrims of the Middle Ages often used labyrinths as a spiritual exercise to aid meditation and prayer. It is not a maze, but a single path in and out, in the style of Chartres Cathedral, France. Why not take the time to walk the Labyrinth slowly and silently, as a reflection on the journey of life.

6 The Bible Garden

The Bible Garden which features plants of the Bible was opened on 3 August 2008. It is designed in the shape of a Jewish menorah. Above the garden overlooking Lake Burley Griffin is the Humanitarian Aid Workers' Memorial dedicated in 2013.

7 The Rainforest

The rainforest is the remains of an orchard, which was planted during the period before the 1920s, when the site was farmed by the Rottenberry family.

8 The Outdoor Chapel

With its elegant cement cross and altar of recycled gum timber, this peaceful chapel provides a space for outdoor worship and reflection, and special ceremonies.

9 Protected Grasslands and Reserve

The Pilgrim Walk surrounds 2.2 hectares of conservation native grassland, including a colony of the endangered button wrinklewort plants.

10 The Great Cross and Reflection Pool

The Cross, 25 metres high, is lit up at night and can be viewed from around Canberra from lookouts such as Red Hill. The Cross and Pool have been used for baptisms, prayer services and the culmination of the ecumenical Stations of the Cross service held annually on Good Friday. The water of baptism thus flows from the foot of the Cross, indicating the Christian's incorporation into the crucified and risen Jesus. The water also reflects the piercing of Jesus' side while he was on the Cross.

The Mural Wall

The Mural Wall, 24m x 4m, was unveiled in August 2011 by the then Governor-General Quentin Bryce AC CVO. It represents a painting depicting 'The Holy Spirit in Our Land' by the late renowned elder, lawman and painter of the Gija People (East Kimberly), Hector Jandany. This Mural Wall wonderfully bridges Indigenous and Christian spirituality through an interpretation of life of the Spirit in the land and the lives of its people.

Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture

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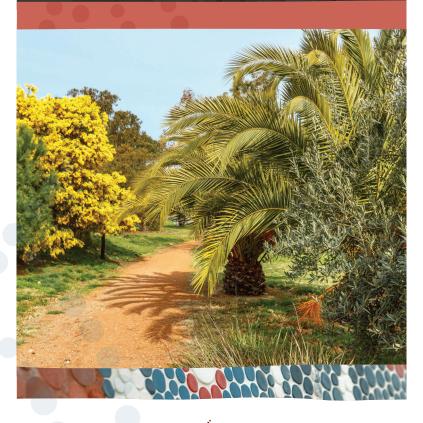




The Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture

THE PILGRIM WALK GUIDE

We invite you to take some time to use this guide and map to make your way around the Pilgrim Walk.





1 The Place of Meeting

The spiritual heart of the Centre, the place of meeting focuses on a simple campfire, reflecting themes from Israelite and indigenous spirituality. The twelve stones represent the twelve tribes of Israel. Reflecting the place in Exodus where Moses talked with God as a friend, the fireplace is a place of encounter, where we may meet with God and where hospitality and conversation may occur. It is a place for reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians.

2 The Avenue of Trees

The avenue of trees, with the oaks on one side and the eucalypts on the other, reflects the encounter between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, which is a central theme of our history.

3 The Shelter

The shelter provides an Australian-style place for reflection on a sign from John's Gospel. Jesus said: 'I am the Bread of Life'.

4 The Pilgrim Poles

These painted Pilgrim Poles, created by young people in 1996 under the direction of sculptor Philip Cooper, depict different aspects of creation. The artist Johnno Johnson designed the central image on the pole which depicts an Aboriginal image of meeting. Overall the work depicts the frailty of humankind, our struggle with our humanity, and our meeting with God.

