

On Tuesday morning I joined the other pilgrims who, with Archbishop Kyrill, Father Michael, Father Andrew and our own Father Paul were making a pilgrimage to the Shrine of St Werburgh in Chester Cathedral. To make this pilgrimage in the company of Archbishop Kyrill from San Francisco, Father Michael from Tasmania, and Father Andrew from Felixstowe was a humbling experience. Here we were, a little Parish, united together in a common faith with distant congregations, expressing our beliefs on this shared holy occasion. Glory be to God!

I had visited Ely Cathedral where St Werburgh had been Abbess, so it was a lovely blessed opportunity to reverence her relics and her life in the Molieben service, beautifully chanted by the Archbishop. A pilgrimage to her Shrine leaves you feeling very close to our Orthodox roots and very glad that our parish venerates her.

Troparion to Saint Werburga

Thine illustrious life filled the angels with awe and put the demons to flight in terror, while it adorneth the congregations of the faithful with the splendour of grace, O venerable mother Werburga! As in thy charity thou didst extend thy love to all thy fellow creatures, intercede with God in our behalf, that our souls be saved from perdition!!

With Love in Christ Jesus.

Seraphima.

2007 will be the 1100th anniversary of her death and Chester Cathedral and the City will be celebrating with many events including retracing the journey her relics took. Much is planned to commemorate Chester's Patron Saint.

Photographs of the parish pilgrimage may be viewed [here](#).