

AMDG

8th March 2019

Dear Friend of Stonyhurst

Stonyhurst Pilgrimage to Lourdes Friday 23rd August to Friday 30th August 2019

Spring is now upon us and it is time to plan the 2019 Pilgrimage to Lourdes. I do hope you will be returning, and I would encourage you to tell others about the Pilgrimage. We would like to see more young people joining the Pilgrimage and most importantly more Assisted Pilgrims. Lourdes is a special place where our Assisted Pilgrims are most important and their needs are always at the forefront of all that we do.

The Pastoral Theme this year is "Blessed are the poor, for the Kingdom of God is yours." Bernadette was certainly poor, but through her steadfast faith she certainly has much to teach us.

We will endeavour to provide financial support where necessary but it is also worth approaching your own parishes, they may be willing to offer sponsorship. Once again, the Trustees will be offering a subsidy to College pupils and to OS still in full time education. These subsidies are supplemented by the continuing generous support of the Stonyhurst Association. However, it may be possible for pupils and OS to seek ways of obtaining alternative financial support so that the Trust can meet more of the requests made to it.

Do apply early as there are a limited number of subsidised places.

If you would like to join us, and if you need help, please apply to:

Mrs. Beverley Sillitoe Stonyhurst Pilgrimage Trust Stonyhurst College, Clitheroe, Lancashire BB7 9PZ

Tel: 01254 827043

Email: association@stonyhurst.ac.uk

The relevant details of the 2019 Pilgrimage are as follows:

1. Travel

a. Air

Flights will be from Manchester and Stansted. Please complete and return the Tangney Tours booking form as soon as possible.

b. Shuttle Coach

A shuttle coach will be available (return charge to be confirmed at approx. £25.00 per person), travelling from Stonyhurst to Manchester Airport and return. Confirmation of the

Stonyhurst Pilgrimage Trust, Stonyhurst College, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 9PZ Telephone: 01254 827043 Fax: 01254 827132 Email: association@stonyhurst.ac.uk Website: www.stonyhurst.ac.uk



timing of the coach, and of the charge, will be made available when the Pilgrimage Booklet is sent out later this year.

c. Hotel

The Stonyhurst group this year will again stay at the **Hotel Padoue**, which is very close to the Lourdes Domaine.

d. Sick or Disabled Pilgrims

Sick or disabled pilgrims who are not well enough to stay in the Hotel Padoue will be accommodated in the Accueil Notre Dame, situated on the other side of the River Gave from the Grotto in the Domaine.

2. Prices

a. Hotel Padoue

The full-board price for pilgrims travelling by air is £977.00.

b. Insurance

Travel Insurance can be arranged through the tour operators, Tangney Tours, at a price of £33.00. Please note that the excess on the policy is at a higher level for those aged over 65 years, and still higher for those over 75. All pilgrims are recommended to take out comprehensive travel insurance, although they are of course free to make their own arrangements in this respect. It is recommended that the level and extent of the insurance cover should be carefully checked. Details of the cover arranged through Tangney Tours are set out in their booking form.

c. Single-room supplement

For those wishing to reserve single rooms in the Hotel Padoue, there will be a supplement payable of £225 for the full week.

Accueil Notre Dame

The total price for assisted sick pilgrims, travelling by air and staying at the Accueil Notre Dame, will be £815.00.

d. Independent Travellers

The price, at the Hotel Padoue, for independent travellers, will be £71.00 per day for full board in a twin-room (plus an additional £32.00 per night for a single-room supplement). The CA levy of £30 will also be charged on your invoice.

e. Catholic Association Levy

Included in the price quoted by Tangney Tours in their Brochure is a levy of £30 paid to the Catholic Association. It is applied by the Catholic Association towards certain administrative costs in connection with the pilgrimage, including the supply of badges, the Pilgrimage Booklet and other documentation. Any surplus not used by the Catholic Association will be returned to the Stonyhurst Pilgrimage Trust and to the Diocesan groups.

If you are travelling or booking your accommodation independently, please remember that you need to send a cheque for the CA levy in the sum of £30. If you are a family unit and travelling independently, please send a cheque for the CA levy in the sum of £60. If you are applying to be a volunteer helper you should send your cheque with your volunteer helper application form. Those travelling with Tangney Tours or staying in a hotel booked with Tangney Tours,



will have this levy included automatically into the cost of their booking and do not need to send an additional cheque.

Cheques should be made payable to the Catholic Association and sent to: Ms. Lina Al-Araj, 26 Marbaix Gardens, Isleworth, London, TW7 4FD

3. Subsidies

Thanks to the generosity of benefactors in the past, Trust Funds are available for the following principal rebates and subsidies: -

- a) Stonyhurst pupils £488.00 when travelling by air with Tangney Tours
- **b)** Full-time OS students £488.00 when travelling by air with Tangney Tours
- c) Independent OS students and pupils £245.00
- **d)** Families of four or more members (where each member is working as a helper on the pilgrimage) as in 1 and 2 above, if applicable, plus £130.00 per head in respect of other members.
- e) Discretionary subsidies are also available for assisted sick pilgrims and for others in our group in need of financial assistance. Further information on all rebates and subsidies is available on request.
- f) Student and pupil subsidies will be paid in advance of the pilgrimage. Please send your Tangney booking form with deposit and insurance premium to Tangney Tours. When the final balance becomes due please send your invoice and your balancing payment, (the invoice total less the subsidy of £488.00 if travelling by air) to Mrs Sillitoe at the College. The Trust will then process the invoice. Please ensure that your invoice and balancing payment (which if by cheque should be made out to Tangney Tours) is submitted to us at least two weeks before the final payment due date.

4. <u>Nurses</u>

Almost every year, there is a shortage of nurses to help in the Accueil. The Catholic Association have strongly encouraged all the participating Dioceses, and the Stonyhurst Group, to assist nurses with their travelling and accommodation expenses. The Stonyhurst Pilgrimage Trust will therefore be pleased to offer financial assistance to nurses who would like to attend the pilgrimage but who cannot afford the full rate. If you know of any nurses who might like to accompany us on the pilgrimage, please ask them to contact Mrs Sillitoe at the College.

5. Wheelchairs at Airports

Please indicate on the Pink Form referred to in paragraph 6(c) below whether you need an airport wheelchair for your use at Manchester or Stansted, and in addition if you would like the Trust to provide a wheelchair for your use in Lourdes.



6. Action required

If you would like to join the pilgrimage to Lourdes this year with the Stonyhurst Group, please take the following action: -

- **a)** Fill in the appropriate sections on both sides of the enclosed Tangney Tours booking form (one per person) making it especially clear:
 - That you wish to stay at the Hotel Padoue, if that is the case.
 - That you wish to stay in the Accueil, if that is the case.
 - Whether you want a wheelchair in Lourdes.
 - Your preferred departure airport, or if travelling independently please select hotel and write on the form 'accommodation only'.
- b) Post the appropriate completed section of the Tangney Tours booking form to Tangney Tours at the address at the bottom of the booking form (<u>NOT</u> to Stonyhurst), enclosing a deposit of £100 plus £33 for travel insurance (if you wish Tangney Tours to arrange the travel insurance).
 <u>NOTE</u> Complete one Tangney booking form per person and one deposit per person. Please note that Accueil bookings must be received by the 31st July 2019.
- c) Complete the attached Pink Form, (all the names in your party can go on one form) and send it as soon as possible to:
 Mrs Beverley Sillitoe, Secretary, Stonyhurst Pilgrimage Trust, Stonyhurst College, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 9PZ.
- **d)** Volunteer Helper Form If you would like to volunteer as a helper on the Catholic Association Pilgrimage to Lourdes please complete the Volunteer Helper Form which can be found on the Catholic Association website at: https://form.jotform.me/90204368261452
 Should you wish to print and post your form please send it to:

Ms. Lina Al-Araj, 26 Marbaix Gardens, Isleworth, London, TW7 4FD

Pupils at the College will be given the helpers' form to complete in their information packs and this should be returned to Mrs Sillitoe in the Association Office.

e) All pilgrims are asked to complete the medical form and send it to the Chief Medical Officer: Dr Nuala Mellows, Keepers Cottage, Wick Hill Lane, Finchampstead, Berkshire, RG40 3PY



If you require further copies of the Tangney Tours booking form, the Pink Form or the Medical Form please contact Mrs Sillitoe at Stonyhurst whose contact details are in the footer of this letter.

Alternatively you can find all the forms at:

https://association.stonyhurst.ac.uk/the-lourdes-pilgrimage/stonyhurst-pilgrimage-trust/

7. Further information

Approximately fourteen days before the departure date you will receive: -

- a) From Tangney Tours all travel details, tickets etc.
- **b)** From Stonyhurst the Pilgrimage Booklet containing comprehensive information with regard to the Pilgrimage, the proposed timetable for the Pilgrimage and other details.

8. <u>Preparation Day for Helpers</u>

The date for the Preparation Day in the south will be confirmed shortly. It is compulsory for all new helpers and for those who have not accompanied the CA pilgrimage in the past three years (i.e. last pilgrimage was in 2015 or before) and who are not attending the Northern Preparation Day, to attend this day, so you can have a chance to ask questions and fill in your DBS (formerly CRB) application forms.

There will also be a preparation day at Stonyhurst College for its pupils and for those volunteer helpers in the north of England, both new and returning. This will be taking place on Sunday 12th May. All experienced and new helpers are invited to attend the preparation day together. The preparation day starts in the morning and finishes mid-afternoon. Lunch will be provided for all attendees. Please indicate on the application form should you prefer to attend this day. **Pupils at Stonyhurst College should note that their attendance is compulsory!**

Helpers please note that the deadline for applications for Helpers is the 1st June 2019. The Catholic Association may not be able to process applications after that date.

9. <u>Fund-raising</u>

The Pilgrimage Trust is in constant need of additional financial resources in order to support assisted pilgrims, helpers and nurses. If you are able to assist by making a regular donation, monthly or annually, to the Trust, however small, the Trustees would be extremely grateful. We have enclosed a standing order form.



10. Rest In Peace

Please remember in your prayers those who have died since our last pilgrimage:

Charlie Bolton Margaret Robson Peter Shoesmith Anne Weston

May they rest in peace.

Kindest regards and best wishes to you all.

Nuala Mellows

Dr Nuala Mellows - Chairman, Stonyhurst Pilgrimage Trust

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