

AMDG

7th April 2022

Dear Friend of Stonyhurst

Stonyhurst Pilgrimage to Lourdes Friday 19th August to Friday 26th August 2022

Spring is now upon us and it is with real pleasure that I can inform you that it is time to plan the 2022 Pilgrimage to Lourdes. I do hope you will be returning, and I would encourage you to tell others about the Pilgrimage.

However, despite our initial hopes, we have concluded that one of the lingering effects of the pandemic is that we will be unable to provide medical or nursing support for adults on this year's CA pilgrimage. This means that we will have no CA doctors or nurses on hand to advise on and lead our adult pilgrims' medical and nursing care - any medical attention needed whilst in Lourdes will be provided by local doctors and nurses. We will not be using the Accueil this year and, regrettably, we will not be able to support adult pilgrims with personal care needs.

We recognise that this will mean that many of our regular assisted pilgrims may not be able to join us this year, and that this will be very disappointing for them. Nevertheless, we will have access to a stock of wheelchairs and we are recruiting volunteer helpers (handmaids and brancardiers) who will be able to push those wheelchairs while in Lourdes. Therefore, we hope that those who require assistance from us for their mobility issues but can independently meet their medical and personal care needs will still be able to join us.

The Pastoral Theme this year is "Go and tell the priests to build a chapel here and that people should come in procession." Well, we can certainly do our part by taking part in the Torchlight and Blessed Sacrament processions whilst we are there.

We strongly encourage you to take the flights that we have arranged through Tangney Tours from Birmingham and Stansted. This will enable us to ensure that your travel documentation and insurance arrangements, particularly within the context of the pandemic, are correctly completed, not solely to fulfil regulations, but also to ensure that, as a group, we can operate as safely as possible together. We can only take pilgrims who are fully vaccinated.

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 2022 Pilgrimage are as follows:

1. Travel

a. Air

Flights will be from Birmingham 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. £35.00 per person), travelling from Stonyhurst to Birmingham Airport and return. Confirmation of the 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.

2. Prices

a. Hotel Padoue

The full-board price for pilgrims travelling by air is £915.00.

b. **Insurance**

Travel Insurance can be arranged through the tour operators, Tangney Tours, at a price of £41.00. 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. <u>Single-room supplement</u>

For those wishing to reserve single rooms in the Hotel Padoue, there will be a supplement payable of £245 for the full week.

d. Independent Travellers

Please contact Tangney Tours for the nightly rate should you wish to travel independently but stay at the Hotel Padoue. Pilgrims who travel independently will also be required to complete the rigorous paperwork required under French travel regulations (post Covid) and our own Covid, health and safeguarding procedures.

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



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 £457.50 when travelling by air with Tangney Tours
- **b)** Full-time OS students £457.50 when travelling by air with Tangney Tours
- c) Independent OS students and pupils £240.00
- **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 £457.50 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. 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 Birmingham or Stansted, and in addition if you would like the Trust to provide a wheelchair for your use in Lourdes.

5. Action required

If you would like to join the pilgrimage to Lourdes this year with the Stonyhurst Group, then please:

- **a)** Fill in the appropriate sections on both sides of the attached Tangney Tours booking form, one per person, (or you can book online at: <u>Booking Form 2022</u>) and confirm the following:
 - That you wish to stay at the Hotel Padoue, and the room type you require
 - 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 £150 plus £41 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.
- 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: Helpers Form 2022

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.

6. 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.

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

The dates for Preparation Days 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 2016 or before) and who are not attending the Preparation Day at Stonyhurst, 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. The date will be confirmed shortly. All experienced and new helpers are invited to attend the preparation day together. 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 2022. The Catholic Association may not be able to process applications after that date.



8. <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.

9. Rest in Peace

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

Anthony Belderbos Chris Carr Anthony Duke Simon Fordham Ellen Roberts

May they rest in peace.

Kindest regards and best wishes to you all.

Nuala Mellows

Dr Nuala Mellows - Chairman, Stonyhurst Pilgrimage Trust

LDS