



LOURDES PILGRIMAGE OFFICE

Diocese of Down & Connor

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Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2022

Dear Father,

It is my pleasure to write to you launching the 2022 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes.

This year's Diocesan Pilgrimage, our first since 2019, will, due to the ongoing effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, be smaller and different from previous pilgrimages.

Due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic, there will be no medical or nursing support available from the Pilgrimage Committee and we will have a limited number of young adult helpers. We are unable to offer supported accommodation to pilgrims in the Accueil Notre-Dame. Pilgrims must be able to travel independently or be accompanied by someone who can provide for all their care and support needs.

There will be no 'Youth Team' as we usually would. Previous members of the team will be approached directly to form a smaller group of helpers; for this reason there are no public application process or Youth Team forms this year.

I would be grateful if you could do what you can over the next weeks and months to promote the pilgrimage in your parish including a notice in your bulletin and website/facebook page (see suggested text below), by mentioning the pilgrimage at Mass, and by personal words of encouragement.

With this letter you will find pilgrim booking forms, and a pilgrimage information sheet, if you require more, please contact the pilgrimage office and we will send some out to you.

With sincere thanks for your help and with assurance of remembrance in our pilgrimage prayers.

Fr Gerard Fox
Pilgrimage Director

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2022: Full board in hotel: 5 nights (13-18 July) for £685. Application forms now available from the Parish office or for further information contact the Pilgrimage Office on (028) 9077 0162 email: Lourdes@downandconnor.org or visit www.downandconnor.org/Lourdes

DIOCESE OF DOWN AND CONNOR PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2022

This year's Diocesan Pilgrimage, our first since 2019, will, due to the ongoing effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, be smaller and different from previous pilgrimages. Please read the information contained here, and in the booking-form carefully before proceeding with your booking.

5 nights	13-18 July	£685	Hotel Jeanne d'Arc Hotel Alba Hotel Mediterannee
Additional Costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A single room supplement of £140 per night applies.• An insurance supplement of £40 applies to pilgrims aged 80 and over at time of travel.• All pilgrims aged 18 or over will be subject to a Local Government Tax of €2.10 per person per night, this will be payable directly to your hotel on arrival in Lourdes.			
Fares are inclusive of return flights from Belfast International Airport, transfers from and to Lourdes Airport, full-board accommodation, travel insurance, courier services and other taxes. A deposit of £140 per person is required at the time of booking, with the balance payable approximately 8 weeks before departure.			

Pilgrimage Programme:

Our pilgrimage includes the celebration of Masses, including at the Grotto; celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick and Reconciliation; participation in the Blessed Sacrament and Candlelight processions and the Way of the Cross. Pilgrims will have the opportunity to visit Bartrès (additional cost). There is plenty of free time for your own personal prayer, to relax, and to explore the town of Lourdes.

Sick and Assisted Pilgrims:

Due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic, there will be no medical or nursing support available from the Pilgrimage Committee and that the Youth Team will be limited in number. We are unable to offer supported accommodation to pilgrims in the Accueil Notre-Dame Pilgrims must be able to travel independently or be accompanied by someone who can provide for **all** their care and support needs. In the event of illness pilgrims will be directed to the locally available medical services.

Covid-19:

The Pilgrimage Committee and Joe Walsh Tours are committed to the health and wellbeing of all our pilgrims. We will endeavor to provide guidance in relation to travel and health and safety protocols in place at home and abroad at the time of travel. We are not able to submit details and make declarations to government or other civic authorities on behalf of pilgrims. It is your responsibility to ensure you comply with all travel requirements in place at the time of travel. Failure to comply with travel requirements may result in you being denied boarding or entry to the destination or denied access to facilities and activities while in Lourdes. At the time of going to press (February 2022) all pilgrims will be required (by French Government and Hotelier safety protocols) to be fully vaccinated for Covid-19.

For Further information:

To request a booking application, or with further queries, please contact the Pilgrimage Office on (028) 9077 0162 or email us: lourdes@downandconnor.org

This tour is operated by Northern Star Travel Ltd. Flight inclusive packages originating in the UK are financially protected under the ATOL 11313 held by Northern Star Travel Ltd in compliance with the ATOL scheme administered by the Civil Aviation Authority