


Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle - Pilgrimage to Lourdes



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Monday 21st February 2022

After much prayer and reflection, we have had to come to the very difficult decision to cancel the 2022 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes.

The reasons we have come to this conclusion are complex and numerous. It was a difficult decision to make, but at this stage it seems the safest thing to do.

In order to take Assisted Pilgrims, we need to have enough youth helpers, experienced adult helpers and nurses to be able to provide the care that they need. As we do not have enough volunteers in the three vital areas of youth, nurses and adult helpers we are unable to take any pilgrims who would need assistance.

Thank you to all those who completed the Expression of Interest Forms. However, we do not have enough volunteers in order to plan and prepare safely for the 2022 Pilgrimage. In making this decision we understand that this news will come as a great disappointment to so many of our Lourdes Pilgrimage family, but we hope you can appreciate the reasons underlying this very difficult decision.

We hope that you will all continue to support the Pilgrimage with your prayers at this time. Work is underway already to prepare for a pilgrimage in 2023.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers as we will keep our Pilgrimage and Hospitalité family in our prayers.

With every blessing

Canon Stephen Watson and Fr. Michael Humble
on behalf of the Lourdes Pilgrimage Core Group