

# Hexham and Newcastle Hospitalité November 2021



**'Fellowship, Charity and Friendship'**

## Contact Us:

[www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk](http://www.hexhamandnewcastlelourdespilgrimage.co.uk)

Facebook: Hexham and Newcastle Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Twitter: @HexhamLourdes

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[lourdes.hospitalite@rcdhn.org.uk](mailto:lourdes.hospitalite@rcdhn.org.uk)

## Dates for your Diary

### Advent Service

**Friday 3rd December 2021 at 7pm**

St. Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle

Join us in a special Advent Service. This will be led by members of our Lourdes Pilgrimage family. It will be uploaded to our Facebook Page and YouTube channel.

### Virtual Rosary with Fr. Stephen Watson

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 - 3pm**

Join us as Fr. Stephen leads a virtual Rosary on The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. You will find this on our Hexham and Newcastle Pilgrimage to Lourdes Facebook page and YouTube channel.

### Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

Celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes at St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle. Further information to follow.

### Lourdes TV

Did you know that there is a live webcam at the Grotto in Lourdes? It is possible to log on, day or night and watch any of the Masses or services which may be taking place at the Grotto. Or you may wish to sit in silence and pray. Click this link to find out more: [Lourdes TV](#)

## Remembering our Deceased Friends

Since our last newsletter, sadly we have lost several members of our pilgrimage family. Some of our dear friends, have travelled with us to Lourdes for many years and will be greatly missed.

Let us remember them in our prayers.

Rev. Fr. Bill O'Gorman

John Cantwell

Bernard Smark

*Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

*May they rest in peace.*

Our Lady of Lourdes, **pray for them.**

Saint Bernadette, **pray for them.**

We have made every effort to include all names of deceased members of Hospitalité and assisted pilgrims since our last newsletter. If anyone that you know has died, and we have missed their name from the list above, please accept our sincere apologies. Please send us an email to inform us.

It is with deep regret that we are unable to hold our annual Christmas Party this year.

This decision has been made with the safety of all in mind and knowledge of the current transmission rates in our area.

We will be praying for you all during the Advent and Christmas season.

## Thank You

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make our Virtual Pilgrimage week such a success. It seems a long time ago now! There were some lovely comments shared on social media and the events seem to have been appreciated by many of our Pilgrimage family. We hope you were able to join us.

It was wonderful to see so many people at our Annual General Meeting in June. We welcome new members to our Hospitalité and our Council. Thank you for your support.

## Pilgrimage Announcements

As we embark on the Year of the Eucharist, Bishop Robert says,

“It is an opportunity to re-connect with the Sacramental Church – Christ in the Eucharist at the source and summit of our Catholic faith.”

In this ‘Year of the Eucharist’ we hope to:

**Revitalise** and renew our faith through a deepening prayer and devotion of the Eucharist.

**Grow** as a Diocese in our love and appreciation of the Eucharist.

**Deepen** our appreciation of the liturgical celebration of the Eucharist through the rites.

**Celebrate** Eucharist as being at the heart of the life and mission of the Church, gathering people back.

Go out to love and serve the world nourished by the Eucharist. For more information, please click here: [Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle](#)

## Expression of Interest Form

Preparations are beginning for our annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes from Friday 29th July - Friday 5th August 2022. It is hoped that this year, we will be able to travel together as a Diocese once more. However, no firm decisions have been made as yet.

In order to aid the planning stages, it would be helpful if you could indicate your interest in travelling to Lourdes in July 2022 and state if you would be willing to offer any help or volunteer for any of the roles that support the smooth running of the Pilgrimage.

You can complete the form, attached with the newsletter, as an expression of your interest. Please post this to our postal address listed below, or return via email.

The form can also be accessed as an online version from our website: [click here](#)

Thank you so much in advance for your service and support. Please share this form as widely as you can with family and friends.

## Getting in touch...

Postal address:

Lourdes Pilgrimage Office / Lourdes Hospitalité  
St. Hilda's Resource Centre  
St. Cuthbert's House  
West Road  
Newcastle Upon Tyne  
NE15 7PY

## Lifelong Pilgrimage to Lourdes

I've been going on Pilgrimage to Lourdes for many years. My first experience of a Pilgrimage to Lourdes was in 1963 as a young schoolboy going with my classmates on this big adventure. None of us had been anywhere on the continent, it was a tremendous experience and one which sparked my interest which developed in future years to greater involvement in Lourdes.

My first pilgrimage meant travelling by train down to Dover and then getting the ferry over to Calais, then onward by train to Lourdes. Travelling to Lourdes by train was the preferred means used by the Diocese for many years, latterly the option to fly has been made available.

For some special assistance pilgrims the Jumbulance has become their preferred option. The Jumbulance is a specially adapted luxury coach, having airline type seats and a small number of beds for those pilgrims whose additional care needs require them.

It is equipped with a full kitchen and a very large Disabled toilet. Meals are provided on the go by our fantastic Hospitalité volunteers. Nurses travel with us to support those who need additional support during the journey.

The Jumbulance is provided by the Across Trust, a charity specifically established to provide transport and support to enable those with particular care needs to go on pilgrimage to Lourdes.

It has been a privilege to travel in such comfort to our Blessed Lady's Shrine. Hopefully, when we get back to more normalised times, we can say...next year, Lourdes by Jumbulance!

Michael Johnson