

Catholic Association

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2009

Under the leadership of Bishop Patrick Lynch ss.cc. Auxiliary Bishop in Southwark

21st to 28th August 2009

By Air from various airports, by train - Eurostar/TGV



Diocese of Clifton · Diocese of East Anglia · Diocese of Northampton

Diocese of Portsmouth · Diocese of Southwark · Stonhurst College · Carmelites

The Catholic Association Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2009.

My Dear Pilgrim

Looking back over the past couple of years, I see how I've been blessed in the timing of my chairmanship of the Catholic Association. First, in 2007, an opportunity to see how our pilgrimage works and then, last year, the wonderful experience of the 150th anniversary.

I was delighted to see such a good response in terms of the number of pilgrims - and I was impressed to see how well the organisers and helpers coped in these unusual circumstances. There are always a few difficulties to overcome, but as far as I could see it all went remarkably smoothly - perhaps even more so than usual.

I think we were quite lucky in the timing of our pilgrimage. There were more than enough pilgrims in Lourdes to make it a very special occasion, while some groups going at other times reported even greater crowds and various associated difficulties. I would like to give a very sincere thanks to all those - leaders, workers and pilgrims - who worked so hard in different way to make our pilgrimage a great success. I hope that some of the additional pilgrims and helpers who came last year will have been inspired to make the pilgrimage a regular event in future. Looking to the future, I have to say that we are all concerned about the consequences of the weakness of the pound sterling, since it means increases in airline fuel costs (paid in dollars) and in accommodation charges (paid in euros). I would like to thank Tangney Tours for doing so much to reduce the increases as far as possible last year, when sterling had already begun its 'slide'. In planning this year's pilgrimage, we will continue to do the best we can to contain the costs, but there's no doubt it's going to be difficult.

I would like to thank you all, pilgrims and helpers, for your support in the past - and I hope very much that you'll be able to join us once again this year. We're very much going to need your continuing support, partly because each pilgrim makes a difference as a valued member of the group, and partly because both pilgrims and helpers make it possible for us to provide for the needs of our 'assisted pilgrims', who are fundamental to the spirit of Lourdes.

I would like to give a special word of thanks to a number of team leaders who are retiring this year. Thank you all very much for all your hard work and dedication - and particularly for the way in which you take such care to prepare your successors to carry on the work! I've been very impressed by the great team work and care for continuity in each aspect of the work of the Association.

Yours sincerely as a pilgrim

+ Paul (Auxiliary Bishop in Southwark)



Hotels and Accueil St Frai

All the hotels used offer good value for money, generally the more expensive are nearer the Grotto. All include continental breakfast, lunch and dinner. All hotel rooms are with W.C. bath/shower, and lift to all floors. The Accueil St Frai accommodation is for those who are dependent on nursing care. These rooms do not have private facilities but the modern well designed hostel is comfortable and beautifully located within the Sanctuary.

Special menus and diets are available, but must be pre-booked. Vegetarian meals are not well understood by the French and will occasionally disappoint. A few words with the Tangney Tours representative or the hotel may help. Medical diets must be written out and submitted in advance. Handicapped rooms are available in most hotels and certainly in the Accueil St Frai but must be requested in advance with details of any special needs. Special equipment may need to be hired and paid for in advance (apart from the Accueil St Frai which is fully equipped).

Assisted Pilgrims

Assisted Pilgrims are those who have a medical condition which causes them to need assistance with mobility or care during their week in Lourdes. If you require wheelchair assistance you **MUST** register. In addition the Clergy require all who wish to be considered for the sacrament of the Anointing to be registered as an Assisted Pilgrim. Closing date for registration: 15th July 2009.

Registered Hotel Assisted Pilgrims

- Should be able to look after themselves within a hotel or be accompanied by someone who can help to look after them in the hotel and on the journey.
- If registered are able to receive wheelchair assistance in Lourdes but not necessarily at UK airports
- Should book with Tangney Tours using this form and request a Medical Form from Tangney Tours or their Diocesan Director, to be completed and sent to the Pilgrimage Doctor.

Registered Accueil St Frai Pilgrims

- Are likely to need extra care during the Pilgrimage. They will have carers, served meals and all their mobility needs met whilst in Lourdes as well as supervision from nursing and medical staff in very comfortable accommodation near the Grotto.
- Should not use this form but request a Medical Form from Tangney Tours or their Diocesan Director and on completion send it to the Pilgrimage Doctor. Once accepted they will receive a special booking form.

**In case of queries please contact:
Dr Adam Farmer on 07054 656115**

This year we are using the Accueil St Frai in the centre of the town. This facility, completely rebuilt on modern lines, should offer easier access for and to our assisted pilgrims.

Travel

21st - 28th August 2009

Air

Flights will be available from Stansted and other Airports that will be confirmed depending on requests. All flights will include taxes and transfers from Lourdes Airport to your hotels.

Train

By morning Eurostar from St Pancras to Paris Gare du Nord and then by direct TGV to Lourdes station with coach transfer to your hotel arriving for dinner. On the return you will depart mid morning to Paris Gare du Nord, and onwards to London arriving early evening. The train is quite limited in the number of wheelchairs that can be carried, but as always we will have plenty of chairs available in Lourdes. First Class is available on the train however we will not know the supplements until May 2009.

By Air or Train. 21st – 28th August 2009.

To Volunteer as a Helper or Musician

To facilitate our Pilgrimage many Helpers are required, particularly to care for those staying in the Accueil. Priests, Deacons, Musicians, Doctors and Nurses have obvious roles. Other Volunteers are required for duties ranging from pushing wheelchairs to serving meals. After booking you will be sent a Helpers' Form and Information Sheet, with details of Preparation Days, at which experienced helpers give advice and information and CRB checks can be completed. If you are able to help us, please complete and return the volunteer form as promptly as possible.

The Helpers' Children's Programme

Provides a professional child care service for the children of registered helpers and registered assisted pilgrims divided into mini and junior teams for children between the ages of 0 and 16. Please register before 1/6/2009.

Details can be found on the CA website or from:

Nicole Gallop-mildon. Tel: 0208 770 0214

Email: n_gallop mildon@hotmail.com

Hotels: A few examples.

Mediterranée, and Alba

Modern hotels with handicapped rooms, air conditioned dining rooms, plentiful cuisine, large bars and meeting rooms, situated by the river.

Christ Roi

A modern hotel about 10 minutes walk (uphill) from the domain. Air conditioned dining rooms, good cuisine, bars and meeting rooms. This hotel also has rooms suitably equipped for the disabled.

Beau Site

An excellent 3 star hotel on the flat, overlooking the river, jointly owned by the hotel Mediterranée and the Tangney family.

Notre Dame de France & Irlande

Well established older hotels with most modern amenities. Both are quite close to the Domain.

Solitude / St Sauveur

These two hotels are owned by the Vinuales family. The Solitude is a purpose built hotel situated in a quiet passage, great rooms especially for handicapped people, some with good views. The St Sauveur has smaller rooms but a more personal service. The position of both these hotels dictates the price.

Padoue

A brand new hotel with all modern aids for the disabled close to the sanctuary.

Gallia & Londres

4 star regency style hotel near St Joseph's Gate. Very pleasant restaurant Attractive garden. All bedrooms decorated in the style of Louis XVI.

If you would like details of any other hotels do please give us a call.

Prices

All of the prices quoted include:

- Transportation from the airport or London station to Lourdes and return, coaches to your hotel.
- Full board meals from arrival until departure.
- All taxes and duties, service charges.
- Services of Tangney Tours.

Air Prices

Single Room Supp.

Accueil Residents	£570.00	N/A
Esplanade	£665.00	£147.00
St Georges / ND de France / Beau Site	£695.00	£147.00
Mediterranée / Alba / Arcades	£728.00	£189.00
Christ Roi / Irlande	£760.00	£189.00
Padoue / Moderne	£780.00	£189.00
Solitude / St Sauveur	£810.00	£217.00
Gallia Londres	£875.00	£217.00

Travel Insurance @ £25.00

Rail Prices

Single Room Supp.

Esplanade	£615.00	£147.00
St Georges / ND de France / Beau Site	£645.00	£147.00
Mediterranée / Alba / Arcades	£678.00	£189.00
Christ Roi / Irlande	£710.00	£189.00
Padoue / Moderne	£730.00	£189.00
Solitude / St Sauveur	£760.00	£217.00
Gallia Londres	£825.00	£217.00

Travel Insurance @ £25.00

YOUNG HELPERS FARE

£445.00

By coach, 17 - 25 year olds with special arrangements for young people. Travel Insurance @ £25.00

Details and booking forms from:

Tina Walker

444 Aureole Walk, Studlands Park, Newmarket, Suffolk. CB8 7BD.

Telephone: 01638 560071

Email: CA_YOUTH@hotmail.com

Train arrangements are subject to confirmation by Rail Europe and French Railways Ltd. All bookings are subject to the carriers conditions.

TANGNEY TOURS BOOKING CONDITIONS

This leaflet is issued as an addition to our main brochure. The booking conditions therein are AITO approved and have been accepted by your Pilgrimage Committee as being applicable to this Pilgrimage. We summarise the main details as follows. Full details on request.

1. The tours in this brochure are bonded by the Civil Aviation Authority (ATOL 1220) for Air pilgrims, and with AITO for Overland pilgrims.

2. Hotels, Airlines, Coaches, Ferries and Trains have all been booked. In the unlikely event of there being a change you will be advised of the change and offered at least as good as contracted. All carriage is subject to carriers conditions.

3. Prices. The prices in this brochure are based on costs known on 1st January 2009. Currency and fuel costs are based on 1.10 Euro = £1.00. In the unlikely event of any surcharge you will be notified at least 30 days in advance.

4. Should you or a member of your party be forced to cancel you must advise us in writing. The cancellation is not effective until we receive this letter.

A cancellation by the customer will take effect on the date we receive written information on this. We will apply the following scale of cancellation charges based on the period before departure when the cancellation takes effect and expressed as a percentage of the tour cost.

Up to 56 days	Deposit
57 - 29 days	50%
28 - 15 days	80%
14 days or less	100%

If the reason for cancellation falls within the terms of your Pilgrimage Insurance Policy you should make a claim in the first instance to Tangney Tours for recovery of the charges.

Details of the insurance and the address to which any other claims should be made are shown in this brochure.

5. TRAVEL DELAYS. The travel companies we contract for our clients are all of good repute. **However, in the unlikely event of a delay, howsoever caused, the Tour Operator cannot be held liable for any costs incurred or inconvenience suffered.**

6. COMPLAINTS If you have a complaint about any of the services provided to you, you must immediately inform our local representative and we will take prompt action to rectify matters. If you feel a dispute is not satisfactorily resolved, you must give written evidence of this to our local representative at the time and write to us giving full details of your complaint within 28 days of return date of the tour. Failure to do so will invalidate your complaint.

7. We reserve the right to remove anyone from any tour who behaves in an inappropriate manner and to charge that person for any costs involved.

8. For full details of our booking conditions please ask for a copy of our main brochure.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Tangney Tours Ltd are happy to offer you the following insurance that has been arranged for us by Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd and which is underwritten by AXA Insurance UK plc. Both companies are Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Services Authority (FSA). Full details are also available upon request.

This insurance will automatically be included for you. If you do not wish to be included in this insurance, you must state this on the booking form and must provide us with details of your alternative insurance at the time of booking.

This insurance is only available to persons who are permanently resident and domiciled in the UK or ROI.

A brief summary of cover is given below, full details are documented in the policy which will be held by the Pilgrimage Organiser. Copies of this are available on request.

SUMMARY OF COVER

Main policy limits only, please see the policy document for other limits that may apply.

Section	Limit
Cancellation & Curtailment	£3,000
Personal Accident	£15,000
Medical and other Expenses	£5,000,000
Hospital Benefit	£300
Personal Luggage Money & Valuables	£2,000
Loss of Passport	£200
Travel Delay	£60
Personal Liability	£2,000,000

POLICY EXCESSES:

Cancellation & Curtailment

The first £50 of each and every claim per Insured Person claimed for under this Section is excluded, increased to £100 where you are aged 66 to 75 years and to £150 where you are aged 76 to 95 years (other than in respect of claims for loss of deposit where the excess is £25).

Medical and Other Expenses

The first £50 of each and every claim per Insured Person claimed for under this Section is excluded. Where you are aged 66 to 75 years the first £150 of each and every claim per Insured Person claimed for under this Section is excluded. Where you are aged 76 to 95 years the first £300 of each and every claim per Insured Person claimed for under this Section is excluded.

Other Sections

An excess of £50 applies to each and every claim each insured person under the Personal Luggage Money & valuables and Delayed Departure (b) sections, and £250 under the Personal Liability section.

Pre Existing Medical Conditions

There is no need to advise us of your pre existing health conditions. This insurance does not contain pre existing exclusions other than in respect of those with a Terminal or Psychiatric illness. For claims arising from the treatment of any Terminal or Psychiatric illness following provisions apply -

a. Under Section 3 Medical & Other Expenses, cover will be provided to You subject to You:

(i) Having obtained and supplied to Us your EHIC details prior to departure.

(ii) Having obtained and supplied to Us prior to departure written confirmation of fitness to undertake the intended journey having due consideration for Your state of health, means of transportation and duration of journey from Your regular registered medical practitioner.

(iii) For Terminal illness, having obtained prior to departure and supplied to Us written confirmation of a prognosis greater than 28 days on the intended date of return to the UK.

b. A limit of £5,000 shall apply in respect of any Repatriation Expenses.

c. The hospital Benefit section of the policy is inoperative.

d. The Cancellation & Curtailment section is inoperative.

e. The Policy Excess applying to the Medical and Other Expenses sections is increased to £1,500.

You will also need to obtain confirmation from your GP of your fitness to travel.

MAIN HEALTH EXCLUSIONS

We will not pay for claims arising directly or indirectly from the following circumstances existing on the date of applying for this insurance:

1. From any terminal illness suffered by You (or any person upon whose health the Trip depends).

2. From any reoccurrence of any psychiatric disorder, anxiety state and/or depression suffered by You (or any person upon whose health the Trip depends).

3. Where You are travelling against the advice of a Medical Practitioner.

Cancellation Rights. The insurer provides a Money Back Guarantee enabling you to cancel the insurance within 14 days of issue should the policy not meet your requirements. No refund of premium is provided for cancellation after this time.

Claims. Claims are handled by Towergate Chase Parkinson who act on behalf of the Insurers and not the customer in relation to any claim. The telephone number is 0870 906 3144.

General Queries.

If you have any query regarding the cover provided you may contact Global Travel Insurance, Amelia House, Crescent Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 1RL. Tel: 01903 203933 for advice.

Applicable Law.

The law applicable to this insurance contract is English Law.

Complaints. If you wish to register a complaint about our service please contact us in writing at the above address. If you cannot settle your complaint with us, you may be entitled to refer it to the Financial Ombudsman Service.

Additional Cover If you wish to alter or increase any aspect of this cover please apply to Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd. Amelia House. Crescent Road. Worthing. BN11 1RP

The Catholic Association Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2009 is organised in association with Tangney Tours



TANGNEY TOURS

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100%
Financial Protection



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