



Edinburgh Lourdes News

Combined news from the St Andrews & Edinburgh Lourdes Pilgrimage & Hospitalité Committees



M A R C H 2 0 2 5

Dear friends,

We are delighted to write to you with some updates and information about upcoming events. If you are travelling to Lourdes this year, we hope that you are looking forward to it. If you are not, you can be assured that we will carry you in our prayers to the Grotto of Our Lady.

As this is a Jubilee Year, Lourdes will certainly be very busy, especially as Pope Francis has named the shrine as one of the places where a Plenary Indulgence can be obtained. More about this can be found within the newsletter!

Whether you are travelling with us this year or not, there are some important pieces of information within our newsletter. There are some exciting changes to our Helper Teams which have come around following feedback from previous years.

To keep up to date with everything relating to either our pilgrimage in July, or to simply keep yourself informed of everything we do to keep the spirit of Lourdes alive at home in our own Archdiocese, please go to one of the following...

- ◆ Our website (www.edinburgh-lourdes.com)
- ◆ Email/Text (go to the website to sign up for this)
- ◆ Facebook (Helpers of Our Lady of Lourdes)
- ◆ Twitter (@StPilgrimage)



With Mary.
PILGRIMS OF HOPE
2025



Please take some time to read the information within this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you soon!

As we continue our Lenten Journey towards the joy of Easter, we send you warm greetings, renewed prayers and best wishes!

*The Pilgrimage &
Hospitalité committees*

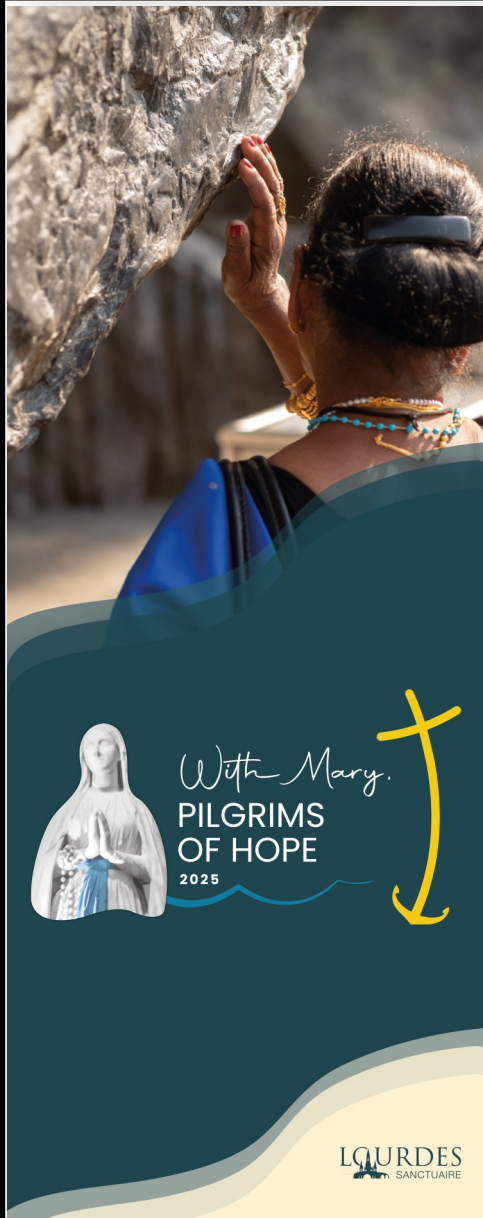
SAVE THE DATE! ONLINE QUIZ (& AGM)

Friday 23rd May 2025

**AGM from 7pm followed by Quiz at 7:30pm
on Zoom. Come and join us. BYOB! Link to**

Quiz time

**be shared
in due
course!**



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR OUR PILGRIMAGE IN 2025.

As previously mentioned, this year's pilgrimage is already oversubscribed, with some people being placed on a waiting list. Tangney Tours is currently working on an alternative arrangement for those who are on the waiting list.

If you would like to be part of our pilgrimage, please do still contact Tangney Tours on 01732 886666 to register your interest.

We invite pilgrims from all over the Archdiocese to join us, with Archbishop Cushley. Our invitation is for everyone... Click on the relevant links below.

Priests, religious, families, individuals, parish groups. You do not need to be coming as a helper!

[Diocese - Edinburgh - Tangney Tours](#)

We also invite those who wish to be helpers or a part of the medical team to get involved.

[Helpers | edinburgh-lourdes](#)

There is currently a waiting list for Assisted Pilgrims and so we are unable to accept any further applications at this time.

We are sometimes joined by smaller parish groups who come for all or part of the Pilgrimage. Again, please let us know if you are planning to join us so that we can plan for this.

Those who are neither helpers or assisted pilgrims form a large part of our 200-strong pilgrimage! They are included in all of our planned liturgies and activities and we are always looking for more ways to improve on this. Please come and join us!

CALLING ALL HELPERS!

If you are travelling to Lourdes and intend to be part of the 2025 Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, then we would encourage you to complete a helper declaration as soon as possible if you have not already done so. ***Even if you are travelling independently!*** This helps us to plan ahead and allows us to know how many assisted pilgrims we can accommodate.

Please remember that you are required to have the following in place BEFORE the pilgrimage:

Safeguarding Training, PVG, Church Volunteer Approval and other Practical Training. Not all of these will be necessary, unless you are travelling for the first time. Please get in touch ASAP.

Your prayers are asked for the eternal repose of:

Haydn Carr, Josie Shaw, Moira McCann, Joe McBride, Elizabeth McFarlane, Helen Campbell Hewson, Christine Newton, John Quinn, Brian Quinn, Lady Brigid McEwan.

May they Rest in Peace and rise in glory.

Rest
in
Peace

LOURDES PASTORAL THEME FOR 2025

With this being a Jubilee Year with the theme being, *Pilgrims of Hope* what else could the Sanctuary choose for their Pastoral Theme? They have simply added a small but significant addition to the wording as you can see below, whilst maintaining some aspects of the design. The logo to the right is the official logo commissioned by the Vatican for the Jubilee Year.



Symbolism behind the Official Logo

The logo for the 2025 Jubilee, themed "Pilgrims of Hope," is rich in symbolism and represents several key themes.

Four Figures: These figures symbolise humanity coming from the four corners of the earth, embracing each other to indicate solidarity and fraternity.

Colours: The figures are depicted in red, orange, green, and blue, each colour representing different aspects:

Red: Love, passion, and self-sacrifice.

Orange: Joy, vitality, and enthusiasm.

Green: Hope, growth, and rebirth.

Blue: Faith, peace, and tranquility

Cross and Anchor: The leading figure holds onto a cross, which bends down towards humanity, symbolising faith and hope. The cross ends in an anchor, representing stability and hope in turbulent times.

Waves: The rough waves under the figures symbolize life's challenges and the need for hope during difficult times.

Motto: The motto "Pilgrims in Hope" is displayed at the bottom of the logo, emphasising hope as the guiding thread of the Holy Year. This logo encapsulates an invitation for all to walk together towards a better future, guided by faith, mercy, and fraternity

LOURDES LOGO

There are subtle connections between the official Lourdes Logo and that of the Jubilee Year. We see the cross, the anchor and the waves linking us as pilgrims to universal church as we journey towards Jesus, through Mary.



With Mary.
PILGRIMS OF HOPE
2025



ONE ARCHDIOCESE: ONE PILGRIMAGE

KEEPING POPE FRANCIS IN OUR PRAYERS

As Pope Francis continues his time in hospital, we offer our prayers for the outpouring of God's healing love upon him.



Loving and Merciful God,
We come before You in prayer,
lifting up Your servant, Pope

Francis, in his time of need.
You are the Source of all healing,
and we ask You to surround him
with Your loving presence,
granting him strength and recovery.
May Your divine grace rest upon him,
restoring his health and filling him
with renewed vigour to continue leading
Your Church with compassion and wisdom.

We place Pope Francis into Your hands,
trusting in Your eternal care.
May he be comforted by the love of the Church and the
prayers of all the faithful.
We ask, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
that his recovery be swift,
and his spirit be strengthened in Your peace.
May Your will be done in his life, O Lord,
and may Your healing power be with him always.
We offer this prayer in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Pray for Him.

EDINBURGH HOSTS IMPORTANT CONFERENCES

In November, we hosted two important annual conferences which take place in a different Diocese each year. We were delighted to host the British Lourdes Pilgrimage Directors and the British Lourdes Medical Association (BLMA). As part of these respective conferences, which took place in the Braid Hills Hotel, there were two beautiful Masses. The Directors' Mass was in St. Margaret's Chapel, Gillis (celebrated by Archbishop Cushley) and for the BLMA Mass, we joined the Vigil Mass at St. Cuthbert's, celebrated by Fr. Francis. Our very own singers and musicians supported both Masses and after the Vigil, those present were invited to join the conference attendees at a Ceilidh. A huge amount of work went into the organisation of these events and so sincere thanks is offered to all of those who contributed to this. All of our visitors were delighted by the welcome, conferences, accommodation, Masses (and music!)

71ST MIRACLE ATTRIBUTED TO FORMER PILGRIM FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL

The 71st officially recognized miracle at Lourdes involves the healing of John Traynor, a British soldier severely wounded during World War I. Traynor was injured multiple times, suffering from severe epilepsy and partial paralysis. In 1923, during a pilgrimage to Lourdes, he experienced a miraculous recovery after being immersed in the Shrine's pools and participating in a Eucharistic procession. His cure was officially recognized as a miracle by the Archbishop of Liverpool on December 8, 2024.

This recognition came a century after his initial healing. The verification process for a Lourdes miracle is thorough and involves several stages:

Initial Declaration: The person who believes they have been cured reports their experience to the Medical Bureau at Lourdes. This includes a detailed account of their illness and the circumstances of their cure.

Medical Evaluation: The Medical Bureau conducts a primary evaluation to gather all relevant medical information and assess the person's health. They rule out any possibility of trickery, illusion, or psychological factors.

Unexpected Cure: If the initial evaluation suggests an extraordinary cure, the case is classified as an "unexpected cure" and subjected to further study. This involves a comparative analysis of medical documents before and after the cure to confirm a significant and inexplicable change in health.

Expert Review: The case is reviewed by a large number of medical specialists from the International Medical Committee of Lourdes (CMIL). They ensure the cure is beyond normal medical explanations and validate it as thoroughly discussed and confirmed.

Final Recognition: The CMIL affirms the exceptional nature of the cure according to current scientific knowledge. The case is then sent to the bishop of the diocese where the person lives for final recognition. The cure must be complete, lasting, and from a serious illness with an unfavourable prognosis.

This rigorous process ensures that only genuine, scientifically inexplicable cures are recognized as miracles.

200 CLUB
Anyone
can join

	December 24	March 25
1st Prize (£50)	Margaret Ellison	Clare Wilson
2nd Prize (£30)	May O'Neill	Monique Lockhart
3rd Prize (£20)	Jennifer Williams	Anne McKechnie



Congratulations to our latest winners!

This year, the 200 Club has donated much needed money (around £1400) to the Hospitalité funds. This is an amazing amount and contributes to much needed funds. Our thanks go to Paul Barry for co-ordinating the membership, draws and accounts for the 200 Club and sincere thanks to all of those who are members of the 200 Club.

WE STILL HAVE NUMBERS AVAILABLE!

The more members we have... the higher the prize stakes!

If you would like to join the 200 Club, then please the form by clicking [HERE](#).

You can also go to [Fundraising | edinburgh-lourdes](#)) for more information about fundraising. This only costs £12 per year for each number you purchase. You can have more than one number if you wish!

SUBSCRIPTIONS & DONATIONS

We rely upon members subscriptions each year to assist with administration costs, etc. Our 'Subs' are **minimum donation of £5** per year. You can either pay this directly to Paul Barry at any event, or by Standing Order. Information regarding payment of 200 Club and 'Subs' by Standing Order is outlined below.

SUBSCRIPTIONS	200 CLUB
Account Number: 00409700 Sort Code: 80-02-85	Account Number: 06003435 Sort Code: 80-02-83
Remember it is a minimum of £5 per year. You are welcome to offer more of a donation if you wish. You can also set up a regular donation to funds, if you wish. Ensure you put your name as a reference.	The 200 club comes off annually. The amount per number is £12, therefore, if you have additional numbers, an additional cost is applied. Ensure you put your name as a reference.

Make your shopping easy by visiting <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/edinburghlourdes>. You

shop with over 2,000 well-known retailers such as John Lewis,

Boots, Tesco, Argos, M&S and many more. When you make a purchase online, the retailer makes a donation to Edinburgh Lourdes Hospitalité Committee. To remind you to use easyfundraising please follow the link <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/extra-ways-to-raise/> which will remind you to use easyfundraising for all of your purchases. Easy Fundraising also has an App which can be downloaded to iPhone or Android phones. It is an easy and way to support us and it doesn't cost you any more than your normal shopping would!

easyfundraising
.org.uk

LEGACY GIVING

Leaving a gift to charity in your will keeps your money working toward the causes that are important to you. Would you consider leaving a legacy to the Edinburgh Lourdes Hospitalité?

Edinburgh Lourdes Hospitalité Website please visit www.edinburgh-lourdes.com

By going to the website, you can...

- Lourdes 2025
- Helpers Page
- Sign up for Newsletters/Texts/Emails
- Keep your diary up to date with all of our upcoming events
- Find out information about things such as volunteers, fundraising, Youth for Lourdes
- Download forms, newsletters and other communications

Hospitalité Online Quiz (& AGM)

Friday 23rd May on ZOOM. AGM at 7pm followed by Quiz at 7:30pm. BYOB! **Link to follow. SAVE THE DATE!**

Helper Preparation Day

Note that you only need attend ONE of these sessions as both will have the same content.

Saturday 14th June 2025 from 10am in St. Augustine's High School, Edinburgh **OR**
Thursday 19th June 2025 from 6pm in St. Augustine's High School, Edinburgh

Mass of Welcome for the 2025 Pilgrimage

Sunday 6th July 2025 at **3:30pm** in St. Cuthbert's Church, Slateford, Edinburgh.
Due to another booking at St. Cuthbert's, this Mass will begin slightly later than usual.

Lourdes Pilgrimage

Friday 11th—Friday 18th July 2025

Mass of Thanksgiving & Reunion

Sunday 31st August 2025 at 3pm in St. Cuthbert's Church, Slateford, Edinburgh

November Remembrance Mass

Sunday 9th November 2025 at 3pm in St. Cuthbert's Church, Slateford, Edinburgh

Carol Service

Sunday 7th December 2025 at 3pm in St. Margaret's Church, Davidsons Mains, Edinburgh

**IMPORTANT
DATES**

ONE ARCHDIOCESE: ONE PILGRIMAGE

PRIVACY STATEMENT

The Hospitalité and Pilgrimage Committees take your privacy seriously.

There are two privacy policies - one for the Hospitalite and one for the Pilgrimage Committee. The Hospitalité is an independent charity with its own Privacy Policy. The Pilgrimage Committee operates under the auspices of the Church and therefore is covered by the Church Privacy Policy. You can view each of the Privacy Policies in the privacy section of our website.

Please check website for updates - www.edinburgh-lourdes.com