



Edinburgh Lourdes News

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



E A S T E R 2 0 2 1

Dear friends,

Happy Easter to you all! We hope that you managed to celebrate the Easter Triduum in some fitting way, either virtually or in person. The Easter season is the high point of the church's year and it is filled with a message of hope.

On Good Friday, in a stark and almost empty St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis led the Stations of the Cross. This year, these reflections were written by children and young people. They related the 'Way of the Cross' and the experience of Jesus to their own experiences. Their insight and depth of faith was inspirational! One child's prayer was as beautiful and simple as this... *"We thank you, Jesus, for having given us, by your death on the cross, the power of hope."*



By now, you will know that our Archdiocesan Pilgrimage has, once again, been postponed due to COVID-19. This was not an easy decision, but it was one which was taken with everyone's best interest at heart - not least our dedicated Medical Team who continue to give so much of themselves in their various roles within the NHS. We continue to keep all of them in our prayers.

Throughout the year, since our 2020 Pilgrimage did not go ahead, both the Hospitalité and Pilgrimage Committees have worked hard to ensure that the 'Lourdes Connection' continues and that the Spirit of Lourdes is alive within our Archdiocese. We have had many beautiful liturgies and other events as we strive to achieve this! Ultimately, our aim is to travel together to Lourdes once again (when it is safe) and to journey as pilgrims together 'to Jesus, through Mary'. We continue to pray that this will become a reality soon and we continue to work with the Lourdes Authorities and Tangney Tours as well as His Grace, the Archbishop to plan for this.

We thank everyone who has managed to join us for our Virtual Events and we look forward to more of these in the near future! Please do keep an eye on our various communication platforms for up-to-date information. These are:

- ◆ Our website (www.edinburgh-lourdes.com)
- ◆ Email/Text (to be added to our Email/Text list, please go to www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/comms)
- ◆ Facebook (Helpers of Our Lady of Lourdes)
- ◆ Twitter (@StPilgrimage)

Planning is already underway for our Virtual Pilgrimage 2021, so please look out for further information on how to join us for this special week of prayer, pilgrimage and friendship!

With renewed good wishes,

*The Pilgrimage &
Hospitalité committees*



As we celebrate the Lord's triumph over death this Eastertide, your prayers are asked for the eternal repose of:



Catriona MacKinnon,
Sister Celine,
Ellen Reddington,
Wendy Gillespie,
Mary Margaret Whyte,
The Most Reverend Philip Tartaglia (*Archbishop of Glasgow*),
The Right Reverend Vincent Logan (*Bishop Emeritus of Dunkeld, former Priest of our Archdiocese and former Youth Chaplain for our Pilgrimage*),
Maureen McMahon,
Mick Kennedy,
Beth Evans.

May they Rest in Peace

2021 PILGRIMAGE CANCELLATION

A communication was previously circulated to everyone currently on our mailing lists to announce the cancellation of our 2021 Pilgrimage. This was done, of course, in line with all of the current Government and Health information we had at the time. There were many concerns around our ability to travel together on Pilgrimage.

We understand that some of you may have concerns around deposits or payments which were being carried over to 2021 following the cancellation of the 2020 Pilgrimage. We have discussed this with both John and Nicholas Tangney and they advise anyone in this category to contact Tangney Tours directly.

If you are unsure of what to do, or what you are entitled to, please contact Tangney Tours, who will be happy to help you in any way they can.

Telephone: 01732 886666 or Email: Sales@Tangney-Tours.com.

ONE ARCHDIOCESE: ONE PILGRIMAGE

FEBRUARY MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES (FEAST DAY MASS)

We offer our thanks in a special way to Father Alex Davie and the parishioners of St Gregory the Great, The Inch, Edinburgh, for hosting our annual Feast Day Mass. This normally takes place in St. Cuthbert's on the Sunday nearest the Feast Day itself. However, we were delighted when Father Alex agreed to prepare and celebrate the Mass for us. It was a lovely touch to receive the recorded message from the Chair of the Parish Council! As always, Fr Alex went the extra mile for us and we thank him sincerely! Thanks also to our band of volunteers who read and provided music for the liturgy!



NOVEMBER MASS FOR THE DECEASED

Back in November, we joined together (virtually) in prayer for those who have died in the last year. This was all the more poignant given the situation with COVID-19 and the numbers who have lost their lives to this tragic illness. However, Fr James Tracy celebrated a beautiful Mass for us and, yet again, caused us to stop and think through his words in his homily. We thank Father James for his ongoing support both of our Virtual Events and as Chaplain to the Hospitalité and for celebrating such a beautiful Mass for us. These Masses are all the more special when people we all know and love are providing the readings! Well done and thanks to them for their contributions.



VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Our annual Carol Service also had a virtual flavour this year and the feedback we received about this was so positive! Again, Father James prepared beautiful reflections and our band of volunteers were at hand to prepare readings and music. It was a really fitting and prayerful service, which captured the true meaning of Christmas. All that was missing were the Mince Pies and hospitality of our friends at Holy Cross Parish, Edinburgh! Here's hoping our celebration next year may be in person!



OCTOBER ROSARY

In October, we joined again in prayer for a special Virtual Rosary. So many of you contributed to this and it was brought together beautifully by our music group and Father James. Thanks to everyone involved and to everyone who joined us online!



OUR FIRST EVER BIG NIGHT IN!

More recently, we had our **Big Night In** which was a HUGE success! We were treated to a night of wonderful entertainment which was prepared by lots of our regular pilgrims as well as a few special guest appearances. The standard was amazing and everyone who managed to be there on the night was delighted by what was on the menu. The fact that we could do this through Zoom, meant that there was a real feeling of us all being together, albeit virtually!

Thank you to EVERYONE who recorded acts, prepared for the evening in any way, texted in a donation and who turned up on the night! It really was a wonderful event, made special in so many ways.



200 Club

Congratulations to our latest winners drawn recently! 1st Prize (£50 Tom Doyle), 2nd Prize (£30 Raymond McMahon), 3rd Prize (£20 Anne Mackenzie).

This year, the 200 Club has donated 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!



Are you a member of the 200 Club but do not pay by 'Standing Order'? Then it is time to renew your subscription. Please see the attached form to do this. If you would like to join the 200 Club, then please complete a form (attached with this Newsletter or go to www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/fundraising/) and start a **STANDING ORDER beginning on 1st June 2021**. You can do this online. This only costs £12 per year for each number you purchase.

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 www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/edinburglourdes. You shop with over 2,000 well-known retailers such as Amazon, 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/>

easyfundraising
.org.uk

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!

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?

No matter how small, leaving something to us in your Will really makes a difference and will ensure that the Pilgrimage continues to serve the needs of those in need throughout our Archdiocese for many years to come.

SAFEGUARING TRAINING - PART 2 - *please check your email inbox!*

A number of our helpers will have recently received an email from us regarding the above training. All helpers have completed Part 1 of the Safeguarding Training, however, there is a requirement to complete Part 2.

This can be completed virtually and the Archdiocese has a number of dates planned which you can sign up for. This training is **mandatory** and you will need to complete it before you travel again to Lourdes. Please click on the link within your email, or if you are reading this Newsletter on a digital device, click on the link below.

www.archedinburgh.org/administration/safeguarding-training/

Please do book on one of the available courses, as this will be one less thing for you (and us) to worry about when the time comes to begin the mandatory preparations and training for future in-person pilgrimages.



DR KEN RITCHIE

Dr. Ken Ritchie has been a pilgrim on our Archdiocesan Pilgrimage for many years. In that time, he has served as our Pilgrimage Doctor prior to Dr. Bald taking over this role upon Ken's retirement.

More recently, Dr. Ritchie has been the Chairperson of the Pilgrimage Committee. This has involved him being an integral part of the organisation and execution of the Pilgrimage. His role has meant a huge dedication of time and energy in many different ways; both practically and advisory as well as representing the Pilgrimage at various events and working with our Tour Operators and the Lourdes Authorities.

Anyone who meets Dr. Ritchie could not help but be struck by his gentle nature and the quiet way in which he goes about his role. He has been an excellent Chairperson and has gone above and beyond in all things associated with our Pilgrimage.

Dr. Ritchie will be sorely missed by the other members of the Pilgrimage Committee, whom he has led with great skill and dedication. He is a gentleman and a kind soul and he leaves his role having overseen many challenges and changes in our Pilgrimage and we hope you agree that he leaves his role having changed things for the better!

Dr Ritchie has assured us that, despite stepping down from his role as Chairperson, both he and his wife Maureen will still be joining us on Pilgrimage! They will, no doubt, both continue to be of service to the Assisted Pilgrims in the Saint Frai and we are sure that they will continue to support the Pilgrimage in many other ways.

On behalf of the Pilgrimage Committee, we extend sincere thanks to Dr. Ritchie for his many years of service and we thank Maureen for her warm and kind hospitality during many (long!) Committee Meetings.

On behalf of all Pilgrims, we offer thanks to Ken for everything he has done and everything he has achieved for our Archdiocesan Pilgrimage and we commend both Ken and Maureen to our Blessed Lady in anticipation of their continued dedication and service to our Pilgrimage.



A SPECIAL SHOUT OUT TO OUR CLERGY, TECHNICAL TEAM & MUSIC GROUP...

So many of you have been in touch to congratulate us on the successful events which have taken place, both liturgical and social. There are a number of people who make this possible, some you can see and some who work quietly in the background! On your behalf, we offer our Clergy, Technical Team and our Music Group our heartfelt thanks for all that they continue to do to keep us all connected in so many special ways. This past year has been a different kind of 'Pilgrimage' with ups, downs, highs and lows. But this journey together has been made all the more special by our virtual time together and the small group of people who make it happen! **THANK YOU!**

KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE GOING FORWARD...

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

By going to the website, you can...

- 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
- Look at a gallery of photos and memories from previous Pilgrimages.

The website will also have all information about our Virtual Pilgrimage for July 2021, but this will also be emailed and texted to those for whom we have permission to contact. We can only contact you with your permission!

THE SANCTUARY OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES—LIVE!

The Sanctary of Our Lady of Lourdes, France, has both a great website and App. The App is free to download and you can do a number of things through these platforms...

You can:

Watch Lourdes TV (Live) Light a Candle Place a Petition at the Grotto Make a Donation

Learn about the Pastoral Theme Watch previous Liturgies and Processions

It is certainly worth a look, especially in these times when we are missing our 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