



Director of Youth Services; Rev Robbie O'Callaghan BTh MA

Nottingham Diocesan Catholic Youth Service

The Briars Catholic Youth Retreat Centre

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Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2012

Thank you for expressing an interest in going to Lourdes 2012. To secure your place you will need to fill in the application form and send any monies required as stated in the letter below.

The pilgrimage will take place from Saturday 14th - Sunday 22th July 2012 and is a fantastic opportunity for you to be involved in diocesan life and to experience going on pilgrimage to Europe's major Marian shrine. Both the main pilgrimage and the schools stream is being organised with Tangney Tours who provide full cover and bonding to provide us with peace of mind. They are very experienced in arranging pilgrimages to Lourdes and have a dedicated member of staff who deals with schools groups and an office and reps stationed in Lourdes.

The schools stream is being led by a small team of people drawn from the youth service and the secondary schools of the diocese. We will stay overnight at The Briars on the Saturday night and then all depart from there on the Sunday morning. We will travel together on two coaches and stay in a hotel in the centre of Lourdes. The team will organise a full and exciting programme which will enable young people to participate in the pilgrimage events with the rest of the diocesan family, but also benefit from a discrete programme tailored to their needs.

The booking process is simple and is outlined overleaf. The cost this year is £475 – this matches the price as last year, we feel it is a good deal as it includes travel, insurance, full board, pilgrimage t-shirts and other sundries.

The spaces are limited and we may have to operate a first-come-first served system if we find that numbers exceed capacity and that we can't take an extra coach.

Here's what you need to do:

Complete a Pilgrim Volunteering Form

- Form completed by each individual young person and adult leader
- Returned to NDCYS with passport photo sent in to Tom Baptist at the Youth Service by 20th February (address above)

(A copy of this form will be given to the main pilgrimage team and a copy will be retained by the Youth Service. All these bodies will keep the information confidential, using it only for the purposes of planning the 2012 pilgrimage. Please ensure your young people are aware and happy that the form will be copied and shared according to professional confidentiality.)



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Payment schedule

- **£39** non-returnable deposit per person made payable to 'The Briars' sent with a copy of completed forms to NDCYS by **20th February 2012**. This submission of forms will be used to determine what we do if we are over-subscribed. Places may be on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Second Payment of **£136** by the **1st of April 2012**
Third Payment of **£100** by the **1st of May**
- Final payment of **£200** by the **8th June 2011**

(This is a suggested payment schedule and monies can be paid in full earlier if possible.)

The amount paid to is inclusive of 5 night's full board accommodation, all transportation and comprehensive travel insurance. The payment due in by 1st March includes the £24 insurance premium which is non-refundable and the insurance is non-transferable. The non-returnable deposit paid to The Briars includes such extras as pilgrimage levy, pilgrimage uniform (T-shirts and Robin Hood hat) overnight stay at the Briars and other sundries. A detailed breakdown of the £48 payment can be provided on request.

In the case that we have more young people want to come than two coaches can accommodate, we will approach the main pilgrimage team to see if we can bring over and above the number already suggested by them. If not, we will then approach all young people to discuss the fairest way of dealing with the situation.

If you need any more information or have any questions then please email reach4@ndcys.com. Or you can ring 01773852044.