

10th November 2015

Dear Parents

Year 10 Lourdes Pilgrimage 30th June – 8th July (Provisional)

The Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 30th June to 8th July 2016. The Lourdes Pilgrimage is a most memorable experience, allowing the students to both deepen their own faith as well as a chance to serve members of our diocese. The Pilgrimage is also a challenging experience, both physically and emotionally.

In Assembly today, I did a presentation to Year 10 explaining what the Pilgrimage involves and trying to give a flavour of the experiences they will enjoy. I want to make it clear to the students that in committing to the Pilgrimage, they are:

- Committing to Fund Raising
- Committing to attend the preparation sessions (3.50 – 4.45 on the following dates 13th January, 27th January, 10th February, 2nd March, 16th March, 13th April, 27th April, 11th May, 25th May)
- Committing to serve others
- Committing to both hard work and fun

At this stage, the dates are still provisional because the Diocese have not yet confirmed whether travel will be by coach (30th June – 8th July) or by plane (1st July – 7th July). The cost will be in the region of £650 and again this will be confirmed by the Diocese. The cost includes transport, full board in a 3* hotel, sweatshirt, 2 t-shirts, bag and travel itinerary for the full trip. Whilst in Lourdes, the students will take part in an International Mass in the Basilica, the Healing of the Sick Mass, Torchlight Procession, Grotto Vigil by Night, Stations of the Cross, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Reconciliation as well as an opportunity to bathe in the Holy Waters. In all of these events, students will be accompanying sick pilgrims as well as partaking themselves.

This trip is usually oversubscribed, so I am asking all students who wish to be considered to write a letter of no more than 100 words stating why they wish to take part and what they hope to gain from this experience.

Attached is a reply slip with space for their letter. Once the students have been selected, they will need to secure their place with £100 deposit and a payment schedule will be confirmed at that time.

I would like the reply containing the letter to be returned in an envelope clearly marked **Lourdes Pilgrimage**. It should be placed in the **Trips Box** by **Friday 20th November 2015**.

If you have any queries, then don't hesitate to email me at tpye@sjfchs.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Tracey Pye

Head of Maths

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2016 Reply Slip

NAME		FORM	
PARENT		EMAIL	
HOME PHONE		MOBILE	
PARENT SIGNATURE			

Letter stating why you wish to take part in the Lourdes Pilgrimage and what you hope to gain from the experience. (Maximum 100 words)