



BISHOP CHALLONER SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

4th October 2019

Dear parents/carers

Lourdes 2020

Your son/daughter has shown an interest in taking part in our annual Lourdes pilgrimage, which takes place during May half term break: 23rd -30th May 2020, accompanying the Birmingham Diocese.

Students benefit from participation in this pilgrimage in so many ways but, broadly speaking, it is a unique opportunity to explore their faith and provide service to more vulnerable members of our community. Sixth form students, together with accompanying school staff, will work shifts in the Accueil, where elderly, sick and less mobile pilgrims are accommodated. This service is extremely rewarding and always makes a huge impression on our students. It can be particularly interesting for students who are considering working in a medical or caring profession in the future and full training is provided. There will also be opportunities for students, who wish to, to take an active role in liturgies; introducing the service, reading or taking part in processions. There are also opportunities to perform with professional singers and musicians, which our students have greatly enjoyed in previous years.

The total cost of this trip is £480, which includes coach travel to Lourdes, hotel accommodation and all meals. There will be opportunities for students to reduce the overall cost of their trip by taking part in fundraising activities throughout the coming months. In the past we have also accessed a small grant for students from the Catenian bursary fund, which supports young people helping others. Any student in receipt of 16-19 Bursary will be entitled to financial support towards the cost of this trip. If, due to personal circumstances, you are not able to pay the deposit at this time, please get in touch with Mrs Reynolds, as we would not want financial concerns to prevent any student from participating.

Places are limited and you should register your interest on SchoolComms by giving consent and paying the non-refundable* deposit of £60 by Monday 4th November. All trips include a small additional cost to cover unforeseen circumstances.

Please see a suggested payment schedule below. You can, of course, pay any amount in advance but we would request that these minimum payments are met by the date indicated.

Date	Amount
2019	
Monday 4 th November	£60*
Monday 2 nd December	£50
2020	
Monday 6 th January	£50
Monday 3 rd February	£80
Monday 2 nd March	£80
Monday 6 th April	£80
Monday 4 th May	£80
	(bringing total to £480)

*non-returnable deposit.

If you require any further information about the Lourdes Pilgrimage, please do not hesitate to get in touch. You may also be interested in watching the Lourdes Video for Schools which the Kenelm Youth Trust has produced, which can be found on youtube.

Yours faithfully

M. A. Nutt

Associate Principal- Sixth Form

Institute Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7EG

Tel: 0121 441 6144 Fax: 0121 441 1552

email: enquiry@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

www.bishopchalloner.org.uk

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