



Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle Pilgrimage to Lourdes

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Statement regarding the Hexham and Newcastle 2020 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

In the light of the current situation regarding Coronavirus COVID-19, it is with great regret that the Pilgrimage Core Group for Hexham and Newcastle have decided to cancel the 2020 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Following current advice from our Tour Operator, and the information given by the statutory authorities in France and the United Kingdom, the ongoing uncertainties and the risks involved are too high to proceed.

Bishop Robert Byrne shares our disappointment and fully supports this decision.

We know that many people will be very disappointed, however, the health and safety of all pilgrims is of paramount importance.

At this very difficult time, we ask the prayers of Our Lady of Lourdes and St Bernadette for all those who have been affected by the spread of this virus throughout the world.

With regards to bookings made with Tangney Tours, they will be in contact with you over the course of the coming weeks. Please be patient with them at this difficult time.

They have an Air Tour Operators Licence (ATOL) and are members of the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA). Your money is always 100% financially protected.

We look forward to the next pilgrimage when we can once again gather in Lourdes.