



# Diocese of Middlesbrough

## Lourdes Pilgrimage

### Risk Assessment

Activity	Pushing Voiture (Le Chariot) [Indoors & Outdoors]									
Location	Lourdes									
Hazard	Consequences	Persons Affected	Existing Control Measures (Where Applicable)	Severity	Likelihood	Total Risk	Additional Measures Where Applicable	Severity	Likelihood	Total Risk
Boarding & Alighting the Voiture	Fall for the Pilgrim	Pilgrim	Voiture Brake Engaged &/or Front Wheel Chocked (Typ. Helpers Feet) Use of Boarding Ramp(where necessary) Pilgrim Able to Walk up the Ramp	4	2	M	Instruction provided on site in Lourdes.	4	1	L
	Strain Injury for Helper Catching a Falling Pilgrim	Helper		3	2	M		3	1	L
Weight of the Voiture & Pilgrim	Strain on the Helper	Helper	Two Helpers per Voiture	3	1	L				
Tipping of Voiture	Injury to Pilgrim	Pilgrim	Ensure Front Wheel pointing backwards. (Tucked under like Aircraft Nose Wheel)	4	2	M	Instruction provided on site in Lourdes.	4	1	L
Collisions with Fixed Objects				4	2	M		4	1	L
Negotiate Kerbs	Tipping Pilgrim from Voiture	Pilgrim	Avoid Travelling Parallel with Kerbs No Bumping up or down kerbs.	4	2	M	Instruction provided on site in Lourdes.	4	1	L
Negotiating Steep Inclines	Strain for Helper (or Loss of Control - See Below)	Helper	Alternative shallower route, if possible. Three or More Helpers per	3	3	M	Three Helpers per Voiture;	3	2	M

Controlling Heavy Loads on Shallow Inclines	Strain for Helper (or Loss of Control - See Below)	Helper	Voiture with Two on Low Side (ie. Two at Back when travelling uphill; two at front when travelling downhill)	3	3	M	Three Helpers per Voiture;	3	2	M
Lose Control on Incline	Injury and/or Death to Pilgrim	Pilgrim	Alternative shallower route, if possible Two or More Helpers per Voiture	5	2	M	Additional Helpers per Voiture Ensure One Helper Covers the Brake	5	1	L
Grated Gutters	Wheels sink into Grate, tipping the Pilgrim from the Voiture	Pilgrim	Vigilance by Helper & Support Helpers.	3	1	L				
Crowded Areas	Collision with other pilgrims	3rd Parties	Vigilance by Helper & Support Helpers.	3	2	M	Instruction provided at Formation Day on Negotiate crowds.	3	1	L
Crossing Roads	Serious Injury to both Pilgrim & Helper	Pilgrim	Exercise extreme care, watching both ways to ensure continental traffic and/or Lourdes reversing one-way system is considered.	5	2	M	Instruction provided at Formation Day on crossing roads. Cross roads at Pedestrian Crossings. Both Helper and Support Helpers to be	5	1	L
		Helper(s)		5	2	M		5	1	L
General Terrain	Strain on the Helper	Helper	Avoid loose & uneven surfaces.	3	2	M	Instruction provided on site in Lourdes.	3	1	L
	Tipping Pilgrim from Voiture	Pilgrim		4	2	M				
Forward Helpers when in Procession	Collision with Helper in front	Helper	Vigilance by Helper & Support Helpers	3	1	L				

Poorly Parked	Rolling Out of Control resulting in Crash or Collision	Pilgrim	Ensure Brake Engaged. Pull Bar located in Rest Position. Where Possible, Park Voitures in Pairs with Crossed Pull Bars	4	3	M	Instruction provided on site in Lourdes.	4	2	M
		3rd Parties		4	3	M		4	2	M
	Trip Hazard	Helpers		4	3	M		4	2	M
		3rd Parties		4	2	M		4	1	L
Bright Sunlight	Sunburn / Sunstroke / Dehydration	Pilgrim	Sunscreen / Hats / Voiture Hood / Fluid Intake	4	3	M	Awareness Instruction for all Helpers at Formation Day	4	2	M
Low Temperature	Hypothermia	Pilgrim	Layers of Clothing / Blankets [Waterproofs/Voiture Hood if rain likely]	4	3	M	Awareness Instruction for all Helpers at Formation Day	4	2	M
Medical Emergency	Remote from suitable aid	Pilgrim	At least two Helpers per Voiture (One staying with the Pilgrim; one getting help) In exceptional circumstances (eg. when	4	2	M	Awareness Instruction for all Helpers at Formation Day	4	1	L

Assessment Date:	May 2026	Initial Assessment Date: 27 May 2016
Assessed By:	Pilgrimage Committee	
Next Assessment Due:	May 2028	