

21 March 2020

Dear Friends

Summer Activities 2020

It is with great sadness that I write to inform you that, on the recommendation of the OMV Trustees and Medical Team, we have taken the decision to cancel our Lebanon Camp 2020 and Lourdes Pilgrimage 2020 due to the potential health risks posed by Coronavirus (COVID-19). Downside Abbey has also unfortunately cancelled this year's Easter Retreat.

Whilst we understand this news will come as a disappointment, this is a decision that has been made after careful consideration and analysis of the risks and benefits. The safety of our guests and volunteers remains our highest priority.

Looking ahead, a decision regarding the International Holiday Camp in Rome (planned for this August) has not yet been made. However, the Trustees, Medical Team and Committee will continue to monitor the situation closely as things evolve. For those of you who have already applied to the IHC and made payments, please be assured that, should the camp be cancelled, we will refund you in full.

Rest assured, the Committee will be working tirelessly to ensure we find alternative ways to brighten our guests' and volunteers' lives within the bounds of what is possible. We look forward to serving in any way we can and resuming our activities in full as soon as possible, and will notify you when this is the case.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter and for your continued support. Please join me in praying for the OMV, our guests and their families, and for all those affected during these uncertain times.

Yours sincerely



Hugo Whyte
OMV Chairman