

THE GILBERT THOMPSON MEMORIAL FUND
Of the Raphael Pilgrimage (Charity no 1098328)
APPLICATION FORM

Gilbert Thompson was the first Director of the Raphael Pilgrimage. He worked closely with Leonard Cheshire to create a working pilgrimage able to journey to Lourdes each year. The Raphael Pilgrimage, named after the first Cheshire Home founded in India, was established in 1954 and has successfully achieved its aim of taking sick pilgrims to Lourdes each year. Gilbert Thompson died suddenly in 1985, the Fund is his memorial.

The Gilbert Thompson Memorial Fund (GTMF) was established to enable people, who due to their financial situation, would otherwise be unable to travel to Lourdes with the Raphael Pilgrimage.

Applications are considered in strict confidence by the Fund's administrators and the Director who allocate the grants based on the following:

- i) They are open to all, whether coming as sick pilgrims or helpers (handmaid, nurse, brancardier etc).
- ii) Applicants are expected to make a contribution towards the total cost of the pilgrimage although this does not preclude support from other sources. In stating the amount of grant requested, applicants are asked to bear in mind that the overall funding available is reducing year by year,
- iii) In line with the general policy of giving priority to those coming for the first time on the pilgrimage, larger grants are normally given to 'first timers'. In general, therefore, applicants should expect to receive smaller grants in subsequent years.
- iv) Applications are considered using the information provided on the application form but you may be asked for further information if necessary to clarify your circumstances.
- v) Applicants will be notified of the sum granted to them although the payment is normally made direct to the Raphael Pilgrimage treasurer or Tangney Tours, the tour operator with the applicant paying the balance.

If you wish to make an application, please fill in the form overleaf, and return to:

GTMF Secretary.
Christopher Woodward
102 Beverley Way
Wimbledon
London SW20 0AQ
Or by email to christopherwoodward107@gmail.com

RAPHAEL PILGRIMAGE
GILBERT THOMPSON MEMORIAL FUND

GRANT APPLICATION FORM 2026

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|---------------|--|
| Name | | Title | |
| Address | | | |
| Postcode | | | |
| Tel No | | Mobile | |
| E Mail | | | |

Please tick relevant boxes:

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|--|---------------------|--|
| Are you applying as a | Helper | | Sick Pilgrim | |
|------------------------------|---------------|--|---------------------|--|

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--|
| What category of helper | Doctor | | Nurse | |
| | Priest | | Other helper | |
| Have you applied before? | YES | | NO | |
| If 'YES' Year of application | | Amount granted | | |

Which Group do you propose to travel with?

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Stansted Flight | | Manchester Flight | | Youth Group | | Other | |
|------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------|--|--------------|--|

Funding:

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|---|----------|---|---------------|
| Full cost of the pilgrimage | £ | How much grant are you applying for? Please specify a sum, not 'as much as possible' | £ | Will you be receiving any other financial support? If so how much. | YES/NO |
| | | | | | £ |

Please give your reasons for making this application:

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Signed..... | Date..... |
|--------------------|------------------|

| Decision | Granted/Amount | Not granted/Reason | Date |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Administrator's Signature | | | |

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