

Secrets of a courageous mother

Interview with Anne-Dauphine Julliand. See page 5.



Lourdes News

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THE DIARY OF GRACE



Editorial The joy of living and serving

BY FATHER ANDRÉ CABES,
RECTOR OF THE SANCTUARY
OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Lourdes is about regaining a love of life, a love of living together. Our world is wrought by the forces of death, by the sense of every man for himself. And yet we see instances of spontaneous camaraderie. Summer sees hundreds of Scouts flocking to the Grotto, who join the volunteers in their service of the sick. Dozens of seminarians are there, too ...

In Lourdes, this generosity can take root near the spring, and is more than just a fleeting passion. Because persevering is the hard part. Here, the Mother brings us to birth incessantly, she teaches us to be reborn and to start again. With Bernadette, we become attentive to the breath of the Spirit: the black hole of our world reveals a face that smiles and signals to us to move forward.

The other person is no longer just a partner or a rival, but the promise of new life.

Sister Bernadette Moriau, the 70th miracle of Lourdes

On 11th February, the healing of Sister Bernadette Moriau, a French nun, was accepted as miraculous. This is the 70th miracle of Lourdes. *Deo Gracias!* The countenance and testimony of this Franciscan sister shocked everyone she met, starting with the many journalists who interviewed her. Her first reaction, in front of the cameras and crackling flashes? She cried. A reaction full of humanity, neither expected nor feigned, which does us good in these times when people seek to control everything, to analyse everything. A reaction that plunges us right in the heart

of the message of Lourdes: simplicity and authenticity, like the little seer of Lourdes, Bernadette Soubirous, who avoided all the pitfalls that came her way ... by simply not seeing them. Suppose our pilgrimage to Lourdes was an opportunity to "become like little children again ..." (Matthew 18: 3)? It is with the eyes of a child that we were able to come to cheer on the Tour de France riders who left the sanctuary on 27th July. It is also with the eyes of a child that we can (re) discover the Grotto of Lourdes after four years of work. The taps, the spring, the baths, the can-

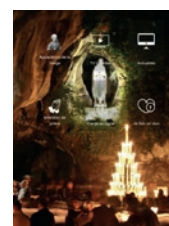


© SNLD/Pierre VINCENT

dles: all these places that we may already know, or that we have seen in pictures, and that have now been redeveloped for a specific purpose, "so that everyone who approaches the Grotto understands how much they are loved by God", according to the wishes of Bishop Nicolas Brouwet, Bishop of Tarbes and Lourdes.

Joël Luzenko

If you're in Lourdes:
download the free app



Thank you for being here, we've been waiting for you!

Wherever you come from, welcome. The first person to have been welcomed in this place was Bernadette Soubirous. She was welcomed by the Virgin Mary. In a way, you are the Bernadettes of today. Thank you for being here! **Laurent Jarneau**

Perhaps you are an expert on Lourdes, you love staying here: Lourdes is like your family home! Or a relative newcomer who is surprised to be returning: Lourdes is always an attractive destination to explore! Or you are a modern-day adventurer, and this is your first visit: Lourdes is a New World to discover!

Wherever you come from and for whatever reason, the working community of the Sanctuary is happy to welcome you. Men and women, volunteers or employees, are working to serve you every day. Helping you to experience the precious time you spend in Lourdes in the best possible way is at the heart of their mission and of their

happiness. Go and see them. They cannot wait to meet you (1).

The security guard: *"I look after your safety. Welcome!"*

The candle-keeper: *"I am here so that the flame of hope can also shine in your hearts."*

The bookseller: *"At your disposal, to help you make your choices."*

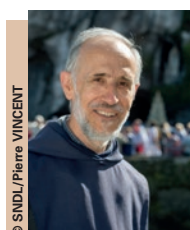
The priest: *"What a joy it is to welcome you and help you grow in faith!"*

The volunteer: *"The important thing is not the quantity but the quality of the service I offer you."*

The cantor (our photo): *"Tonight, we will all sing the Ave Maria of Lourdes together."*



(1) Find their photos, along with many others, as part of the permanent exhibition "Lourdes, a unique experience", located on the Boulevard Rémi Sempé, on the outside edge of the Sanctuary.

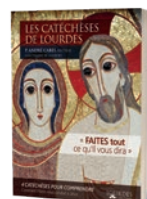


You left without really knowing where you were going, and you discover that, in Lourdes, you are wanted: Someone has sent you an invitation. This is the miracle of Lourdes.

Father André Cabes, Rector of the Sanctuary of Lourdes

A little reading

The catecheses of Lourdes
Do whatever he tells you".
New for 2018 - available at the
Sanctuary Bookshop, 4.90 €



ALONE OR AS A FAMILY

1 hour to (RE)DISCOVER

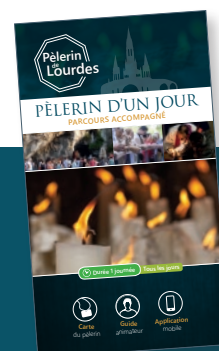


An hour or more free time? Meet at the Youth Service (2nd floor of the Information Centre). Because, in Lourdes, everything started with a girl of 14, Bernadette Soubirous. Mary prayed with her. To continue this family connection, children or young people lead the rosary, at the Grotto, on Wednesdays or Saturdays in July and August, at 15:30 (duration 35 minutes). To experience the rosary in a fun and interactive way, they can

also join the Family Rosary, in the Meeting tent, on the prairie, every day: 10 am -12 noon / 2:30 pm -5 pm. Do your youngest children (0-12 years old) get fractious? They can go, with an adult, to *La Petite Maison de Bernadette* (at the hemicycle, near the church of Saint Bernadette, every day during school holidays, except Sunday mornings) where they can take part in any number of fun activities related to the message of Lourdes. You

can then attend the mass for young people and families (Rosary Basilica Sunday, 6:30 pm, July-August). Do not leave Lourdes without having experienced the Children's vigil: for children, on Wednesdays in July and August, 8 pm at the Grotto; for young people, 9 pm, in the Saint Joseph's chapel (Tuesdays or Saturdays). Discover the places where Bernadette lived: follow the guide! (guided visit every day).

Martine Korpai



Delve into the history of the apparitions

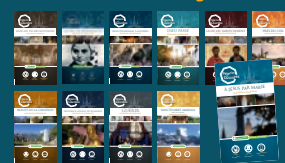
Every day, 9:30am, meet at the Sanctuary Information Centre.

Duration: 1 day

For all ages

Suggested donation: 5€

Discover our Programs

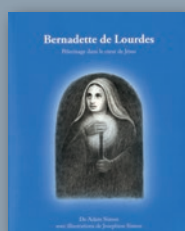


www.lourdes-france.org

Information, registration:
Sanctuary Information Centre



Further reading, the Sanctuary Bookshop has selected for you ...



Bernadette of Lourdes

Adam Simon tells the story of the apparitions. He takes readers on a pilgrimage with Bernadette and helps bring them to the heart of Jesus.

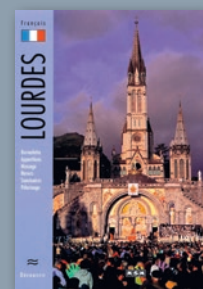
ABCEI publishing. 2018.
107 p. 19.60 €



Bernadette

René Laurentin has written an honest and straightforward account of Bernadette's life, much like Bernadette herself. A true description of the path to holiness.

Artège poche. 9.90 €



Lourdes

A reference guide to help you discover the Marian city.

MSM
€ 5.60



THE DIARY OF GRACE

Pages coordinated by Martine Korpai



"I want to go to Lourdes", said Francis on his sick bed

If all roads lead to Rome, then there are also those that point to Lourdes. There were three of them from Saint-Symphorien-d'Ozon (Rhône, France), on this Monday, 23rd October 2017. They chose a comfortable ambulance in which to make the trip. It was the first time they had been to Lourdes. How did life bring them together for this venture? Why this race against the clock?

Belisa Flynn (Ecuador)



"I want to go to Lourdes" he said on his sickbed. Lourdes echoed in his mind as a miraculous destination, a return to the source of his pain or a call to let go, to be cradled by the mother of mercy. The illness had weakened François' rational defences to the extent that he was able to contemplate visiting the spiritual dimension of his life. His character and his last ounce of physical strength did the rest. "I want to go to Lourdes," he said each day, becoming increasingly insistent with those who cared for him. Josiane had been François'

companion for forty years. She accompanied him silently on the path of suffering that his disease demanded. The trip to Lourdes was a blessing, a miracle in response to the evil eating away at the person she loved.

Isabelle was François' sister. She had just arrived from Ecuador to promote her book. She had been living there for several years. Before returning to France, she donated a statue of the Virgin of Lourdes to the parishioners of a small church. After she had placed Mary near the altar, the Immaculate Conception moved in her glass case. Isabelle was scared but when she later learned that her brother was seriously ill, going to Lourdes with François and Josiane became a mission, a call from the Virgin. When they arrived in Lourdes after a nine-hour

drive, the entire team of the Hospitalité de Nanterre was there to welcome them with extraordinary gentleness at the Accueil Notre-Dame. A few minutes later, François received the sacrament of the sick from Bishop Aupetit, Bishop of Nanterre. Then, on his hospital bed he was brought to the Grotto. In front of the Virgin, and surrounded by thousands of pilgrims, he felt calm. As night fell, the Ave Maria echoed in the distance. François, Josiane and Isabelle were reassured by the hymn.

"I am a plane" were François' final words.

There are deaths that walk hand in hand with graces; both a departure from this earthly world but also solace for those who remain. All the paths that lead to Lourdes follow a call from the Virgin Mary. Alleluia!

Secrets of a courageous mother

Anne-Dauphine Julliard is the author of the bestseller "Two small steps on the wet sand" and director of the moving documentary "Local Heros". Together with her husband Loïc, she cared for their two sick little girls, Thaïs and Azylis, on the paths of their lives until they left her to go to Heaven. Anne-Dauphine, invited to Lourdes this year as part of an international conference, shares her story. Illuminating!

Laurent Jarneau

▶ Anne-Dauphine, what links do you have with Lourdes?

I always came to Lourdes with my family. The first time was in 2008 with Azylis simply to ask for a miracle. For my part, I wait for a miracle every day. It is something that I ask every day with the same eagerness, but without being disappointed if it does not happen. I believe that I am asking for a miracle very simply as a Christian mother, saying: "By the grace of God!" There are observable miracles, the astonishing miracles that would have been the healing of my children. However, I with Loïc my husband, believe that in our life, we have already had many small miracles that have enlightened us about the presence of God.

▶ The key word when we listen to you is love.

We really saw Love flourish in the vulnerability and fragility of Thaïs and Azylis. It was when they were



stripped humanly that the love was at its brightest because there was nothing left but love. If we were willing to see it, love illuminated everything, softened everything. This love was the sign of life, the sign that they were there, alive. They allowed us, through this love, to communicate with them, to always keep a link to them. This love comes from life and makes life grow.

▶ When your second daughter's illness was announced, it was mayhem. But someone was there ...

Loïc used a beautiful expression that we don't hear very often; the compassion of God. We cannot imagine that God can stand beside us and weep with us saying, "I am hurting as you are hurting, I am suffering with you, I will be with you if you want, and together, we

can make something of this ordeal. "What an incredible sweetness to feel the strength of this compassion, this extraordinary presence!"

▶ Your story also highlights the reality of Lourdes.

Love makes it possible to see the humanity in a person, not only their illness. Our children and their friends taught us that. When they went into the children's rooms, they quickly forgot the machines, they quickly forgot the illness: they simply saw a little girl with her little girl's soul, and her little girl's spirit. I think that is what we find in Lourdes, in this place where the poorest, the most broken, the most wounded come: we see both the children they were able to be, and the men or women they are today. In Lourdes, we really see the person.



Her film on DVD

LOCAL HEROS

Anne-Dauphine Julliard's documentary is on sale at the Sanctuary bookshop. A film about life from the child's view-point.

"The Lord exhorts us to an attitude of faith which exceeds all our plans, our calculations, our predictions. God is always the God of surprises; the Lord always surprises us. "

Pope Francis, Angelus June 17, 2018, Rome.



I came to Lourdes with my sick mother. I knew it would probably be the last time ... We were able to make our confessions: the priest spoke words of comfort and hope to me. My mother received the sacrament of the sick. The time at the Baths was illuminating and rich with grace. After Lourdes, we prayed together a lot, saying that we loved each other very much. I was with her right to the end. She passed away on 8th December on the feast of the Immaculate Conception., I was overcome by an indescribable peace just as I had been at the Baths.

Marie-Florence ✉

I received a beautiful grace from Our Lady of Lourdes. I prayed for my reconciliation with a person who was very dear to me. Contrary to my expectations, I was heard. We have become neighbours. Every day we share moments of our lives. This is true happiness. Even my health problems have improved considerably as a result of this reconciliation. I have been given a new strength to face all my difficulties. For this grace, I thank you Mary.

Maria ✉

Go to Lourdes to ask for something, go back to give thanks. I come here twice a year. Each time, I draw strength and determination. I'm probably very dependent on Mary, but she's always here. Grace is priceless. Thank you, Lourdes! **Bernadette** ✉

I could not come to Lourdes with the pilgrims of my diocese. A neighbour advised me to download *the Lourdes app for everyone*. What a joy, while watching TV Lourdes, to see my friends in front of the Grotto! Even though I was sick and far away from Lourdes, I felt that I was there with them. I could pray in communion with them: this is also the grace of Lourdes!

Maryvonne ✉

I practised clairvoyance and esotericism. In Lourdes, I was released from my inner chains. I have been granted divine grace. **Gisèle** ✉

In Lourdes, I always receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. God's mercy allows me to move forward in my life as a believer. **Jean** ✉

Bernadette said ...

"We must pray very much for sinners. Our Lady requested it."

(Logia de Bernadette, volume III, N 723-725)



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Laurent Jarneau's videos for
www.lourdes-france.org

Véronique

She came to Lourdes for the first time in 2016, with her companion. She came back with him in 2017 "without really knowing why". During these two trips, she experienced some very intense feelings.



Earvin

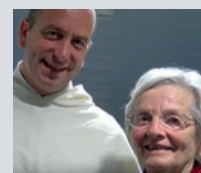
A young man with a troubled life. He got to Lourdes by hitchhiking, hoping to get by. On his way, he found the Cenacolo community



... Like Bernadette Soubirous who scratched in the mud on the floor of the Grotto to reveal pure spring water, Earvin then discovered the Spring that is Jesus Christ, the God of Love. An immeasurable grace that led to him being "reborn from above" by baptism.

Brother Paul-Marie and Monique, his mother

As part of the Rosary Pilgrimage, Brother Paul-Marie Cathelineau, Dominican, accompanied his mother, Monique, throughout her own pilgrimage. The mother-son team shares a grace they experienced together in Lourdes, on the morning of 6th October..



Watch the videos and other testimonials on our Youtube channel: [/ LourdesWebTV](https://www.youtube.com/LourdesWebTV)

Your reactions

[facebook/ndlourdes](https://www.facebook.com/ndlourdes)