

Pray for sinners,....Penance, Penance, Penance

The Pilgrimage

This is our 40th year, that the Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of Lourdes, Council 5890 from Washingtonville, NY is raising funds to send handicapped children and a parent or guardian to the Marion shrine in Lourdes, France. This year the nine young ambassadors, selected from the archdiocese of New York, will depart in June for the ten day pilgrimage as part of the 60th US National Rosary pilgrimage. All of these young ambassadors are special in the fact that they each possess a physical or mental handicap.



Torchlight Procession 2013

This year's pilgrimage class of pilgrims brings the total to one hundred fifty one children in forty years that the knights have sent on this once in a lifetime experience. Upon arriving in Lourdes they will join other members of the 60th U.S. National Rosary Pilgrimage where they will participate in the torchlight procession joining thousands of pilgrims from all over the world praying the rosary and singing the Ave Maria. The next day they will join in the celebration of the international mass in the underground basilica of Pope Pius X. Their days will be filled with daily masses and processions including the Eucharistic procession where the infirmed receive a special blessing. Mass at the grotto and a visit to the baths also awaits these young pilgrims as does the Stations of the Cross. A walking tour that follows the footsteps of St Bernadette from the Boly mill where she was born, to the Chacot where she lived during the apparitions to the parish church, which contains the baptismal font where she was baptized.to the old convent where she received her first Holy Communion.

History of Lourdes

In 1858 on the 11th day of February the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to a fourteen year old peasant girl named Bernadette Soubirous in a grotto carved out of the rock of Massabielle. During the third apparition on February 18th the Blessed Virgin asked young Bernadette if she would return to the grotto for fifteen days. On February 24th, the Blessed Virgin asked that Bernadette pray for sinners. A few days later on March 2nd, the Blessed Virgin asked that people come in procession and that Bernadette should ask the parish priest to build a chapel at the grotto. From the first apparition through July 16th, 1858 the Blessed Virgin presented herself to Bernadette eighteen times. That was over one hundred and fifty years ago and the tiny little town nestled in the foothills of the French Pyrenees of Lourdes, has never been quite the same.



2013 Pilgrimage



The Grotto

During the third apparition the Blessed Virgin also added that she couldn't promise to make Bernadette happy in this world but in the next. This year these young ambassadors are fulfilling the request of Our Lady to go to Lourdes and pray for sinners and join in procession to the grotto. Each year over five million pilgrims descend on this small French village to pray at the grotto and bathe and drink from the spring which the Blessed Virgin revealed to Bernadette during the ninth apparition on February 25th 1858.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

They come in hope and faith and love of Our Lady, but some come as a last resort when they have no other recourse in the treatment of their maladies. They come in search of possibly finding a cure but to date there have only been sixty nine miraculous cures which have been recognized by the Catholic Church. There have been thousands more who have been cured but do not possess the documentation or passed the scrutiny required by the church.

Over the years, people ask if there are miracles at Lourdes with these children and my response is as follows: "if you're talking about a biblical miracle like Lazarus rising from the dead than no, but in the spiritual sense then unequivocally yes, nobody goes away from Lourdes empty handed. They are filled with the grace bestowed upon them and leave with a renewed faith and their lives will never be the same."
– **Walter H Kozlowski PGK, FDD, FN Lourdes co chairman since 2005**

For more information pictures and testimonials please visit:
www.lourdes5890.org/activities/lourdes/main/lourdes

The Children



John Perrina

Age 7
Parish St. Christopher's
Staten Island, NY
Diagnosed with Duchenne's
Muscular Dystrophy



Michelle Roos

Age 13
Parish St. Stephen's
Warwick, NY
Diagnosed with Anorexia



Sophia Solimando

Age 10
Parish Holy Cross & our lady of
the Scapular Middletown, NY
Diagnosed Spina Bifida



Andrew Curtis

Age 14
Parish St Patrick's
Highland Mills, NY
Diagnosed with Juvenile
Rheumatoid Arthritis



Aidan O'Hare

Age 6
Parish Sacred Heart
Monroe, NY
Diagnosed with Autism



Caitlin O'Hare

Age 17
Parish Sacred Heart
Monroe, NY
Diagnosed with Mixed Connective
tissue Disease

Lourdes, joy of conversion



Justin Gagnon

Age 5
Parish St Charles
Dover Plains, NY
Diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy



Rebecca Kaleniak

Age 16
Parish St Joseph's
New Windsor, NY
Diagnosed with Autism



Nicole Mendola

Age 14
Parish St Mary's
Washingtonville, NY
Diagnosed with Brain Cancer

Testimonial

"We have yet to visit Sarah's doctors to see if she shows any sign of improvement in her lung function. We may have to endure another winter to be certain her bilateral pneumonia doesn't reoccur. Have our prayer for a miracle been answered? Regardless of Sarah's lung prognosis, we most certainly experienced a spiritual miracle in Lourdes. As for our fellow pilgrims from NY, we have woven them all into the fabric of our family. Most of all, our pilgrimage to Lourdes has renewed my faith in this world and has developed a deeper spirituality within my heart. I have never been prouder to be a Catholic.."
– **Beth Zeman 2012**

Your Generosity Makes This Happen

This year the Knights are sending nine more young ambassadors accompanied by a parent for the ten day pilgrimage. They are set to leave on June 29th, 2014 and return on July 8th, 2014. The Knights have to raise over \$54,000 to cover the cost of this year's pilgrimage. The Knights do this by selling raffles outside of neighborhood churches throughout Orange and Rockland counties. Walt states "that while the work is long and arduous, the rewards of bringing the opportunity of a lifetime that these families would not ordinarily afford themselves are immeasurable". The children, parents and families acknowledge that this is a gift beyond their wildest expectations and are grateful to all who contribute their support.

Anyone wishing to make a donation can make their tax deductible contribution to:

Our Lady of Lourdes Benevolent Association
and mail it to:

Knights of Columbus
Attention: Lourdes Program
18 Hallock Drive
Washingtonville, NY 10992

For more information about the pilgrimage and travel arrangements please contact:

U.S. National Lourdes Pilgrimage
Office of Catholic Travel
5505 Granby Road
Rockville, Maryland 20855
301 740 – 9332

Lourdespilgrimageoffice@comcast.net

Or visit their website
www.lourdes-pilgrimage.com

Let the people come in procession.....tell the parish priest to build a chapel