

ABOUT BERNADETTE

Bernadette was a 14 year old teenager. Often very sick from cholera and asthma, she lived with her family in a very small house.



On February 11, 1858, while out gathering firewood with her sister and a friend near a grotto outside Lourdes, Bernadette saw a lady standing on a niche in a rock. Bernadette described the lady as wearing a white dress and veil with a blue belt. The lady was holding a rosary and had yellow roses at her feet.



The lady spoke to Bernadette and asked her to please return to the grotto every day for fifteen days. Bernadette's mother did not want her to return and townspeople felt that she should be hospitalized because she was claiming to see someone who no one else was able to see. Eventually the lady told Bernadette that she was the Immaculate Conception.

Bernadette was told to ask their priest to build a church on that spot and to drink the spring water that was barely flowing beneath the rock where the lady stood. Bernadette only saw muddy water but she dug with her hands until she had enough water to drink from her hands. The next day the muddy water turned to clear water and a spring bubbled from the ground. Others, following Bernadette's example, drank from the spring and reported healing powers.



After 150 years, 67 miracle cures occurred at the grotto. An organization, called the Lourdes Medical Bureau, was formed. This organization is based in Lourdes, France, and officially oversees all cures associated with the shrine.



Through the years a number of chapels and churches have been built at the grotto; two of the largest are the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes and the Basilica of St. Pius X. The area holds 22 places of worship with six official languages: French, English, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, and German.

Bernadette joined the convent and died in 1879, at the age of 35 after from tuberculosis. Up until her death, Bernadette followed the progress in Lourdes.

Over 30 years later Bernadette's body was exhumed and discovered to be in almost perfect condition. When a body does not deteriorate after death it is known as incorruptible. In 1933, Bernadette was canonized and declared the patron saint of sick persons, families, and poverty.

Lourdes, still a small town in southwest France, is about 500 miles south of Paris in the foothills of the Pyrenees Mountains. Lourdes is home to the largest and most popular Catholic shrines in the world. Paris, the closest largest city to Lourdes, is where most visitors begin their journey. Many airlines fly into Paris which is located in the northern part of France, south east of London. It is a popular area for visitors because of the Eiffel Tower and the multitude of museums, historical sites, and beautiful architecture.

PROJECT

You are going to visit Lourdes. You will fly from St. Louis to Paris and from Paris to Toulouse (near Lourdes).

Visit the websites below and answer the questions that follow. Determine what it is you'd like to see in and around Lourdes and Paris.

Print when asked (for questions #1 and #2) and put your name on the printed sheets.

Ask your teacher for a blank sheet of paper and a pencil so you can write your answers as you proceed through the questions.

Don't forget to put your name on your worksheet

And be sure to number each of your answers.

1. http://go.hrw.com/atlas/norm_hm/world.htm
 - a. Go to the web site and print the map
 - b. Put an 'X' on the United States
 - c. Put on 'X' on Europe

2. http://go.hrw.com/atlas/norm_h.htm/france.htm
 - a. Go to the web site and print the map
 - b. Put an 'X' on Paris
 - c. Put an 'X' on Lourdes (south of Paris)

3. <http://www.1800flyeurope.com/>
 - a. Visit the web site and use the information below to find the cost of an airline ticket from St. Louis to Paris
 - Leave St. Louis and fly to Paris, France, January 2
 - Leave Paris, France, to return home to St. Louis January 16
 - b. How much does it cost for a round trip from St. Louis to Paris?

4. <http://www.1800flyeurope.com/>
 - a. Visit the web site again and use the information below to find the cost of an airline ticket from Paris to Toulouse, France (near Lourdes)
 - Leave Paris, France, to fly to Toulouse, France, (near Lourdes), January 6
 - Leave Toulouse, France, to fly back to Paris, January 10
 - b. How much does it cost for a round trip from Paris to Toulouse?

5. <http://www.sacred-destinations.com/france/france-map>
 - a. Click on 'Lourdes' along the left side
 - b. How far south is Lourdes from Paris?
 - c. How many places of worship are in Lourdes?

6. <http://www.metric-conversions.org/area/hectares-to-acres.htm>
 - a. The Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes incorporates 52 hectares of property
 - b. Convert hectares to acres.

7. The sun shines on different parts of the world at different times, so when it is day time in the United States, it might be the middle of the night in another part of the world. There is a 5 to 7 hour difference in time between parts of France and the United States.
<http://www.medjugorjevideo.com/lourdeswebcam.html>
 - a. Right now, is it daylight or nighttime in France?

8. <http://www.wordtravels.com/Travelguide/Countries/France/Currency>
 - a. What is the official currency in France?

b. If you have one Euro, what is the US dollar amount?

9. <http://www.sacred-destinations.com/france/lourdes>

a. Scroll down to the four photos, these are four of the main religious attractions - name the four.

Click on each photo and find three interesting facts for each one - number your first religious attraction and three interesting facts 9b, your second religious attraction and three interesting facts as 9c, your third as 9d, and your fourth as 9e.

b.

c.

d.

e.

f. Click on the first photo, 'Basilica of the Immaculate Conception,' scroll to 'More Information,' click on 'Daily Timetable,' and find a mass to attend on Sunday (any language).

10. <http://www.dictionary.com>

a. What does 'exhumed' mean? (definition #1)

b. What does 'incorrupt' mean? (definition #4)

11. http://www.catholicpilgrims.com/lourdes/bb_bernadette_body.htm

a. Where does Bernadette's body lie today?

b. How many times was her body exhumed?

c. Why do you think her body was exhumed?

12. <http://www.medjugorjevideo.com/lourdeswebcam.html>

a. Is anyone visiting now? If not, why?

13. [http://www.lourdes-](http://www.lourdes-france.org/index.php?goto_centre=ru&contexte=en&id=548&id_rubrique=548)

[france.org/index.php?goto_centre=ru&contexte=en&id=548&id_rubrique=548](http://www.lourdes-france.org/index.php?goto_centre=ru&contexte=en&id=548&id_rubrique=548)

Visit this link and write a few short sentences about the Youth Village, for example, who is this for, what do they do there, would you like to visit?

14. <http://www.sacred-destinations.com/france/paris-map>

- a. visit the link to Paris above and scroll down to click on the photos or click along the links at the left or right under the 'Paris' heading. Write a few short sentences about a few places that you'd like to visit. Ideas: name of the place, why you'd like to visit, what you hope to see, and entrance fee amount.
15. You discovered how much it costs to fly to and from Paris and to fly to and from Toulouse, near Lourdes, from answering questions #3 and #4 above. How much money do you think you would need to tour Lourdes and Paris and the areas around both cities including museums, to spend nights at a hotel, to eat three meals a day, and to shop for souvenirs?
16. Read the account of Bernadette above. What did Mary say to Bernadette?
17. Go to this site <http://saints.sqpn.com/feast-of-the-immaculate-conception/> and read about the "Immaculate Conception."
 - a. Explain what this is in a short paragraph.
 - b. What is the feast day of the Immaculate Conception?
18. Go to this site and read about the Blessed Virgin Mary. <http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/dictionary/index.cfm?id=32198> In a short paragraph describe who Mary is and the role she plays in the Catholic Church.