

Whole School Assembly

Thursday 13th February



Our Lady of Lourdes

On Tuesday we celebrated a special feast day.



The feast of
Our Lady Of Lourdes.

Lourdes is in the south
west of France.



Saint Bernadette

The story of Lourdes begins with a young girl called Bernadette Soubirous.

Bernadette was born in 1844 to a poor family in a village called Lourdes, in France



Saint Bernadette



Saint Bernadette



Saint Bernadette



St Bernadette

One day Bernadette was out collecting wood for the fire, with her sister and a friend.

When something happened that changed her life and the village of Lourdes.

Bernadette saw a vision of a lady standing on a rock.

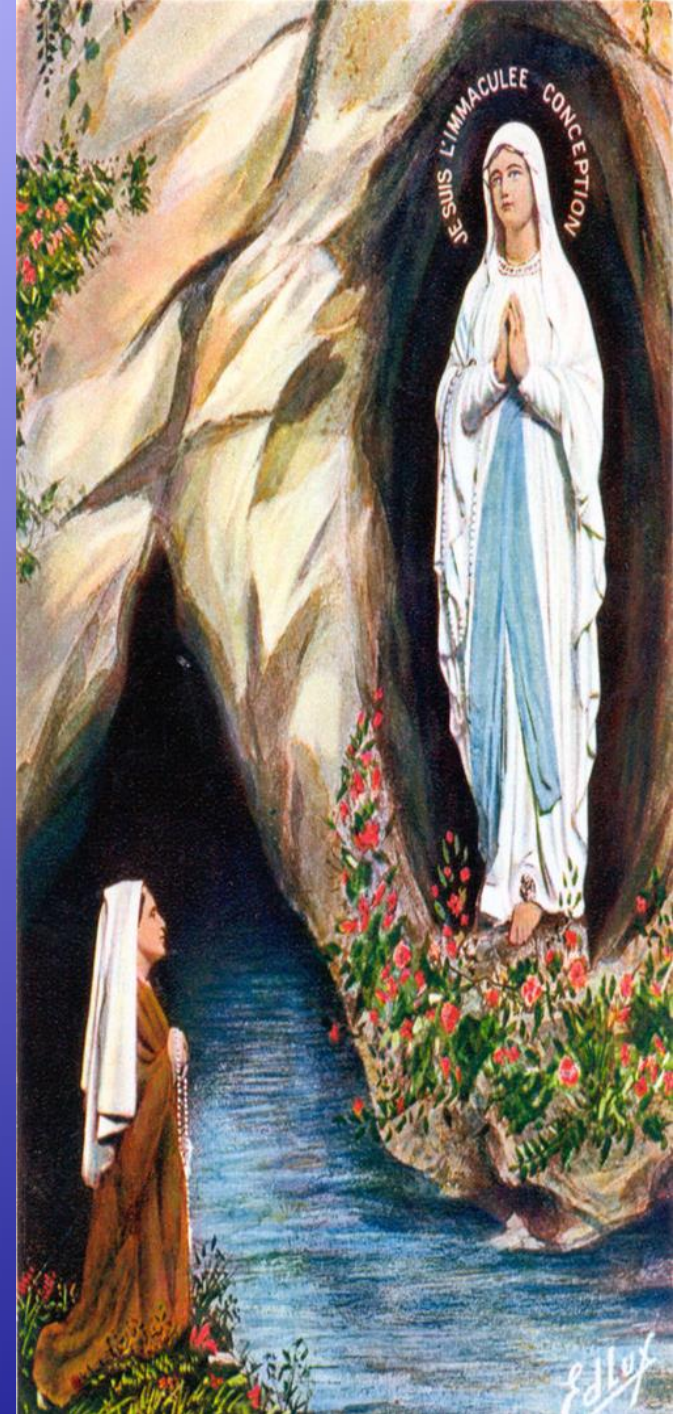


The lady spoke to Bernadette
and asked her to come back to
the same place every day for
17 days.



For seventeen days
Bernadette returned to the
spot and spoke to “The Lady”.

She described her as
wearing a white veil, a
blue sash, having a golden
rose on each foot and
holding some Rosary beads.



Many people in the village believed Bernadette, and started following her to her visits, but no-one else ever saw her visions.

But some people didn't believe her and thought she was telling lies.



One day during a visit the lady told Bernadette to drink from the water on the ground, but there was no water there, just rocks and mud.

But Bernadette did she was asked and as she started to dig with her hands in the mud, water appeared and a fresh clear spring appeared from underground.



On the seventeenth visit
the
lady told Bernadette that
she was Mary, the mother
of Jesus.

Bernadette said that Mary
told her to tell the priests of
the village to build a church
near the spring, and allow
people to come in
procession and pray.

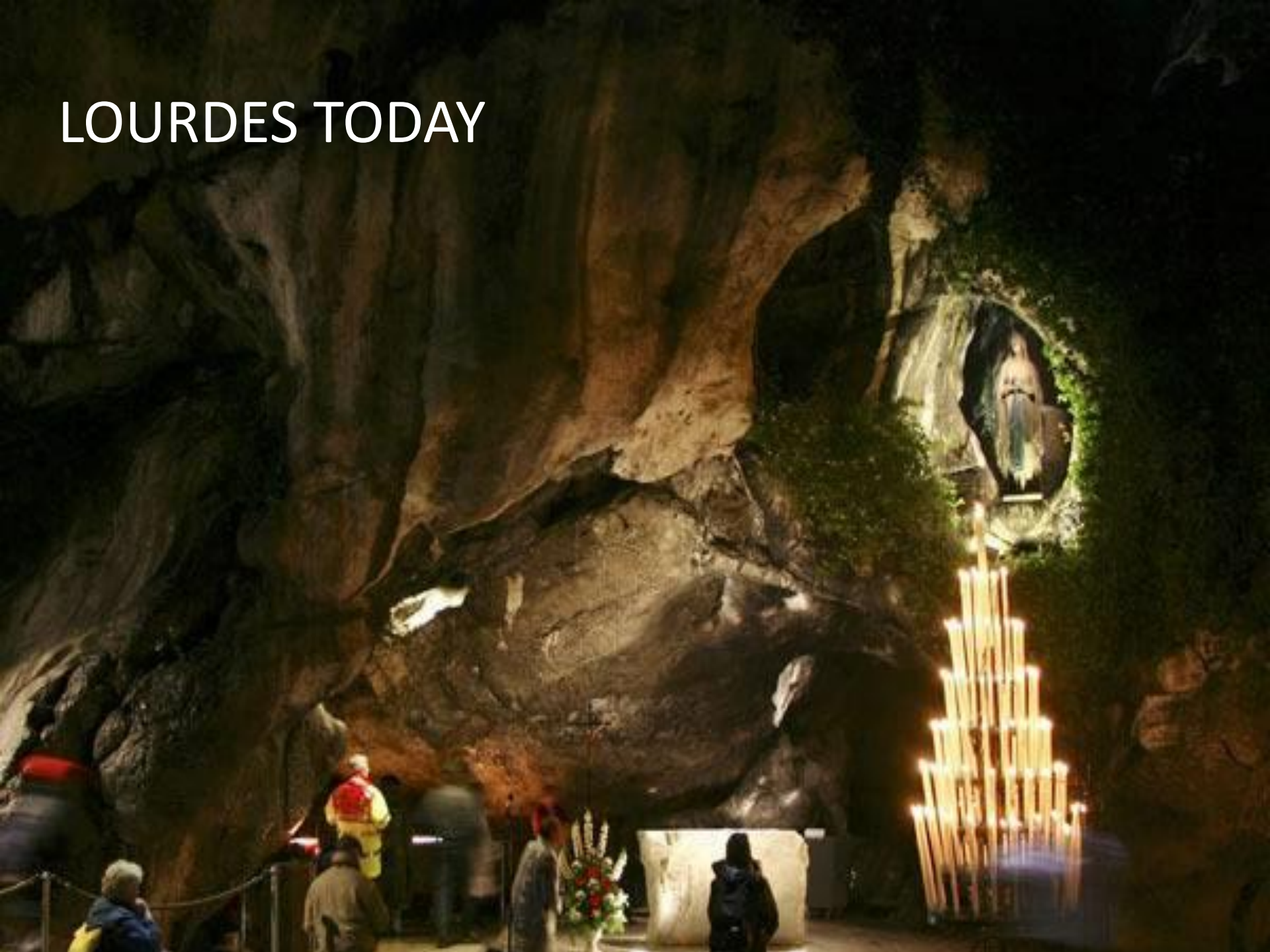




Portrait Authentique
de
Sainte Marie-Berped
de la Congrégation de la Miséricorde

H. Gilard - Nevers

LOURDES TODAY





Around five million people make a pilgrimage to Lourdes each year, including many who are very ill.

They visit the site where Mary appeared to Bernadette, attend Mass and pray the Rosary.



Lourdes Water

People believe that bathing in the spring water can heal you.

A young boy who was blind bathed his eyes in the water and could see, he was the first person reported to be cured. Since then many people have been made better.





People also take part in the candle-light procession, which begins when it is in the dark.

Let Us Pray

Saint Bernadette, teach us to pray to Mary each day, the
Mother of Jesus and our Mother.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou amongst women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God,

pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour
of our death.

Amen

