



# 2013 Annual Summary

United States 501(c)3 Charity ♦ Non-Profit New York Incorporation

✦ The First and Only Lourdes Hospitality of the Americas ✦

*To extend the invitation of the Immaculate Conception as given to Bernadette in the Grotto at Lourdes; to serve the sick and suffering at Lourdes and at home following the loving example of St. Bernadette in simplicity, humility and obedience.*



## Extending the Invitation

- ♦ Public Speaking
- ♦ Website and Publications
- ♦ Virtual Lourdes Pilgrimages
- ♦ Parish Missions and Retreats
- ♦ Pilgrimages to Lourdes, France

## Serving at Lourdes

- ♦ Annual Special Needs Pilgrimages
- ♦ Sanctuaries Volunteer Pilgrimages
- ♦ Youth Volunteer Pilgrimages
- ♦ Guided Sanctuaries Tours
- ♦ Individual Assistance at Lourdes

## Serving at Home

- ♦ Virtual Pilgrimage Experiences
- ♦ Message of Lourdes in Schools
- ♦ 20,000 bottles of Lourdes Water gifted at Virtual Pilgrimages and mailed upon request



*Honoring  
11 Years  
Serving  
at Lourdes  
and at home...*

## LIVING OUR MISSION WITH A PLENARY INDULGENCE BY APOSTOLIC DECREE

### "Virtual" Pilgrimages

An estimated 17,722 "pilgrims" experienced Lourdes in a series of 91 Virtual Pilgrimages at universities, parishes, schools, military communities, youth groups, organizations and prisons in 18 states and in 5 countries including U.S. Military in Germany, at Franciscan University in Austria, across Kenya and in Lourdes, France, while sequestered in the hospital-facility during the flood.

Virtual Pilgrimage provides a spiritual journey to Lourdes in an interactive guided experience of 40 to 90 minutes with Lourdes Water, the Grotto Rock, a Eucharistic Blessing and the Rosary.

### Lourdes Pilgrimages

10 Volunteer Service Pilgrimages facilitated 105 individuals to serve the Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes.

Annual Youth Catechesis Pilgrimage directed 51 teens with chaperones to serve special needs pilgrims at Lourdes.

4 Special Needs Pilgrimages assisted 364 pilgrims including ill, handicapped, family members, medical volunteers and caregivers traveling to Lourdes in April; in May for U. S. Military Wounded, Veterans, Retired and Active Duty service members; and annually in June and October special needs pilgrimages.

### Media

A documentary PBS crew of seven filmed Military Wounded and Disabled on Pilgrimage in May. A one hour special will air in June 2014. Articles and interviews were included in diocesan and secular newspapers and Catholic radio.

### Conferences and Speakers

Conducted 3rd Annual Medical and Leadership Meeting in New Orleans. Talks given at the Army Medical School and International Hospitalité Colloque.

### Internet

Over 100,000 individual unique users visited [www.LourdesVolunteers.org](http://www.LourdesVolunteers.org)

## SHARING THE MESSAGE OF LOURDES THROUGH VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE



Over 77,000 “pilgrims” have experienced Lourdes through Virtual Pilgrimages since the first Virtual Pilgrimage was offered at Kansas City in the fall of 2004. Tens of thousands of parishioners, school children, college and university students, hospice patients, nursing home residents, prisoners, religious, conference attendees and individuals experienced Lourdes in 34 states, 11 Native Nations and 11 countries on 4 continents. The second Plenary Indulgence granted by Apostolic Decree again recognizes the grace of Virtual Pilgrimage through Lourdes Volunteers.



Reaching “pilgrims” across America and around the world, the Gospel Message of Lourdes is “virtually” a “pilgrimage experience” brought to those who will likely not make a journey to France. Virtual Pilgrimage is a prayerful interactive spiritual journey creating a visit to Lourdes from the comfort of the parish pew or school with the opportunity to:

- \*learn the Message of Lourdes
- \*touch the Grotto Rock
- \*go to the spring of water
- \*receive a Eucharistic Blessing
- \*join a candlelight Rosary Procession



Each “pilgrim” receives the gift of a bottle of Lourdes Water, just as in France.

Learning the story of Lourdes and the apparitions through the spirituality of humble Bernadette, the experience of pilgrimage can be “virtually” real.



Hosted in a parish with the support of the priest or pastor and with permission of the local ordinary, Virtual Pilgrimages are then brought to nearby area communities to share the Lourdes experience with impoverished parishes to reach those “pilgrims” who could or would not otherwise attend.

In 2013, Virtual Pilgrimages were offered on two Reservations to 11 Native American Nations, across Kenya to Rusinga Island in Lake Victoria, across America to the Pacific Island of Kauai and across the ocean to three countries in Europe. This evangelical mission is sustained by grace and supported by the parish free-will offerings, our gracious donors and generous benefactors.



## LIVING THE MESSAGE OF LOURDES IN SERVICE AND ON PILGRIMAGE

105 volunteers offered one week of dedicated service with the Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes in 2013. Volunteer groups from two universities and individuals from throughout North America served. 43 have made a life-time commitment to serve one week each year to Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes and 5 were consecrated through the Immaculate Conception.



46 women offered one week of service assisting in the Piscines (Baths), the St. Jean de Baptiste. 33 men in the Service of St. Joseph lifted pilgrims on stretchers at the train station and at the airport, in the baths and at daily processions, while 26 women served in dining, housekeeping and embroidery at

both Accueils, with 5 guides teaching in Formation.

51 youth and chaperones offered humble service to American special needs pilgrims providing assistance to make the journey and the stay possible for sick and handicapped. Learning, Living & Loving Lourdes made a life-changing experience for teens, chaperones and pilgrims.



both Accueils, with 5 guides teaching in Formation.

313 pilgrims traveled from across the United States and Armed Forces Europe including 115 pilgrimage volunteers who offered selfless service preparing for the arrival of the special needs pilgrims and providing housekeeping, dining and wheelchair assistance; also caregivers and companions who accompanied special needs pilgrims in flight and throughout stay in Lourdes; 39 medical volunteers including physicians, practitioners, nurses and therapists.

76 special needs pilgrims, wheelchair-bound, profoundly handicapped and seriously ill, including 5 religious and 6 babies, traveled to Lourdes assisted by personal and medical supportive care volunteers, chaplains and leaders.

21 priests provided our spiritual direction and 1 religious sister were a spiritual presence. Each pilgrimage was directed by an experienced leadership team.

All medical and lay volunteers offered service while paying their own costs for pilgrimage which can be a tax deduction on 2040 Schedule A. However, the graces and personal reward for service are beyond credit!





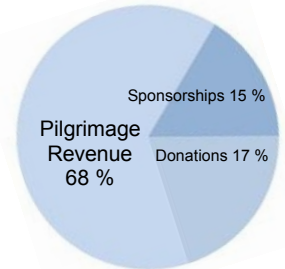
# SUSTAINING OUR EVANGELICAL MISSION

**Liability Insurance** is the umbrella policy purchased by the Association financially protecting against injury, misconduct, abuse, neglect, damage, or accident.

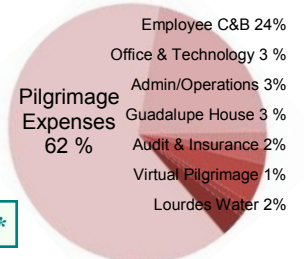
\*FINANCIAL INFORMATION UNAUDITED UNTIL 990 FILING  
2012 independent audited available upon request

Volunteer pilgrimages and donations are tax-deductible on 1040 Schedule A. Please consult your tax advisor.

## REVENUE

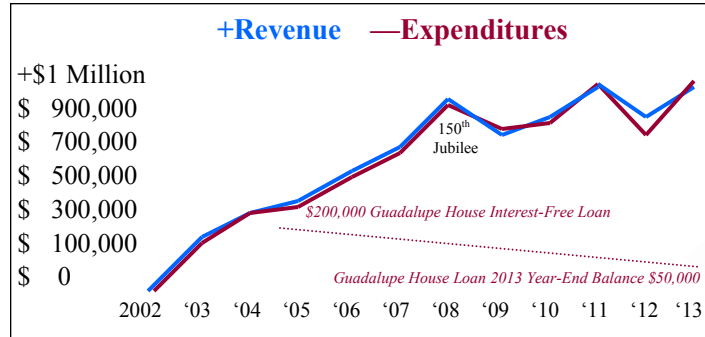
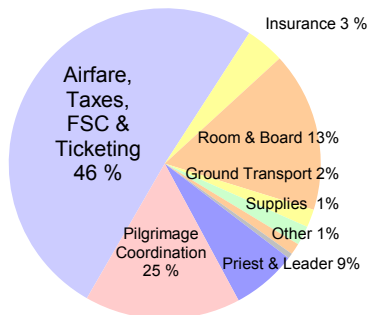


## EXPENSES



## PILGRIMAGE MONIES

Average Pilgrimage Cost Percentages



**92¢ OF TOTAL EXPENSES WERE SPENT ON PROGRAMS & SERVICES\***

In-house pilgrimage coordination eliminates travel agency and tour operator commissions.

Taxes and Fuel Surcharge (FSC) are ~\$685 in airport taxes and jet fuel surcharge imposed by the airlines to be collected in addition to ticket fare.

Medical and Travel Insurance is the ~\$100+ policy coverage included for each individual pilgrim and volunteer for medical or travel emergencies.

## 2013 SPONSORSHIPS

- 92 SPECIAL NEEDS - ANDREA'S WISH
- 37 PILGRIM-VOLUNTEERS - PRIVATE DONORS
- 34 YOUTH VOLUNTEERS - PARISH FUNDED

## Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes Commitment and Consecration



The arch-confraternity Hospitalite Notre-Dame de Lourdes, a Public Association of the Christian Faithful, is comprised of 8,000 lay members who come to Lourdes to serve the Sanctuaries for one week each year. After five years of Service and Formation in the Message of Lourdes in the spirit of Hospitality, a member can make a life-time formal Commitment to the Hospitalité at Mass.

Three years following this life-long pledge of service, the Committed member can further their

promise and deepen their spiritual devotion at Holy Mass with a Consecration to Jesus Christ through the Immaculate Conception.

Chrissy Marro was the 5<sup>th</sup> North American Volunteer to make this Marian Consecration at Lourdes along with Jo Ann Mc Grath. The same evening, Bernadette La Roche, Marie-Michel Charles and Mureille Altieri made their life-time Commitments totaling 43 Hospitalité Notre-Dame Committed North American Volunteers.



## POPE FRANCIS GRANTS APOSTOLIC PLENARY INDULGENCE

By Apostolic Decree, recognizing the response in 2012 to the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Plenary Indulgence from Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI to Our Lady of Lourdes Hospitality North American Volunteers, Pope Francis grants a Plenary Indulgence to faithful who make pilgrimage to Lourdes or who experience a Virtual Pilgrimage with North American Lourdes Volunteers between July 16, 2013 and July 15, 2020.

“An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven.” (CCC 1471)

Indulgences have a specific act as well as norms or conditions that must be performed to acquire the either full or partial indulgences. The conditions specifically for this indulgence, considered norm, are:

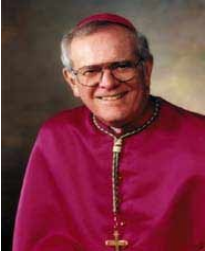
- \* A Sacramental Confession with a priest;
- \* Reception of the Holy Eucharist;
- \* Prayers for the Intentions of the Pope  
(Our Father, Hail Mary and Gloria)
- \* A heart and mind free from attachment to sin.

It is recommended that these conditions be met at the same time or within one week, if possible.



# Our Lady of Lourdes Hospitality North American Volunteers: Church and State

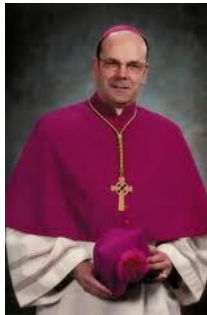
## CATHOLIC CHURCH



On June 10, 2005, Most Reverend James Moynihan erected Lourdes Volunteers a Public Association of the Christian Faithful under Title V Canon 312 §3 to devote itself to the initiatives of evangelization and charity through the Message of Lourdes.

## ECCLESIAL AUTHORITY

This Association is under the Ecclesial Authority of the Most Reverend Robert Cunningham, Bishop of Syracuse Diocese in upstate New York.



A priest chaplain is appointed by the Bishop to spiritually assist the association. Reverend Jeffrey Keefe, OFM, Conv. provides spiritual direction and guidance to the directors, members and chaplains.

### *Ecclesial Authority:*

*Most Reverend Robert Cunningham,  
Bishop of the Syracuse Diocese (NY)*

### *Board of Directors*

#### *Chaplain:*

Rev. Jeffrey Keefe, OFM, Conv.

#### *Honorary Chairman of the Board*

Col (Ret) David Braden \*Stagiaire 2003

#### *President:*

Marlene Watkins \*Hospitalière 2006

#### *Vice President:*

Barry Vaughn, MBA

#### *Secretary:*

Frances Salaun \*Hospitalière 2011

#### *Treasurer:*

Daniel Crapia, MBA

Theresa Stiner \*Hospitalière 2006

Teresa Lewis \*Hospitalière 2011

Marianne Fischer \*Stagiaire 2013

*\*Member of the Hospitalité  
Notre-Dame de Lourdes*

### *Founding Bishop:*

Most Reverend James Moynihan

## GOVERNANCE

The Association is governed according to the statutes approved by the Ecclesial Authority and the Board of Directors. The Statutes are in compliance with Church Canon Law as well as both state and federal regulations for charities.

## ADMINISTRATION

The Association is guided by a Board of Directors who are not compensated for their leadership services. The Association operations are directed by a volunteer uncompensated Founding Administrator, Mrs. Marlene Watkins, as appointed by the Bishop. Association activities and finances, including the annual audit, are reported each year to the Bishop.

## STATE AND FEDERAL STATUS

In 2003 the Association was incorporated in the state of New York and maintains a tax-exempt status as a 501(c)3 afforded the privileges and obligations of a charity filing an audit and IRS 990 report. As a non-profit, donations are tax deductible within the legal allowable guidelines.

## HOSPITALITIES

The Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes is under the authority of the Bishop of Tarbes et Lourdes, Msgr. Nicolas Brouwet and is comprised of individuals from around the world who volunteer at the Sanctuaries one week a year to welcome pilgrims.



## LOURDES VOLUNTEERS



Our Lady of Lourdes Hospitality North American Volunteers is the first and only Lourdes hospitality of the Americas aggregated by Bishop J. Perrier on December 17, 2006.

## AVE MARIA TRAVEL

A separately incorporated and audited wholly-owned not-for-profit subsidiary to facilitate travel/medical insurance group purchase and travel needs.

## 2013 YEAR OF FAITH

- Apostolic Plenary Indulgence granted by Pope Francis for 7 years
- First Virtual Pilgrimage to Africa in a 20 day series across Kenya
- PBS filming of Military Pilgrimage for Wounded and Disabled
- 3 Volunteers Consecrated through Hospitalité Notre-Dame
- Exceeded 100,000 unique visitors to [www.LourdesVolunteers.org](http://www.LourdesVolunteers.org)
- 1,000 likes on Lourdes Volunteers facebook page
- Twitter and Instagram launched



*Dear Friends of Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Bernadette,*

*As we embarked into the second decade of sharing the Message of Lourdes, serving the sick and suffering both at Lourdes and at home, we were humbled to receive a Plenary Indulgence for the second time, this new Indulgence for seven years from our Holy Father, Pope Francis.*

*We are genuinely thankful to each person who makes it possible for us to share the grace of Lourdes: our dedicated staff, selfless volunteers, generous donors and faithful prayer supporters. What a blessing to share authentic Marian devotion across America and beyond to so many.*

*Again, this year and this decade, we will follow Bernadette to the Grotto at Lourdes or within the Grotto of our hearts where we can encounter the Mother of God to discover or deepen our love for Christ and in each other. We are profoundly changed forever into eternity and with the ripple effect of the grace of Lourdes, we can extend that life-changing grace we have experienced to those around us at home, in our parish families and local communities.*

*Thank you for the continued privilege to share in this grace! The Board of Directors*

Contact us: by phone:

Phone: (315) 476-0026



Visit us on the internet:

[www.LourdesVolunteers.org](http://www.LourdesVolunteers.org)