

Our Lady of Lourdes Hospitality North American Volunteers, LTD.



Public Association of the Christian Faithful in the Catholic Church

Available
Now In
French
and
Spanish

2008 Annual Summary

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

OUR MISSION

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



Extending the Invitation

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

Serving at Lourdes

- ♦ Volunteer Sanctuaries Pilgrimages
- ♦ Youth Volunteer Pilgrimage Service
- ♦ Annual Special Needs Pilgrimages
- ♦ Guided Sanctuaries Visits
- ♦ Individual Assistance at Lourdes

Serving at Home

- ♦ Virtual Pilgrimages
- ♦ Lourdes Water Distribution
- ♦ Special Needs Home Visits
- ♦ Message of Lourdes in Schools
- ♦ Lourdes Information Assistance



"The proper way of serving others leads to humility... Those who are in a position to help others will realize, that in doing so, they themselves receive help."

Pope Benedict XVI

FULFILLING OUR MISSION

Virtual Pilgrimages

Thousands experienced Lourdes this Jubilee year in **17 Virtual Pilgrimages** of multiple events at community parishes, schools, universities, maximum security prisons and juvenile detention facilities. Virtual Pilgrimage provides a "spiritual journey" in an interactive 90 minute guided experience with Lourdes Water, the Rosary and Eucharistic Blessing.

Parish Missions

A four night Lourdes Missions in Texas focused on the Jubilee and the Sacraments in a pilgrimage experience.

Pilgrimages

15 Volunteer Service Pilgrimages facilitated 282 individuals to serve the Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes.

2 Youth Catechesis Pilgrimages facilitated 62 teens with chaperones to serve special needs pilgrims at Lourdes.

4 Special Needs Pilgrimages totaling 201 pilgrims including ill, handicapped, family members, medical volunteers and helpers including two new Special Needs Pilgrimages especially for Deaf & Hard of Hearing and Military Wounded, Veterans Retired and Active Duty service members.

Talks and Retreats

Countless viewers and listeners experienced the Message of Lourdes throughout the Jubilee in both radio, television appearances. Additionally, attendees of the Military Council of Catholic Women Worldwide Bi-Annual Conference at San Antonio, Texas.

Information

"Lourdes On Your Own" packets of useful information were mailed free to assist private individuals on pilgrimage.

Over **28,000** users visited our website.

NORTH AMERICAN LOURDES VOLUNTEERS HOSPITALITY

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Established by Most Reverend James M. Moynihan June 10, 2005, under Title V Canon 312 §3 as a Public Association of the Christian Faithful; North American Lourdes Volunteers devotes itself to the initiatives of evangelization and charity.

ECCLESIAL AUTHORITY

The Association is under the Ecclesial Authority of Bishop James Moynihan of the Syracuse Diocese. Chaplains are appointed by the Bishop to guide the association. Fathers Jeffrey Keefe and Daniel Caruso provide spiritual direction with Père Régis-Marie de La Teyssonnière as Pilgrimage Director and as Lourdes Liaison Chaplain to guide and assist the Association.

GOVERNANCE

The Association is governed according to the statutes approved by the Ecclesial Authority. The Statutes are also in compliance with both state and federal regulations.

ADMINISTRATION

The Association is guided by a Board of Directors who are not compensated or paid for their leadership services. The Association operations are coordinated by (unpaid) Founding Administrator, Mrs. Marlene Watkins, as appointed by Bishop Moynihan. Association activities, and finances, including the audit, are reported annually to the Bishop.

NEW YORK STATE

The Association was incorporated in New York in 2003 and operates within the state norms and laws for legal entities, abiding by state requirements including bi-annual meetings.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Tax-exempt status as a 501(c)3 was granted in 2003 affording the Association the privileges and obligations of a charity. An annual audit and 990 financial report is completed as required by the IRS. As a compliant 501(c)3 non-profit, donations and contributions are tax deductible.

HOSPITALITIES

The Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes is under the authority of the Bishop of Tarbes-Lourdes comprised of individuals from various countries who come to Lourdes to welcome pilgrims. Diocesan, national religious hospitalities accompany sick pilgrims to Lourdes under their ecclesial authority with the blessing of the Bishop of Lourdes.

LOURDES VOLUNTEERS

Our Lady of Lourdes Hospitality North American Volunteers, the first hospitality of the Americas, became an associated member of the Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes" on December 17, 2006.

AVE MARIA TRAVEL

A wholly-owned not-for-profit subsidiary of Lourdes Volunteers, Ave Maria Travel is the negotiating agency for all airline contracts, all travel arrangements and travel/medical insurance. All audited financial information is included within Lourdes Volunteers statements.

LIVING OUR MISSION



282 volunteers each served Hospitalité for one week in the Jubilee Year 2008. Volunteers ranged in age from 18 years old to 75 years young, arriving from **36 states** from Maine to California and diocese from as far away as Hong Kong, El Salvador, the Caribbean Islands, Canada and our Military Archdiocese.



116 women offered one week of service assisting in the baths, the Service of St. Jean de Baptiste, **85 men**

in the Service of St. Joseph lifted pilgrims on stretchers at the train station and at the airport, assisted in the baths and daily processions, while **80 women** served in housekeeping and dining rooms at both Accueils, with one volunteer teaching in Formation.



62 youth came as unofficial volunteers offering humble service, especially in the unglamorous duties often overlooked but needed to assist pilgrimages. Immersed in a catechesis of the Message of Lourdes and spirituality of St. Bernadette, the experience changed the chaperones as well as the teenagers.



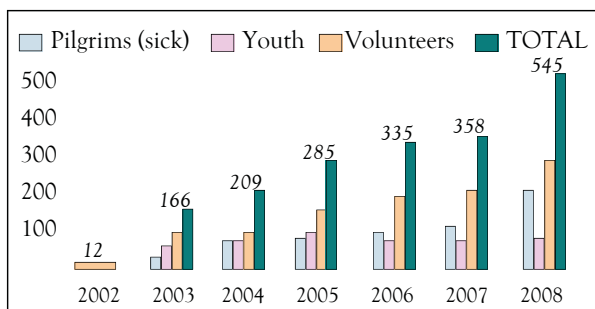
201 pilgrims came from **26 states** accompanied by both medical professionals and caregivers who made the pilgrimage possible. Several wheelchair bound pilgrims traveled to Lourdes, some suffering multiple and profound handicaps, several seriously ill and some unaccompanied pilgrims. Personal care, companionship and medical supervision was provided to special pilgrims in need. Volunteers

offered their service while paying their pilgrimage costs.

Each pilgrimage was directed by an experienced leader and member of the Hospitalité. Priests accompanied every group offering Mass

and spiritual direction throughout the week.

Both volunteers and pilgrims including youth and those with special needs have brought their Lourdes experience home, living the invitation to conversion and prayer as requested by Our Lady in the Grotto, further extending the Message of Lourdes....



SUPPORTING OUR MISSION

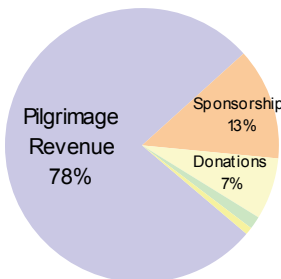
Fuel Sur Charge (FSC) is the new fee imposed by airlines since 2006 to offset fluctuating jet fuel prices. FSC and taxes combined escalated to over \$429 for international ticketing per person, in addition to the actual ticket costs.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION SHOWN IS NOT AUDITED.
2008 audit available at 990 filing November, 2009.
2003-2007 audit reports are available upon request.

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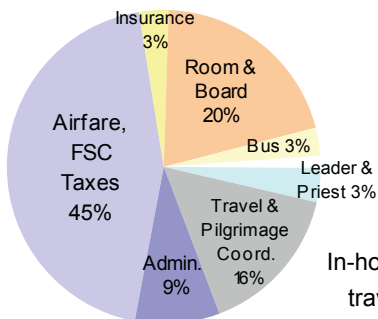
Volunteer pilgrimages and donations are tax-deductible.

REVENUE

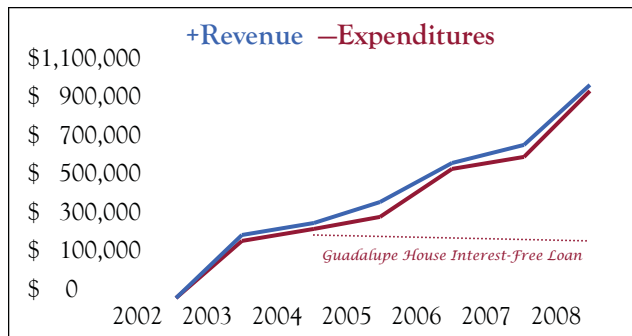


PILGRIMAGE MONIES

Average Pilgrimage Cost Percentages

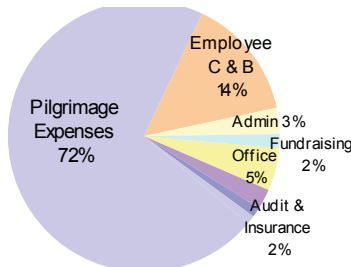


In-house travel/pilgrimage coordination eliminates travel agency and tour operator commissions.



No monies are expended for fundraising activities or events.

EXPENSES



2008 Jubilee Sponsorships

- 23 youth fundraised pilgrimage expenses
- 33 special needs pilgrims funded by Andrea's Wish
- 36 volunteers funded by private donors
- 13 sponsored by Lourdes Volunteers

Medical and Travel Insurance is the coverage purchased by each individual pilgrim and volunteer for emergency medical care and trip cancellation.

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

HOUSING OUR MISSION

Guadalupe House will become the home and offices of Lourdes Volunteers and someday be known as the "American Oasis of Hospitality at Lourdes." Our historic house will sleep 26 volunteers in service and is situated overlooking the doorway to the original parish rectory where on March 25, 1858, Bernadette told the parish priest "I Am the Immaculate Conception" was the name of "Aquiroy" appearing in the Grotto.



Well suited to our future, the house was purchased in anticipation of our growing needs.

Our Guadalupe House Advisory Committee was formed to assess and implement the renovation plans.

Sponsorship and benefactors are now needed to repay the interest-free mortgage and to renovate and furnish the house into the much needed residence of the North American Volunteers at Lourdes.

FACILITATING OUR MISSION

"With God ALL things are possible" is the motto of the dedicated office team who responds to inquiries, arrange travel and process pilgrimage registration. Also, the team coordinates virtual pilgrimages as well as the design and printing of all Association brochures, materials and publications.

Three full-time employees manage the pilgrimage and travel operations. One part-time employee coordinates Special Needs Pilgrimages with a volunteer Head Nurse. One full-time employee manages

our bookkeeping and accounting. One part-time technology and data director and one full-time volunteer administrator offer their time and service as unpaid office volunteers.

Each staff person can join one of our pilgrimages as an employee benefit and as job training to offer first-hand experience to assist others to Lourdes.

Flexible hours and healthcare benefits help to offset non-profit wages offering employees a fair compensation package for hard but spiritually rewarding work.

The team of paid and volunteer staff is committed to Our Lady of Lourdes and sharing her message in the service of her pilgrims and volunteers.

Managing pilgrimages requires a team of dedicated volunteers to lead the group and coordinate the activities. Chaplains and Group Leaders are not required to pay pilgrimage costs, however, some donate their time, talent and services and also the cost of their pilgrimage as a contribution.

All pilgrimage expenses and sponsorship is tax deductible on 1040 Schedule A.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ecclesial Authority:

Most Reverend James M. Moynihan

Chaplains:

Rev. Jeffrey Keefe, OFM.Conv.
Père Régis-Marie de La Teyssonnière

President:

Marlene Watkins *Hospitaliere '2006

Vice President:

Col (Ret) David Braden *Stagiare '03

Secretary:

Joan Dolan, R.N.P *Stagiaire '06

Treasurer:

Robert Warren

Medical Director:

Dr. Michael Martinelli

Head Nurse:

Mary Dooley, R.N. *Stagiaire '05

Directors:

Theresa Stiner *Hospitaliere '06

Deacon Bill Olson, Esq.

John Paul Kehn *Stagiaire '05

Frank Weber *Stagiaire '06

*Member Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes



2008 JUBILEE MILESTONES

- 545 pilgrims made the Jubilee Way for the Papal Indulgence
- 3 Commitments to the Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes
- First Pilgrimage for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing
- First Military Pilgrimage for Wounded, Disabled & Veterans
- First Blessed Marianne Special Needs Pilgrimage
- Youth Service with Catechesis to our Special Needs Pilgrims
- Accompanied Bishops and Cardinals during the Papal Visit
- First Virtual Pilgrimage in Canada at Nova Scotia

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

In review of the joyous Jubilee Year 150th Anniversary of the Apparitions at Lourdes, genuine thanks are due to many: our selfless volunteers, pilgrimage leaders and helpers; our graciously generous benefactors (we need more!); dedicated office staff, competent medical team and the seriously sick who entrusted themselves to our care; the youth who are our future; the holy Chaplains and Spiritual Directors who guide us; Bishop Moynihan who requested our affiliation to the Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes and Bishop Perrier who accepted and aggregated our Association as the first hospitality of the Americas—and thanks be to God for the grace that is Lourdes! We are blessed and encouraged by the affirmation received by the Rector, Aumônier Général, President of Hospitalité and Père Régis-Marie de La Teyssonnière. Their recognition and support honors our humble beginnings and marks us authentic.

A hunger is being met as the Message of Lourdes again reaches American ears and hearts—healings, conversions, devotion and living the Gospel Message of Lourdes are the sweet fruits evident. We are blessed to be witnesses to love in living our Charism from the Grotto to home.

Thank you for the privilege and pleasure to serve Our Lady and you, Merci! *Marlene*



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID SYRACUSE, NY
PERMIT NO. 4393

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OUR MISSION:
www.LourdesVolunteers.org
Visit us on the Web!
US Toll-Free 1-866 LOURDES
Phone: (315) 476-0026
To contact us: