



2018 Annual Summary

★ The First 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

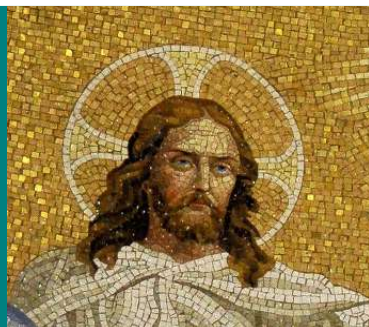
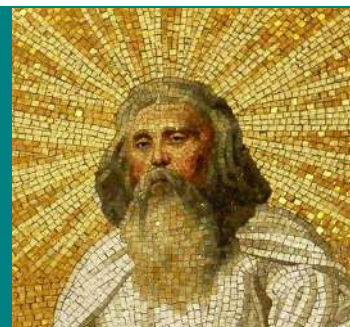
- ♦ Public Speaking
- ♦ Website and Publications
- ♦ Virtual Lourdes Pilgrimages
- ♦ Parish Missions and Retreats
- ♦ Pilgrimages to Lourdes, France

Serving at Lourdes

- ♦ Annual Special Needs Pilgrimages
- ♦ Sanctuary Volunteer Pilgrimages
- ♦ Youth Catechesis-Service Program
- ♦ University Volunteer Pilgrimages
- ♦ Guided Sanctuary Visits

Serving at Home

- ♦ Virtual Pilgrimage Experiences
- ♦ Message of Lourdes in Schools
- ♦ 19,363 Bottles of Lourdes Water given at Virtual Pilgrimages and mailed in 2018



LIVING OUR MISSION WITH A PLENARY INDULGENCE BY APOSTOLIC DECREE

"Virtual" Experiences

In 2018, an estimated **14,536** "pilgrims" experienced Lourdes in **85** Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experiences at parishes, schools and universities across **16 US states**, in **7 countries** and on **4 continents**.

Virtual Pilgrimage Experiences provide a spiritual journey with a trained guide in a 40 to 90 minute interactive prayerful experience with Lourdes Water, the Grotto Rock, a Eucharistic Blessing and Candlelight Rosary Procession offering attending faithful a Papal Plenary Indulgence.

Lourdes Pilgrimages

5 Volunteer Service Pilgrimages facilitated **102 individuals** to serve the Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes from **22 states** and **10 countries**.

Annual Catechesis Pilgrimage directed visits and service for **31 youth, young adults and chaperones** from **7 states** and **2 countries**.

2 Special Needs Pilgrimages assisted **206 pilgrims** including sick and disabled, family members, medical volunteers, companions, caregivers and university students from **32 states** and **15 countries**.

Media and Events

Published this fall was our 9th issue of the Lourdes Newsletter, "Meet Our Members". This issue highlights our membership program and describes the exciting renovations to our American oasis in Lourdes, the Guadalupe House.

Website and Social Media

www.LourdesVolunteers.org
We launched a redesign to our website with over **19,600 unique users** in 2018!



VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE EXPERIENCE REACHES 44 STATES AND 5 CONTINENTS



On 4 continents and in 7 countries and 16 states of America, 14,536 “pilgrims” experienced Lourdes through 85 Virtual Pilgrimages in 2018.

A series of spectacular candlelit processions was hosted for the

first time in Ecuador and Bolivia including a return to China, Peru, Italy and Austria. In the US and abroad, we visited 56 parishes, 11 private homes, 9 schools, 2 colleges, 2 nursing homes, 1 conference, 1 seminary, 1 convent and 2 groups.

More than 164,500 “pilgrims” experienced LVPE in 44 states, 13 Native American Nations, 19 countries on 5 continents since the first series in Kansas City, Kansas, in 2004.

In 2018, LVPE was offered at the Knoxville Diocesan Counsel of Catholic Women’s Convention.



Faithful meeting the norms are eligible for

the Plenary Indulgence granted by Holy Father Francis through 2020 by experiencing Lourdes on pilgrimage to France or a Virtual Pilgrimage Experience. The Gospel Message is “virtually” brought to those unlikely to make a journey to France.

A Lourdes experience is re-created by expert trained Guides using projected images and an interactive prayerful “virtually real” experience offering:

- * a guided visual visit
- * touch the Grotto Rock
- * Lourdes Water
- * Eucharistic Blessing
- * Rosary Procession



LVPE is a catechetical and evangelical mission that is sustained by grace and is supported by parish free-will offerings, volunteers guides and gracious donors.

Each person receives a bottle of undiluted, pure Lourdes Water.

SPECIAL NEEDS PILGRIMS AND VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE

In 2018, 247 pilgrims, including 55 wheelchair-bound, seriously ill and disabled traveled from the United States and China were assisted by 31 companions and caregivers who selflessly and lovingly offered assistance during flight and while in Lourdes.



34 pilgrimage volunteers from the U.S.A., Germany and Franciscan University, Gaming Austria campus, offered dedicated dining, housekeeping and wheelchair assistance.

33 medical volunteers, including nurses and physicians, offered Supportive Medical Care. All volunteers pay their own pilgrimage expenses or seek sponsors to cover their costs. Expenses and sponsorship donations are both tax-deductible.



17 priests and religious were spiritual directors on both special needs and volunteer pilgrimages. 30 leadership team members guided 11 pilgrimages.



102 volunteers and leaders offered a week of service with Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes where 38 women served in the St. Jean de Baptiste Piscines (Baths). 26 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 22 women served in dining and housekeeping at the Accueil

hospital-bed facilities and 3 formateurs taught volunteers in Hospitalité Formation.

31 youth, young adults and chaperones offered service to Special Needs Pilgrims providing assistance to make the journey and the stay possible for the sick and disabled.

Our youth catechesis and service Learning, Living & Loving Lourdes program provided a life-changing experience for teenagers and their chaperones, including 6 families of parents with teen volunteers.



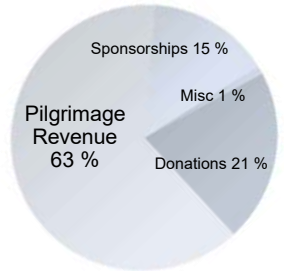
SUSTAINING OUR EVANGELICAL MISSION

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*
2017 independent audited available upon request

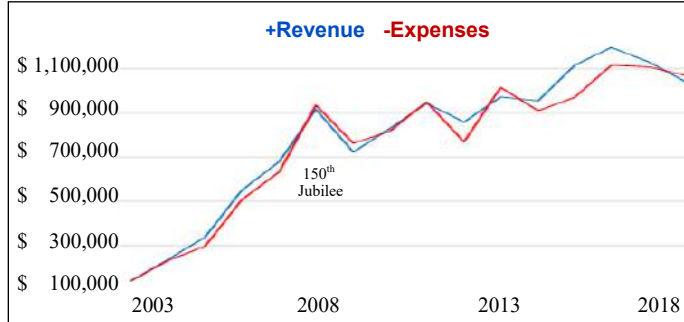
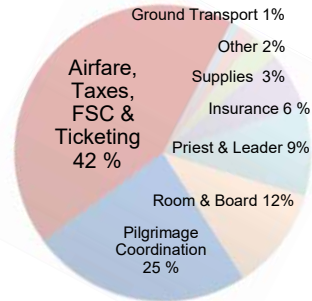
Volunteer pilgrimages and donations are tax-deductible on 1040 Schedule A. Please consult your tax advisor.

REVENUE



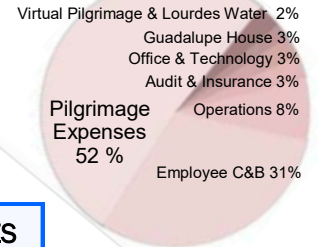
PILGRIMAGE MONIES

Average Pilgrimage Cost Percentages



***91¢ OF EVERY DOLLAR SPENT ON PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

EXPENSES



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

Taxes and Fuel Surcharges were \$300 to \$420 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 \$98 to \$666 age-based policy coverage cost per each traveler for medical, travel and repatriation emergencies.

2018 SPONSORSHIPS

36 SPECIAL NEEDS - ANDREA'S WISH

23 PILGRIM-VOLUNTEERS - PRIVATE DONORS

GUADALUPE HOUSE an American Oasis in Lourdes



Thanks to the support of faithful friends with a generous grant and gracious gifts, Guadalupe House structural renovations are funded to begin on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, February 11, 2019. Working with our French architects, experienced volunteers prepared the house for construction throughout 2018. Extensive architectural renovation will take 12 to 18 months. Additional funding will be needed to complete the restoration, finishing and furnishing plans for the Grand Opening anticipated for December 12, 2020, on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Please pray for Guadalupe House!

MEMBERSHIP FORMALIZED

Membership Oath

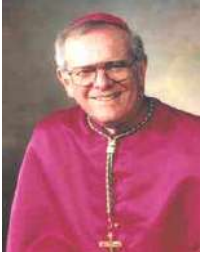
"With the Gift of God's Grace I vow to embrace the teachings of the Catholic Church to honor the sanctity of every human life and to respect the dignity of each person as Christ, with the loving support of my brothers and sisters, so help me, God."

In 2018, Lourdes Volunteers formalized its membership program to better capture and document its history of membership. Members are unified in the goal of loving each person as Christ, caring as the Blessed Mother would care for Jesus. Some members make pilgrimage, serving the sick and disabled or the Sanctuary of Lourdes. Others evangelize through Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience, bringing the grace of Lourdes across the U.S. and abroad. Those who are able make our mission possible as donors, benefactors and sponsors, but all members serve through prayer, the Rosary, at Mass, at Adoration or in sacrifice and suffering.



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

CATHOLIC PUBLIC ASSOCIATION



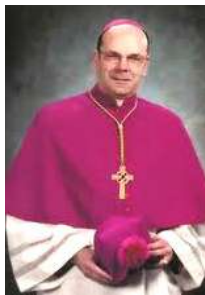
On June 10, 2005, Most Reverend James Moynihan erected Lourdes Volunteers a Public Association of the Christian Faithful under Title V Canon 312 §3 to devote itself to the initiatives of evangelization and charity through the Message of Lourdes.

ECCLESIAL AUTHORITY

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

A priest chaplain is approved by the local Bishop to spiritually assist the association.

Father Robert Hyde provides guidance and spiritual direction to the directors, members and the priest chaplains on pilgrimages.



ASSOCIATION 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.

ASSOCIATION 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.

LOURDES AFFILIATION

Both the Sanctuary of Lourdes and the Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes is under the authority of the Bishop of Tarbes et Lourdes, Msgr. Nicolas Brouwet. 240 Lourdes hospitalities are aggregated to Hospitalité Notre Dame de Lourdes. Serving the Sanctuary with the Hospitalité and bringing the sick to Lourdes, Our Lady of Lourdes Hospitality North American Volunteers, became the first Hospitality of the Americas aggregated to Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes by then-Bishop, Msgr. Perrier, on December 17, 2006.



FRENCH STATUS

On February 15, 2016, an Association was created in France in a declaration as Hospitalité North American Volunteers of Notre Dame de Lourdes. This French Association is non-lucrative (non-profit) affiliated association allowing for the sick and volunteers to be welcomed in France.

Ecclesial Authority:

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

2018 Board of Directors

Spiritual Director:

Rev. Robert Hyde, JCL

Honorary Chairman of the Board

*Col-Ret David Braden, Texas †

Foundress:

*Marlene Watkins, New York

President:

*Frances Salaun, New York

Vice President:

*Deacon Dan Revetto, California

Secretary:

*Nancy Pease, Virginia

Treasurer:

James Kernell, Esq., Kansas

Executive Director:

Erika Vincent, New York

*Teresa Lewis, Wisconsin

*Edwin and Charo Rojas, Florida

*Majel Jo Braden, Texas

*Hospitalité Notre-Dame de Lourdes Member



2018 BLESSINGS AND GRACES

1st Spanish Virtual Pilgrimage Experiences™ in Bolivia and Ecuador

Featured speakers at the Knoxville Women's Conference

Guadalupe House renovation funds secured for 2019 construction

Website redesign launched in July

Continued conversions and promotion of authentic Marian devotion

16 years of service in Lourdes and at home

Call us by phone:
(315) 476-0026

Visit us on the internet:
www.LourdesVolunteers.org