

Our Lady of Lourdes 11 February



About Our Lady of Lourdes

In 1858 the Immaculate Virgin Mary appeared to a fourteen-year-old peasant girl, named **Bernadette Soubirous**, near Lourdes in France, in the cavern called “de Massabielle”. Through this poor girl, Mary called on sinners to change their lives. Bernadette has inspired in the Church a great love of prayer and good works, especially in serving the poor and the sick.

The appearance of Mary to Bernadette caused an uproar in the town and Bernadette was constantly pressured by her townsfolk to retell her story. Her parish priest asked her to ask the lady’s name. Mary said to her, “I am the Immaculate Conception.” This title of Mary would have meant nothing to Bernadette. One of Mary’s requests was to build a chapel on the site of her appearance. Today many people flock to Lourdes to be healed of various ailments.

What can we learn from Our Lady’s appearance at Lourdes?

Just as Jesus chooses what we may consider to be the most unlikely people to proclaim his message, so too Mary chooses the humble, the poor and the weak. Many miracles have happened at Lourdes. Whilst everyone who needs to get to Lourdes may not, that should not stop our prayer life for the sick. Indeed, that should strengthen our prayer and support of the sick and those in need, thereby showing how God’s grace works through Mary and us in our time and place.

Collect

Grant us, O merciful God, protection in our weakness,
that we, who keep the Memorial of the Immaculate Mother of God,
may, with the help of her intercession,
rise up from our iniquities.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Lady of Lourdes

11 February



Gospel

John 2:1-11

'My hour has not come yet' - 'Do whatever he tells you'

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee.
The mother of Jesus was there,
and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited.
When they ran out of wine,
since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished,
the mother of Jesus said to him,
'They have no wine.'

**Jesus said 'Woman, why turn to me?
My hour has not come yet.'**

His mother said to the servants,
'Do whatever he tells you.'

There were six stone water jars standing there,
meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews:
each could hold twenty or thirty gallons.

Jesus said to the servants,
'Fill the jars with water',
and they filled them to the brim.
'Draw some out now' he told them
'and take it to the steward.'

They did this;
the steward tasted the water,
and it had turned into wine.
Having no idea where it came from –
only the servants who had drawn the water knew –
the steward called the bridegroom and said,
'People generally serve the best wine first,
and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink;
but you have kept the best wine till now.'

Our Lady of Lourdes
11 February



Antiphon

Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary, which bore the Son of the eternal Father.

Hymn for the Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes

O Mary, our Mother at Lourdes you appeared,
to Bernadette Soubirous you spoke your word.
You brought healing power to be in that place,
and made it a fountain of God's saving grace.

The fruits of your mercy are seen in this place:
miraculous cures brought about by God's grace.
People seeking healing here in water wade,
and give thanks to God for His power displayed.

O Mary you show us that our faith and prayer
can heal those who come to you seeking your care.
Our prayer must be combined with deeds kind and pure,
through your intercession there will be a cure.

Other Music Suggestion

[Song of Mary](#)

SCRIPTURE READINGS: *Jerusalem Bible Translation of Scripture used in Australian Lectionary for Mass, Vols I, II and III* (London: Collins Liturgical, 1981). All rights reserved.

COLLECT and ANTIPHON: *Roman Missal 2010* © International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

REFERENCES: Sourcebook 2019: © Liturgy Training Publications 2019
Universalis App: 11 February 2021