

MARIAN APPARITIONS AT LOURDES



TO JESUS THROUGH MARY

"And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!"—And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly." (Mark 7: 31.... 37).

Sunday 12th February 2023 is the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. It is also a Day of Prayer for the Sick.

In 1858, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Marie Bernarde Soubirous, the 14-year-old daughter of a miller in Lourdes, France. From 11 February to 16 July 1858, she reported 18 apparitions of "a Lady". Soubirous described the lady as wearing a white veil and a blue girdle; she had a golden rose on each foot and held a rosary of pearls. According to Soubirous, her visions occurred at the grotto of Massabielle, just outside Lourdes. On 16 July 1858, Soubirous visited the grotto for the last time and said: "I have never seen her so beautiful before."

After initial skepticism from the Clergy, these claims were eventually declared to be worthy of belief after a canonical investigation. On 18 January 1862, the local bishop declared: "The Virgin Mary did appear indeed to Bernadette Soubirous." The apparition is known as [Our Lady of Lourdes](#).

Soubirous was canonized a saint in 1933 by Pope Pius XI and became known as St. Bernadette Soubirous. Many healing miracles happen in Lourdes, and it has become a major pilgrimage center in the world. Six million pilgrims visit Lourdes yearly.

In 1958, Pope Pius XII issued the [encyclical *Le pèlerinage de Lourdes*](#) ("The pilgrimage to Lourdes") on the 100th anniversary of the apparitions. Pope John Paul II visited Lourdes three times; Pope Benedict XVI visited Lourdes on 15 September 2008 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the apparitions.

Do you need spiritual, physical, or emotional healing? Ask Jesus with faith today. Ask with expectant and persistent prayer. It is also good to go to Jesus through Mary. That is the way of Lourdes, Fatima and Guadalupe, etc. Believe that Jesus is still making the deaf hear and the dumb speak and cancer disappear and so forth.

"Let My adorers take their place before Me. Their faith, their hope, and their surrender to My merciful love will cause a great tide of healing love to pour forth from My sacred side and radiate from My Face. Thus, will My adorers, without leaving My sanctuary, become also My apostles: messengers and instruments of My merciful love and of My burning desire to gather in the lost, to bind up the bruised, to tend the wounded, and to heal the broken-hearted." (IN SINU JESU page 231).