

#### Lourdes

Lourdes is a town in France where up to six million pilgrims go every year!

Lourdes is a special place of a famous vision seen by a 14-year-old girl called Bernadette Soubirous in 1858.

One day, while Bernadette was out collecting firewood, she is said to have seen Mary, the mother of Jesus. Mary appeared to her dressed in white with a blue sash and a yellow rose on each foot. Bernadette had visions of Mary many times.



The location where Bernadette's visions took place has a statue of Mary and is called the Grotto.

In one vision, Mary asked Bernadette to drink water where she was standing. The next day the clear water appeared at that spot. A few days later, a stonecutter is said to have bathed his eyes with the water and reported a miraculous cure. Hearing of this, pilgrims started to go to Lourdes, believing that the spring had healing powers.

During a different vision, Bernadette was told that a chapel should be built. In total, three churches were built, which together are called the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Bernadette became a nun when she was older. She died of a disease called tuberculosis. She was made a saint by the Roman Catholic Church and her saint's day is 18th February.



Photo courtesy of Manu25 - granted under creative commons licence





# Questions

1.	What is Lourdes? Place a tick next to the correct answer:
	a. A village b. A city
	c. A town
2.	How old was Bernadette when she had her first vision?
3.	Who was in the vision and why was she important?
4.	Why did pilgrims start arriving at Lourdes?
5.	Explain how you know that Bernadette's visions are considered real by some Christians.  Give at least two pieces of evidence from the text in your answer.





### **Answers**

1.	What is Lourdes? Place a tick next to the correct answer:
	a. A village
	b. A city
	c. A town
2.	How old was Bernadette when she had her first vision?
	14
3.	Who was in the vision and why was she important?
	Mary appeared to her in a vision and she was important
	as she is the mother of Jesus Christ.
4.	Why did pilgrims start arriving at Lourdes?
	They heard the story of the stonecutter, who bathed his eyes in the water
	and was cured. They believed that the water had healing powers.
5.	Explain how you know that Bernadette's visions are considered real by some Christians. Give at
	least two pieces of evidence from the text in your answer.
	Evidence includes: Up to six million pilgrims go there every year.
	Three churches were built at Lourdes.
	Statue of Mary was placed in the Grotto.
	Bernadette was made a saint.





#### Lourdes

Lourdes is a town in France, near the Pyrenees mountains. Between four to six million pilgrims go to Lourdes every year!

It is a site where a famous vision took place. In 1858, Bernadette Soubirous was out collecting firewood, when she is said to have seen Mary, the mother of Jesus. Mary appeared to her dressed in white with a blue sash and a yellow rose on each foot. Bernadette claimed to have witnessed this vision of Mary many times.



The location where Bernadette's visions took place contains a statue of Mary and is known as the Grotto.

In one vision, Mary asked Bernadette to drink water where Mary was standing. The next day the clear water appeared at that spot. A few days later, a stonecutter is said to have bathed his eyes with the water and reported a miraculous cure. Hearing of this, pilgrims started to go to Lourdes, believing that the spring had healing powers.

During a different vision, Bernadette was told that a chapel should be built. In total three churches were built, which form the **Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes**.

Bernadette became a nun when she was older. She died of tuberculosis when she was 33 years old, in 1879 and was later made a saint by the Roman Catholic Church. Her saint's day is 18th February.

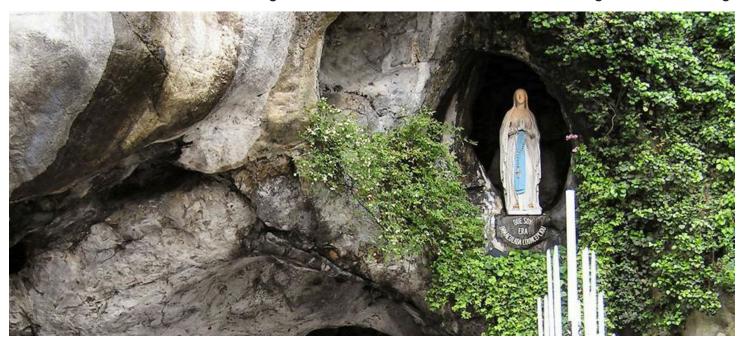


Photo courtesy of Manu25 - granted under creative commons licence





# Questions

1.	What is Lourdes? Place a tick next to the correct answer:
	a. A village
	b. A city
	c. A town
2.	What happened to Bernadette when she was 14?
3.	Why did pilgrims start arriving at Lourdes?
4.	Explain how you know that Bernadette's visions are considered real by some Christians.
	Give at least two pieces of evidence from the text in your answer.
5.	What did the Roman Catholic church do that showed Bernadette was special?





### **Answers**

۱.	What is Lourdes? Place a tick next to the correct answer:
	a. A village
	b. A city
	c. A town
2.	What happened to Bernadette when she was 14?  When Bernadette was 14 she saw a vision of Mary, the mother of Jesus.
3.	Why did pilgrims start arriving at Lourdes?
	They heard the story of the stonecutter, who bathed his eyes in the water
	and was cured. They believed that the water had healing powers.
ŀ.	Explain how you know that Bernadette's visions are considered real by some Christians. Give at
	least two pieces of evidence from the text in your answer.
	Evidence includes: Up to six million pilgrims go there every year.
	Three churches were built at Lourdes.
	Statue of Mary was placed in the Grotto.
	Bernadette was made a saint.
5.	What did the Roman Catholic church do that showed Bernadette was special?
	Bernadette was made a saint (and her saint's day is 18th February).





#### Lourdes

Lourdes is a town in southwestern France, near the Pyrenees mountains. Millions of pilgrims from all over the world go there every year.

The pilgrims go to Lourdes because it is the site of a famous vision experienced by a 14-year-old girl called Bernadette Soubirous in 1858.

One day, while Bernadette was out collecting firewood, she is said to have seen Mary, the mother of Jesus. Mary appeared to her dressed in white with a blue



sash and a yellow rose on each foot. Bernadette claimed to have witnessed this vision of Mary many times.

The location where Bernadette's visions took place is called the Grotto. It now contains a statue of Mary as Bernadette described her in her visions.

In one vision, Mary asked Bernadette to drink water where Mary was standing. Even though it was muddy, the next day the water was clear. A few days later, a stonecutter is said to have bathed his eyes with the water and reported a miraculous cure. Hearing of this, pilgrims started to go to Lourdes, believing that the spring had healing powers.

During a different vision, Bernadette was told that a chapel should be built. In total, three churches were built, which form the **Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes**.



hoto courtesy of Manu25 - granted under creative commons licence

Church	Year Built
Crypt	1866
Upper Basilica	1878
Rosary Basilica	1899

Bernadette became a nun when she was older. She died of tuberculosis when she was 33 years old, in 1879, and was later canonised by the Roman Catholic Church, so she is now known as Saint Bernadette. Her saint's day is 18th February.

Between four and six million pilgrims go to Lourdes every year! The main pilgrimage season is between April and October. On 15th August, the main day, the Feast of the Assumption is a celebrated to remember Mary ascending to heaven.





# Questions

1.	What is Lourdes? Place a tick next to the correct answer:	
	a. A village	
	b. A city	
	c. A town	
2.	What is a vision?	
3.	What vision did Bernadette have when she was 14?	
		_
4.	Why did pilgrims start arriving at Lourdes?	
		_
5.	Explain how you know that Bernadette's visions are considered real by some Christians.	
	Give at least two pieces of evidence from the text in your answer.	
		_
6.	How long did it take to build the whole of the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes?	
7.	What did the Roman Catholic Church do that showed Bernadette was special?	_





## **Answers**

I can explain the role of pilgrimage in Christianity.

	$-$ 000 $^{\prime}$
1.	What is Lourdes? Place a tick next to the correct answer:
	a. A village
	b. A city
	c. A town
2.	What is a vision?
	A vision is an experience where you see something or someone
	appear; in this instance, Bernadette saw the Virgin Mary.
3.	What vision did Bernadette have when she was 14?
	When Bernadette was 14 she saw a vision of Mary, the mother of Jesus.
4.	Why did pilgrims start arriving at Lourdes?
	They heard the story of the stonecutter, who bathed his eyes in the water
	and was cured. They believed that the water had healing powers.
5.	Explain how you know that Bernadette's visions are considered real by some Christians. Give at
	least two pieces of evidence from the text in your answer.
	Evidence includes: Up to six million pilgrims go there every year. Three
	churches were built at Lourdes. Statue of Mary was placed in the Grotto.
	Bernadette was made a saint.
6.	How long did it take to build the whole of the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes?
	33 years
7.	What did the Roman Catholic Church do that showed Bernadette was special?

Bernadette was made a saint (and her saint's day is 18th February).