



INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

THE APPARITION OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AT LOURDES

February 11th: Readings IV-VI of the Second Nocturn in the Roman Breviary

In the fourth year after the definition of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, the blessed Virgin vouchsafed to appear on several occasions to a poor but pious and innocent child named Bernadette, in a rocky cavern overlooking the *grotto of Massabielle* on the banks of the Gave [river] near the town of Lourdes in the diocese of Tarbes in France. She showed herself as a young and gracious figure, robed in white, with a white veil and blue girdle, and golden roses on her bare feet. At the first apparition on *February 11th, 1858*, she taught the child to make the sign of the Cross correctly and devoutly, and, taking a chaplet from her own arm, encouraged her by example to say her rosary. This was repeated at subsequent apparitions. On the second day, Bernadette, who feared an illusion of the devil, in all simplicity cast holy water at the apparition, who smiled more graciously than before. At the third apparition Bernadette was invited to repeat her visits to the grotto for fifteen days, during which the blessed Virgin conversed with her, exhorted her to pray for sinners, kiss the ground and do penance, and finally commanded her to tell the priests that a chapel was to be built in the place and processions held. She was also bidden drink and wash in the water, and a spring, until then invisible, gushed out of the ground. On the feast of the Annunciation, the child earnestly begged the Lady who had so often visited her to reveal her name, and the blessed Virgin, joining her hands and raising her eyes to heaven, said: *“I am the Immaculate Conception.”*

Rumors of favors received at the holy grotto spread rapidly, and the crowds of devout visitors increased daily, so that the Bishop of Tarbes, who had been

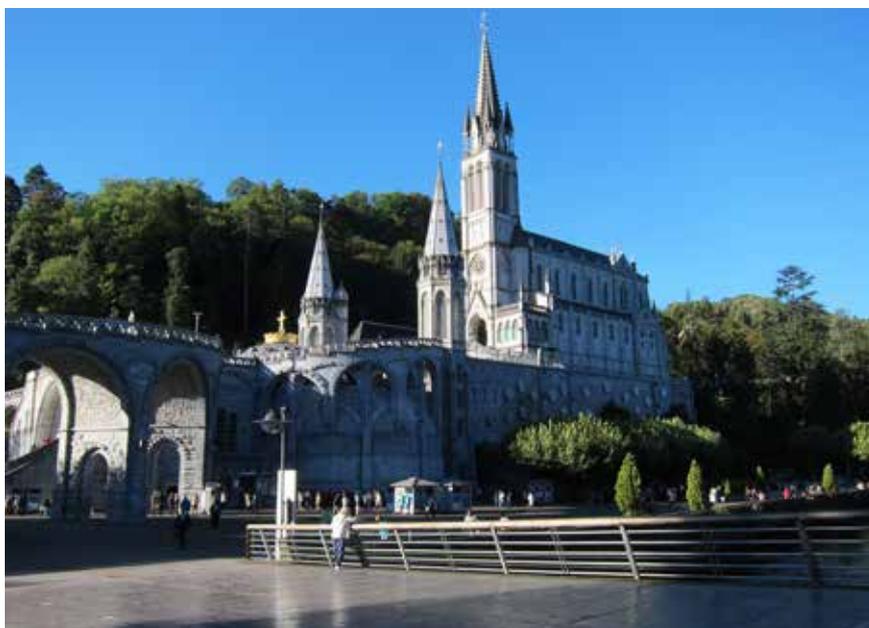


impressed by the candor of Bernadette, found it advisable to hold a judicial enquiry into the facts. In the course of the fourth year he gave sentence, recognizing the supernatural character of the apparition, and permitting devotions to our Lady under the title of the Immaculate Conception to be held in the grotto. A chapel was soon built, and since then every year has witnessed innumerable pilgrimages from France, Belgium, Italy, Spain, and all parts of Europe and America. The name of Our Lady of Lourdes has become famous all over

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the world, and cures are obtained everywhere by use of the water. Lourdes has been enriched by a grateful world with splendidly decorated churches, where countless banners bear witness to the favors received and to the desire of peoples and cities to adorn the house of the blessed Virgin, who is honored there as in her own palace. The days are filled with prayers, hymns and solemn ceremonies, and the nights are sanctified by the pious supplications of countless people who walk in procession carrying torches, and singing the praises of the blessed Virgin Mary.

All men know how, in spite of the coldness of the world, these pilgrimages have revived faith, restored the observance of the Christian religion, and increased devotion to the Immaculate Virgin. The Faithful are led by their priests in this marvelous development of faith and devotion. The Bishops make frequent visits to the holy spot, lead pilgrimages, and take part in the ceremonies, and the Cardinals of Holy Church are often seen in the humble quality of pilgrims. The Roman Pontiffs have shown their devotion to our Lady of Lourdes, and have bestowed remarkable favors on her sanctuary. Pius IX enriched it with indulgences, gave it the privilege of an Archconfraternity and the title of minor basilica, and delegated the Apostolic Nuncio in France to crown in his name the statue of the Mother of God. Leo XIII also granted many favors, including the jubilee of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Apparition [1883]. He encouraged pilgrimages, and ordained that the consecration of the Rosary Church should be performed in his name. Moreover, he crowned all these favors by conceding, at the request of many bishops, the celebration of a solemn feast under the title of ***“The Apparition of Our Lady Immaculate”***, with a proper Office and Mass. Finally, Pius X, out of devotion to the Mother of God, granted the petition of many prelates that this feast should be extended to the Universal Church.



Lourdes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DAY OF RETREAT - MARCH 6TH

Please mark your calendar: We invite you to join us for a Day of Retreat on Saturday, March 6th, at the Cathedral (10:00 am to 4:30 pm). (Due to the lockdown and health related restrictions the exact program and format of this Day of Retreat has to be finalized at a later date.)

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

Following the transfer of the Sunday Masses in the Extraordinary Form to St Winefride's church we are looking for generous volunteers willing to give their time in the service of God and the community by helping to clean the church after the Sunday 12.30pm Masses.

This cleaning activity is of high priority with regard to the safety and hygiene standards the diocese of Shrewsbury is obliged to observe in all its churches. Please contact Canon Wiener with your name, telephone number and email address (contact details below on this page). Thank you very much in advance for your generous efforts. The more people will commit, the more volunteers commit, the less often the same volunteers have to do the work. Many thanks to those who have already volunteered.

MASS INTENTIONS AND SUPPORT OF THE PRIESTS OF THE INSTITUTE

To request Masses to be celebrated in your intentions: Post your requests to: **Canon Michael Wiener, St Winefride's Presbytery, Mynd Close, Shrewsbury SY2 5R**. Alternatively, you may either deliver your request to the presbytery or hand in your envelope - *clearly addressed to Canon Wiener* - at the sacristy in the Cathedral. If you are able to support the Institute's apostolate in Shrewsbury, please consider to send us a cheque to the address indicated above, or donate directly via bank transfer:

HSBC UK Sort Code: 40-45-14 Account Number: 61855832 For the credit of: ICKSP/St. Winefride

SHREWSBURY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	TIME	MASS OF THE DAY	INTENTIONS	
				CANON WIENER	FATHER GRIBBIN
SUN	7 TH FEB	12:30 PM	SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY	DAPHNE MCLEOD RIP	PI
MON	8 TH FEB	10:00 AM	ST. JOHN OF MATHA, CONFESSOR	SYLVIA OSBORNE	PI
TUE	9 TH FEB	6:30 PM	ST. CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA, BISHOP, CONFESSOR & DOCTOR	ROSEY & JOHN FETHERSTON	PI
WED	10 TH FEB	10:00 AM	ST. SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN	LEO JOSEPH EDWARD RAYMENT	PI
THU	11 TH FEB	6:30 PM	THE APPARITION OF THE IMMACULATE VIRGIN MARY OF LOURDES	LIZ RAYMENT	PI
FRI	12 TH FEB	10:00 AM	THE SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITE ORDER, CONFESSORS	JOHN SUNDERLAND	PI
SAT	13 TH FEB	10:00 AM	VOTIVE MASS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN ON SATURDAY	WELVIN RAJAMONY-DAISY FAMILY	PI
SUN	14 TH FEB	12:30 PM	QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY	JON BELL RIP	PI

SUNDAY MASSES AT 12:30 PM AT ST. WINEFRIDE'S CHURCH, CROWMERE ROAD, MONKMOOR, SHREWSBURY, SY2 5RA

St. Winefride's Presbytery, Mynd Close, Shrewsbury SY2 5RA

Rev. Canon Michael Wiener, Prior of the House of Saint Chad

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Rev. Anselm Gribbin, Assisting Priest - email: jagribbin@hotmail.com telephone: **07952 963641**

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