

(FOR THE CATHOLIC STUDENT AT NOTRE DAME)

Names of sick will be placed in Grotto. Leave lists in envelope on hall bulletin board.

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
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Every Holy Communion builds character. Why drop Sunday from your character building?

The First Miracle At Lourdes.

Louis Bourriette was a poor stonecutter who lived in the village of Lourdes in Southern France. While at work in one of the marble quarries of that district, a right eye was half crushed by a chip of stone. For twenty years he suffered blindness in that eye. Medical science could do nothing to restore Bourriette's vision.

When this good man learned of the supernatural events taking place at the grotto in Lourdes, he sent his daughter to bring some of the water which flowed from the miraculous fountain which had sprung up near the cave. Bourriette, after making the sign of the Cross, took a little of the water and rubbed the affected eye. His sight returned instantly. He continued to pray and rub the eye with the water, and very soon all objects became clearly visible to him.

"Impossible," replied Bourriette's doctor when the stonecutter informed him that the eye was cured. With an air of defiance the eminent physician said, "if you can read this, I will believe you." Immediately, without hesitation and with his left eye covered, Bourriette read the words: "Bourriette has an incurable amaurosis and he will never recover." The evidence was too convincing. The doctor admitted supernatural intervention. He called another doctor to examine the case, and he too called the cure a miracle.

The Second Miracle.

Justin Bouhohorts lay dying of consumption at the home of his parents in Lourdes. The two year old child had been subject to a fever from his birth and had never been able to walk. Father and mother were at the deathbed, and a neighbor was there encouraging the unhappy parents.

The youngster's limbs became stiff and motionless; breathing was no longer perceptible. And then a great hope seized the mother. "He is not dead," she cried, "and the Holy Virgin at the Grotto will cure him for me." With this expression of confidence, she picked up the child, wrapped him in her apron and hurried to the grotto, crying as she ran, "I am going to the Virgin".

What the mother did at the Grotto would have killed the child, if it had been alive up to that time. She took the naked body and plunged it entirely in the water that had miraculously sprung up a few days before. For a quarter of an hour, she held the boy's body in the icy water. Pilgrims at the grotto could not stop her. When she drew out the body, it was still motionless. Prayer to the Blessed Virgin was on her lips as she brought her child home. A moment after she had put him in his cradle, she bent over him: "He breathes," she cried.

The breathing continued during the night. The next day Justin awoke. His eyes were filled with life as he smiled on his mother. On the second day after the visit to the grotto, the mother almost fainted when she saw the lad, until then a paralytic, get up alone and run about the house. That evening the mother and son greeted the father when he returned from his days work: "you see," exclaimed the mother, "he was not dead; the Blessed Virgin saved him."

These were but the beginning of miraculous cures at Lourdes. Over one thousand miracles are effected there annually. Little wonder that a tremendous devotion has sprung up in the Church to Our Lady of Lourdes. February 11 is the anniversary of the first appearance of Our Lady to Bernadette. At Notre Dame a Novena for the Sick precedes this feast. Beginning Feb. 2, assist at Mass, receive Holy Communion, visit the Grotto, as an act of charity for your friends who are ill or wounded.