

A WONDERFUL AND A MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE

The morning of the 13th August 2018, has seen the ALPS group get together at the Malta airport to travel to Lourdes. One might describe this trip as a great experience, that has given to all the participants a very memorable and pleasant experience that we shall never forget for the rest of our life.

Every place that was visited was a surprise in itself. Starting from the grotto on the very first night when we arrived on the 13th August, one may describe this holiday as an ongoing happy event. It has integrated all the group to be together as one big happy family who decided to travel to Lourdes and to bring back as many as possible happy thoughts and memories.

The feast of the Assumption on the 15th August saw the ALPS group congregate with thousands of pilgrims from all around the World, who had all come to be nearer to the miracle of Lourdes. The day was bright and sunny and the serene atmosphere from beginning to end, really and truly made us all think how great it is to be closer to this sacred place, where our Lady appeared to St Bernadette inside a simple grotto, that is still being venerated to this very day. Touching the rocks at this sacred shrine is enough to make you feel a special sensation that can only be described as an unforgettable experience and surely makes one think, that the divine mercy is much nearer than we can ever imagine. Coupled with a procession aux-flam-beau, a visit to the miraculous baths, entering the magnificent basilicas above and under the grounds at Lourdes, makes one think, that miracles continue to happen to the present day. A highly experienced tour leader M/s. Rita Camilleri was accompanying the ALPS group to Lourdes and helped each participant during the trip. Our Spiritual Director Mons. Laurence Gatt, has also done his very best to ensure that the full program of events connected with the shrine, was completed to the full. With his pleasant sense of humor and his meaningful homilies, we have achieved what we were aiming for during the five day pilgrimage to Lourdes.

SMS-Monial have chosen for the ALPS group, the “ Angelic hotel “ closely situated and within very easy walking distance from the grounds that have taken us to the shrine where all the activity was taking place. The rooms were clean and spacious and the food that was served was to everyone’s delight. One must not forget the very attentive and polite manners of the staff who served us and who have prepared on a couple of occasions, delicious packed lunches that we took for chosen excursions.

All in all, it is to be described as a great and unforgettable experience. When the ALPS Group take a summer holiday together, they are known to have a pleasant time. That is why the number of participants always fill the vacant allocations, that are made available when The Association of Lyceum Past Students organizes such events. May it always be like this so that we can bring more and more LICEO past students together in future years.