

This year again, for the 137<sup>th</sup> time, men and women religious of the Assumption accompanied thousands of pilgrims to celebrate the feast of the Assumption in Lourdes, among whom there were some 900 sick or handicapped participants. A more than 100-year-old tradition, the National Pilgrimage continues to draw crowds to the feet of the Virgin of Massabielle, to the school of the humble visionary, Bernadette.

Since 1873, the date of the first pilgrimage to Lourdes organized by the Assumptionists, this annual rendez-vous has taken place except during the two World Wars. But to what may we attribute this attachment, so long-standing and so persevering, to the great Marian city, Our Lady of Lourdes?



