

RECEIVE A PLENARY INDULGENCE WITH THE VENERATION OF THE RELICS OF SAINT BERNADETTE.

What is an indulgence?

An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1471)

To understand what an indulgence is, it helps to remember that there are two effects of sin:

- We are separated from God by our disobedience
- We damage the purity of our own souls and maybe cause suffering to others.

God will forgive anyone of even the most terrible sin if we approach him with repentance. His forgiveness will restore us to friendship with him, but it does not restore our souls to purity or erase the suffering we have caused to others. That second effect of sin must also be remedied.

Take for example a student in English class who intentionally copies someone else's work. The teacher responds: "I forgive you, but you will stay after school three days to write your own essay." The student's actions are forgiven, but the action has consequences, and they must learn their lesson.

A plenary (meaning full) indulgence is a way of restoring purity to our souls and repaying the suffering we caused others, and this gift is available to us in a special way for those who visit the relic of St Bernadette during its visit to the U.K.

How do I obtain the Indulgence?

There are certain conditions which must be met to obtain the Indulgence during the tour:

- To visit the relics of St Bernadette during the tour of the U.K.
- Have contrition for sin and a sincere detachment from sin, including all venial sins.
- Celebrate sacramental Confession and receive Holy Communion (in any parish, within several days before or afterwards).
- Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father (for example the Creed, Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be).

How do I obtain the Indulgence?

The indulgence may be obtained once per day, as long as all the conditions are met. One sacramental Confession is sufficient for a number of indulgences.

Can the Indulgence be obtained on behalf of others?

Yes. The indulgence may be obtained for the benefit of others, living or dead.