The AMS-KofC package rate for companions and volunteers traveling from the United States to Lourdes is $2600 for a double occupancy room and $2900 for a single occupancy room. All packages include a round-trip flight from either Atlanta, Houston, Los Angeles, Seattle or Washington, D.C., as well as lodging, a full meal plan and PMI credentials. KofC will book flights from local airport for all pilgrims not living in or around the 5 departure cities. All pilgrims are responsible for their own ground transportation to the nearest local airport.

Application Deadline

All applications and payments (if applicable) are due by 15 January, 2017. Application and submission instructions are available at warriorstolourdes.com.

Have questions? Contact us at lourdes@kofc.org or call 203-752-4270, 7 a.m - 4:30 p.m. EST, Monday - Friday.

About the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

The Archdiocese for the Military Services was created by Pope John Paul II to provide the Catholic Church's full range of pastoral ministries and spiritual services to those in the United States Armed Forces. This includes those in more than 220 installations in 29 countries, patients in 153 V.A. medical centers, and federal employees serving outside the boundaries of the U.S. in 134 countries. The AMS is responsible for the spiritual well-being of more than 1.8 million men, women and children.

About the Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus was founded in 1882 by Father Michael McGivney, a parish priest in New Haven, Conn. The Knights has grown to one of the country's largest charitable organizations, with more than 1.9 million members worldwide. Last year, the Knights donated more than $175 million and more than 73.5 million hours of service to charitable causes.

Animated by its core principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism, the Knights of Columbus has a long history of serving the military, beginning with its celebrated Army Hut program during World War I. Since then, the Knights has helped sponsor war relief activities, education programs for veterans and sponsorship programs for military chaplains. They have also provided Catholic spiritual resources for military members and a steady stream of volunteers and services to the more than 135 VA medical centers. More recently, the Knights has partnered with the Gary Sinise Foundation by providing funding to help complete the construction of computer equipped custom smart homes for severely wounded heroes.
A Pilgrimage Like No Other

The 2017 Warriors to Lourdes Pilgrimage will take place 16-23 May, 2017. (If your departure airfield is LAH, or ATL, your pilgrimage dates are 16-22 May, 2017. If your departure airfield is LAD, SEA or LAX, your pilgrimage dates are 17-23 May, 2017). Sponsored by the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, and the Knights of Columbus, the event takes place during the 59th annual International Military Pilgrimage (Pèlerinage Militaire International or PMI) in Lourdes, France.

Non-wounded, wounded, ill or injured military personnel will travel from the United States and Europe to Lourdes for a time of rest, prayer and participation in the 59th annual International Military Pilgrimage. The retreat will consist of a number of spiritual events, including an opening ceremony, special Masses, a visit to the baths at the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes and a candlelight vigil that draws tens of thousands of troops to the sacred shrine every year.

“We will journey and pray with pilgrims from around the world,” said Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS). “It will be an occasion to raise our hearts and minds to the Prince of Peace and beg for an increase in understanding and a decrease in strife.”

About the International Military Pilgrimage

The International Military Pilgrimage was established in 1946 to promote reconciliation and peace after World War II. Every year since, for one weekend in May, Lourdes has become a place of prayer and healing for active duty members and veterans representing more than 35 nations.

About Lourdes

Lourdes is one of the most popular Catholic pilgrimage destinations in the world. It was the location of a series of 19th-century apparitions, during which the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to 14-year-old Bernadette Soubirous. During the past 100 years, millions of pilgrims have flocked to the site, with the hope of receiving a special healing and a deepening of faith.

2017 Pilgrimage

Those interested in applying to attend the 2017 Warriors to Lourdes Pilgrimage can find an application form at warriorstolourdes.com.

Eligibility

To be eligible as a sponsored pilgrim, applicants must be active duty, retired or recently separated United States Military personnel (post-9/11 era). Warrior companions, pre-9/11 veterans and non-military affiliated volunteers are also eligible to apply at cost. Wounded, ill or injured warriors must be able to fully perform activities of daily living either alone or with the assistance of their designated caregiver. Potential applicants and their clinical providers should not anticipate that professional medical or nursing services, including hospitalization, will be delivered during the pilgrimage.

Applications will be reviewed by our pilgrimage leadership team and pilgrimage medical director. Applicants may be contacted by pilgrimage staff with additional questions for clarification of information. All applicants will be notified of decisions regarding their applications beginning 15 February 2017.

Cost

All expenses for approved non-wounded, wounded, ill or injured military personnel, as well as designated caregivers, will be covered by Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc.

Companions are invited to attend and may be offered need-based financial assistance on a case-by-case basis. European-based medical and non-medical volunteers are also encouraged to apply.