

49/67IRISH PILGRIMS FLY TO LOURDES

At Dublin's airport Irish pilgrims board a Skymaster airliner - their destination, Lourdes in France, and the Grotte of Our Lady. They go, the quick and the lame, with a single thought. From the Archbishop of Dublin and Primate of Ireland (the Most Reverend Dr. McQuaid) to children-in-crus, all seek spiritual refreshment at the sacred place. Where science has failed, parents' Faith may restore a stricken child.

From all over Ireland come the sick and crippled, some too maimed to journey without aid. Nearly a thousand join the pilgrimage, to bathe in the healing waters of the spring where the Virgin Mary is believed repeatedly to have revealed herself to Bernadette Soubirous.

In heavy rain, the last passengers are helped aboard. In their faith, they refute the scepticism of a material age. By their courage, they ennoble the status of all men.