

## KS3 2 – Lourdes debate cards

You are a scientist. You think that science proves that there is no God. The idea that water can heal someone is just silly. You see no evidence that miracles occur.

You are a doctor. You think medicine is the answer to people's illnesses and with more research all illness will be cured. People going to Lourdes are being filled with false hope as water cannot cure people.

You are a nun. You have never seen a miracle but you still believe that God loves his people and he does miracles. You have taken people to Lourdes and even though they were not cured they felt that God loved them.

You are an atheist. You think that all this God stuff is a load of rubbish and people are just being foolish. Healings and miracles are not possible.

You are a person who was healed at Lourdes. Doctors had told you that you had cancer and would die in a matter of months; that was 5 years ago. You went to Lourdes and felt that God was with you, when you went back to the doctor he could find no sign of cancer. You know God healed you.

You are a relative of a healed person. Your brother had an illness that should have killed him. He went to Lourdes and was healed. You know that God performed a miracle.

You are a Catholic doctor. You take people to Lourdes. Whilst medicine is good it is really important that the sick person feels strong and positive. Going to Lourdes can give them the strength to fight their illness.

You are a Catholic scientist. You feel that science explains most things but there are things that science cannot explain. You feel that miracles can happen.

You are a Catholic with cancer. You went to Lourdes to be healed and were not healed. However you still feel that God made you feel strong and loved, and so believe that Lourdes is really important.

You are a Catholic with Cancer. You went to Lourdes to be healed and were not healed. You are very angry with God and think that it is all a load of rubbish. If it wasn't then why did God not heal you?

You do not believe in miracles but you went to Lourdes to make your mother happy even though you thought it was a load of rubbish. The disease that you had disappeared after going in the water. You don't understand what happened.

You are a psychiatrist. You think that when people are 'healed' at Lourdes it is because their mind makes them better. Science has shown that people thinking they are doing something that will make them better sometimes become better. This is called the "placebo effect".

You are journalist. You think it is all a scam. The church and other people make lots of money from the pilgrims and therefore pretend miracles happen to get money.

You are an agnostic (someone who is not sure about God). You are not sure about what happens. You think it is probably all a hoax (a trick). Maybe the people who get healed are not really ill.