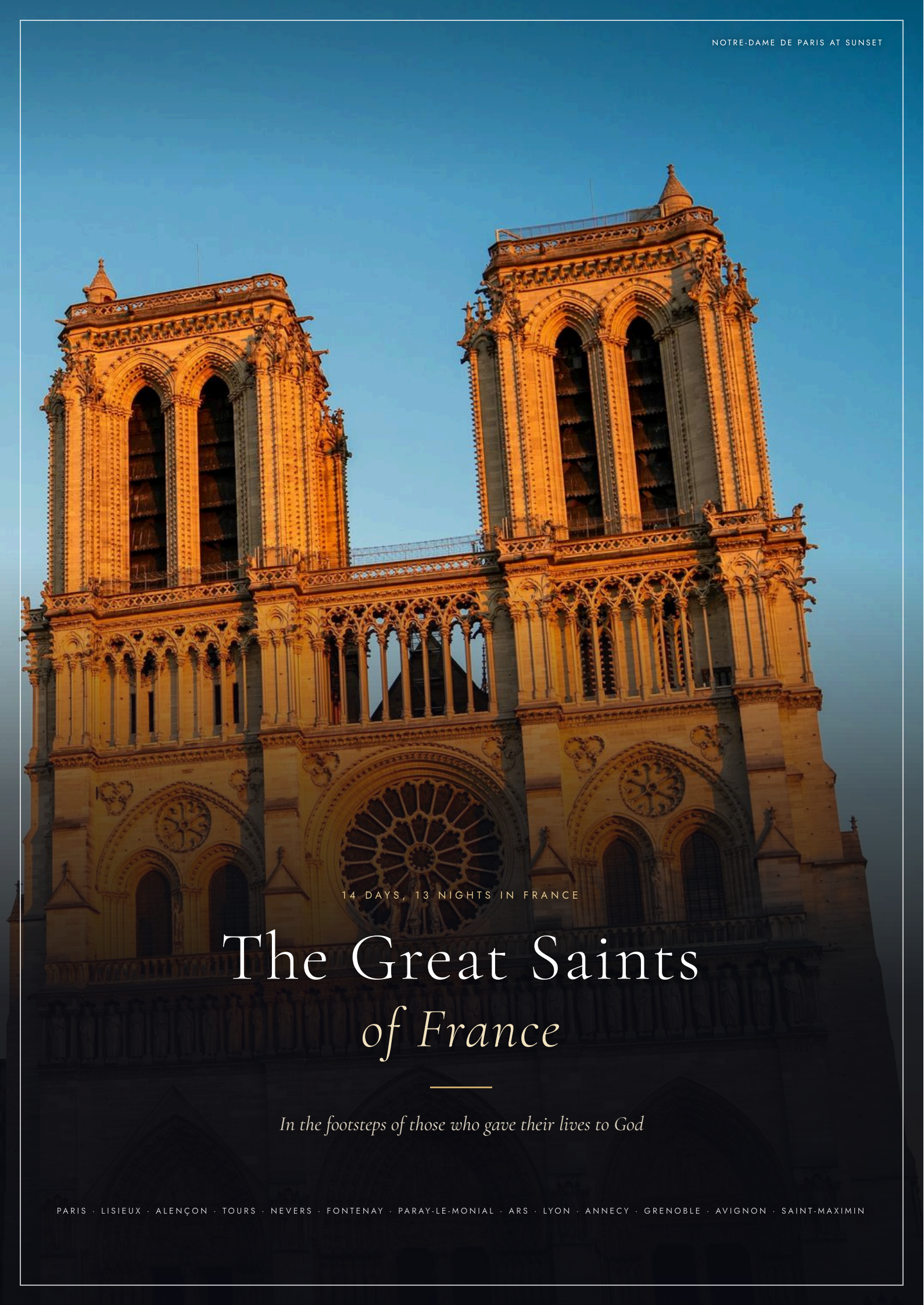


NOTRE-DAME DE PARIS AT SUNSET

14 DAYS, 13 NIGHTS IN FRANCE

The Great Saints *of France*

In the footsteps of those who gave their lives to God

PARIS · LISIEUX · ALENÇON · TOURS · NEVERS · FONTENAY · PARAY-LE-MONIAL · ARS · LYON · ANNECY · GRENOBLE · AVIGNON · SAINT-MAXIMIN

Before they were saints, *they were men and women*

A childhood, a family, doubts, trials. And then one day, a calling.



LYON, THE SAÔNE AND FOURVIÈRE HILL

For almost two thousand years, France has seen the birth and growth of men and women whose faith left a deep mark on the history of Christianity. Some devoted their lives to **prayer**, others to **serving the poor**, to teaching or to **mission**.

Behind every name lies a human story: a young girl who entered the **Carmel at fifteen**, a couple who lived holiness at the heart of their family, a humble **country priest**, a nun who left to proclaim the Gospel as far as **America**.

For fourteen days, you will step into their **homes**, their places of prayer, their writings and their personal belongings. From Paris to Normandy, from Burgundy to the Alps and all the way to Provence.

The monument is the setting. The saint is the main character. And lived faith is the thread of the whole journey.

Eighteen faces, *eighteen lives*

Period photographs, painted portraits, sculptures, stained glass: each image tells you where it comes from.



Saint Louis

1214 – 1270

Painting by El Greco, c. 1590



Vincent de Paul

1581 – 1660

Portrait by Simon François, 1660



Louise de Marillac

1591 – 1660

17th-century portrait



Catherine Labouré

1806 – 1876

Devotional image



Thérèse of Lisieux

1873 – 1897

Period photograph



Louis Martin

1823 – 1894

Period photograph



Zélie Martin

1831 – 1877

Period photograph



Martin of Tours

C. 316 – 397

El Greco, c. 1597-1599



Bernadette Soubirous

1844 – 1879

Photograph, 1861



Bernard of Clairvaux

1090 – 1153

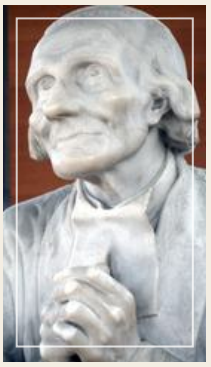
Medieval illumination



Margaret Mary Alacoque

1647 – 1690

Holy card, c. 1900



John Vianney

1786 – 1859

Statue by Émilien Cabuchet



Blandina and Irenaeus

2ND CENTURY

Old engravings



Pauline Jaricot

1799 – 1862

Portrait, church of Saint-Nizier



Francis de Sales

1567 – 1622

17th-century portrait



Jane Frances de Chantal

1572 – 1641

Engraving by M. Brandi, c. 1800



Rose Philippine Duchesne

1769 – 1852

19th-century portrait



Mary Magdalene

1ST CENTURY

Georges de La Tour, c. 1640

For saints born before photography, the images are works of art, not true likenesses. Period photographs are marked as such.

THE THREAD OF YOUR JOURNEY

Six chapters, *a thousand ways to love*

Each stage reveals a different facet of holiness, from charity to mission.


THE SAINTE-CHAPELLE, PARIS

CHAPTER I

Faith in the service of others

PARIS · DAYS 1 – 3

A king who dispensed justice beneath an oak tree, a priest of the poor, two Daughters of Charity.


THE BASILICA OF SAINT THÉRÈSE, LISIEUX

CHAPTER II

Holiness in everyday life

LISIEUX · ALENÇON · DAYS 4 – 5

Thérèse and her “little way”, her parents Louis and Zélie, saints in their marriage and their work.


THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARTIN, TOURS

CHAPTER III

The gift of self and consecrated life

TOURS · NEVERS · FONTENAY · DAYS 6 – 8

The soldier who shared his cloak, the hidden life of Bernadette, the ideal of Saint Bernard.


THE CHAPEL OF THE APPARITIONS, PARAY-LE-MONIAL

CHAPTER IV

The love of God and the service of the Church

PARAY-LE-MONIAL · ARS · DAY 9

The Heart of Christ revealed to a nun, the room of a country parish priest.


ANNECY, THE PALAIS DE L'ISLE

CHAPTER V

The courage to bear witness and the missionary spirit

LYON · ANNECY · GRENOBLE · DAYS 10 – 12

From the martyrs of the year 177 to a woman of Grenoble who set out for Missouri.


THE BASILICA OF SAINT-MAXIMIN

CHAPTER VI

The roots of Christianity

AVIGNON · SAINT-MAXIMIN · DAYS 13 – 14

The papacy in Provence and the tradition of Mary Magdalene, witness to the Resurrection.



Saint Francis de Sales, 17th-century portrait
CHÂTEAU DE BUSSY-RABUTIN

EIGHTEEN CENTURIES IN TEN DATES

From the martyrs of Lyon to Thérèse of Lisieux

The great moments that link the lives you are about to discover.

177 — THE MARTYRS OF LYON
Blandina, a young slave, dies in the amphitheatre with the city's first Christians.

397 — SAINT MARTIN
The bishop of Tours dies at Candes. His tomb becomes one of the great pilgrimages of the West.

1118 — FONTENAY
Saint Bernard founds the Cistercian abbey, now a World Heritage Site.

1248 — THE SAINTE-CHAPELLE
In Paris, Saint Louis consecrates the glass shrine for the relics of the Passion.

1610 — THE VISITATION
In Annecy, Francis de Sales and Jane de Chantal found a new order.

1633 — THE DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY
Vincent de Paul and Louise de Marillac gather the first sisters.

1675 — THE SACRED HEART
In Paray-le-Monial, the great apparition to Saint Margaret Mary.

1818 — TWO DEPARTURES
Vianney arrives in Ars; Philippine Duchesne lands in America.

1830 — THE MEDAL
On the Rue du Bac, the Virgin appears to Catherine Labouré, according to Catholic tradition.

1897 — THÉRÈSE
She dies in the Carmel of Lisieux at twenty-four. Her writings will travel the world.

Fourteen stages, *from Paris to Provence*

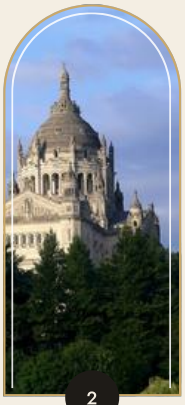
A great coach journey across France, from their homes to their tombs.



1

Paris

DAYS 1 – 3



2

Lisieux

DAYS 3 – 4



3

Alençon

DAYS 4 – 5



4

Tours

DAYS 5 – 6



5

Nevers

DAYS 6 – 7



6

Semur-en-Auxois

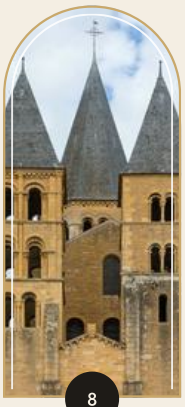
DAYS 7 – 8



7

Fontenay

DAY 8



8

Paray-le-Monial

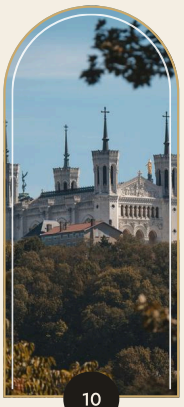
DAYS 8 – 9



9

Ars

DAY 9



10

Lyon

DAYS 9 – 10



11

Annecy

DAYS 10 – 11



12

Grenoble

DAYS 11 – 12



13

Avignon

DAYS 12 – 13



14

Saint-Maximin

DAY 13

Childhood homes, preserved rooms, letters and relics: holiness on a human scale.

14	18	7	2
DAYS, 13 NIGHTS	FIGURES OF HOLINESS	GUIDED VISITS	CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

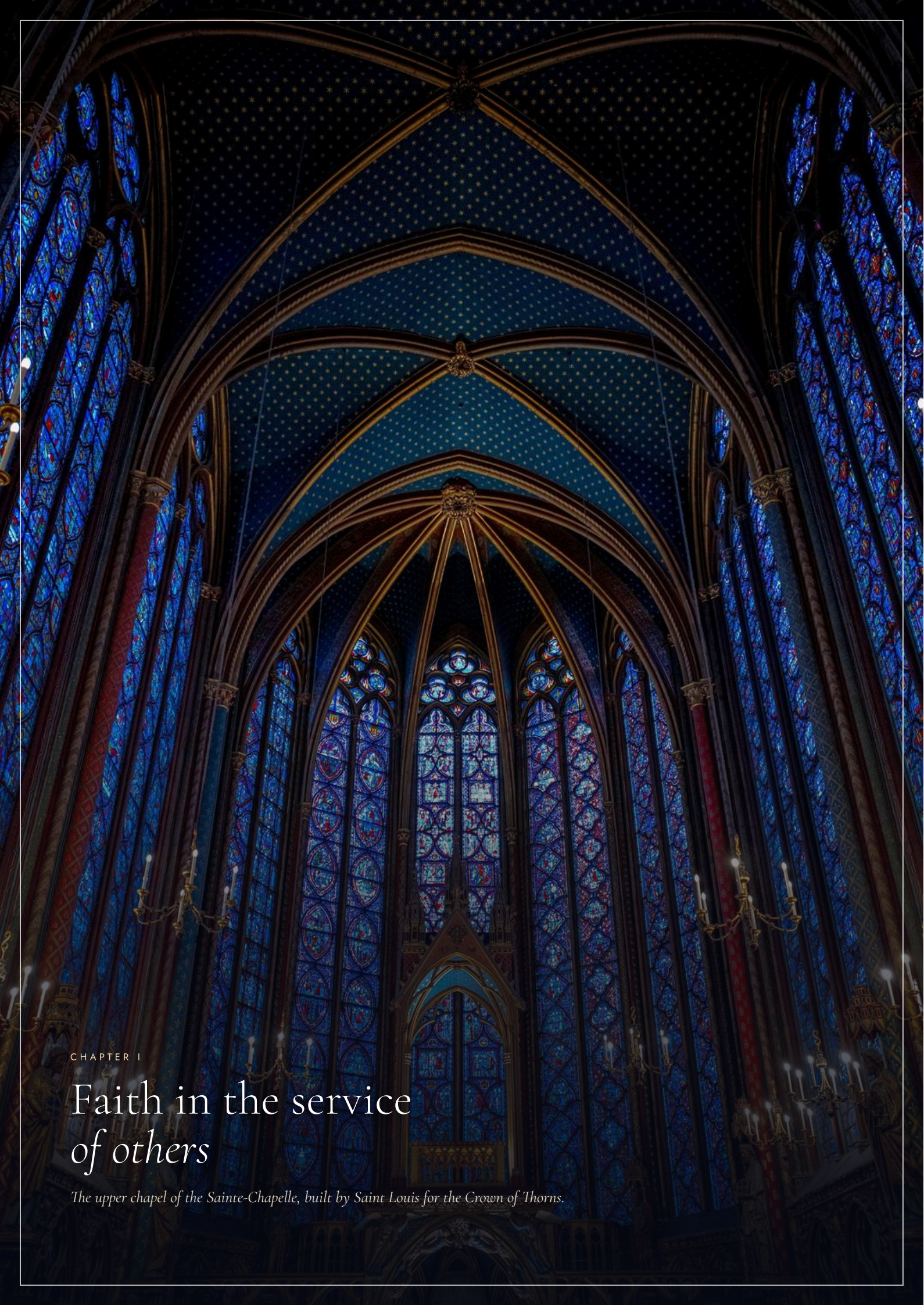


YOUR ITINERARY

From Paris *to Provence*

Fourteen days, thirteen nights, the whole tour by luxury coach, from Paris-Charles de Gaulle to Marseille-Provence airport.

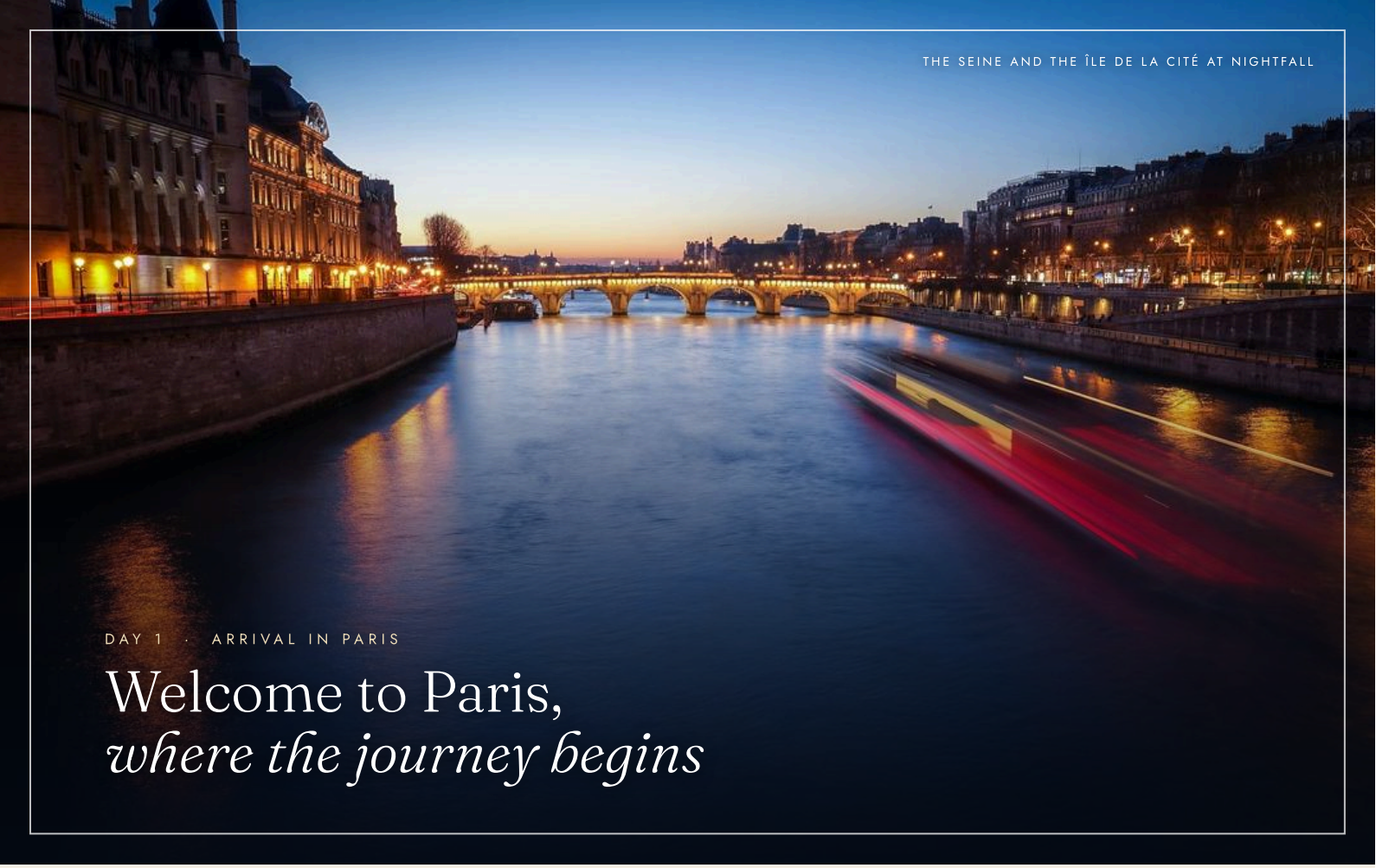
1	Paris DAYS 1 – 3 · 2 NIGHTS	6	Semur-en-Auxois DAY 7 · 1 NIGHT	11	Annecy DAY 10 · 1 NIGHT
2	Lisieux DAY 3 · 1 NIGHT	7	Fontenay DAY 8 · VISIT	12	Grenoble DAY 11 · 1 NIGHT
3	Alençon DAY 4 · 1 NIGHT	8	Paray-le-Monial DAY 8 · 1 NIGHT	13	Avignon DAY 12 · 1 NIGHT
4	Tours DAY 5 · 1 NIGHT	9	Ars-sur-Formans DAY 9 · VISIT	14	Saint-Maximin DAY 13 · VISIT
5	Nevers DAY 6 · 1 NIGHT	10	Lyon DAY 9 · 1 NIGHT	15	Marseille DAYS 13 – 14 · 1 NIGHT



CHAPTER I

Faith in the service *of others*

The upper chapel of the Sainte-Chapelle, built by Saint Louis for the Crown of Thorns.



THE SEINE AND THE ÎLE DE LA CITÉ AT NIGHTFALL

DAY 1 · ARRIVAL IN PARIS

Welcome to Paris, *where the journey begins*

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Arrival at Paris-Charles de Gaulle *Welcome of the group*	Private coach transfer *Check-in and rest*	Welcome dinner *Night in Paris*

First moments in the capital, along the Seine.

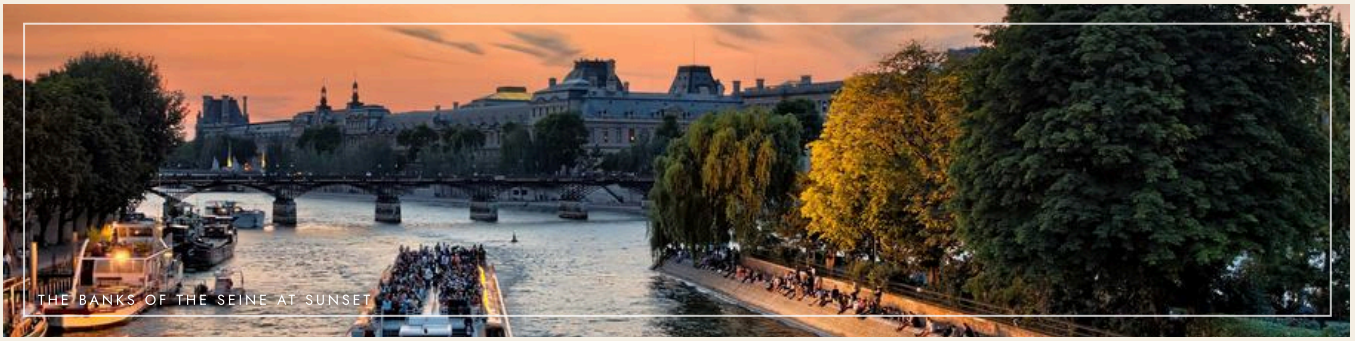
Welcome of the group at **Paris-Charles de Gaulle** international airport, then **private transfer** by coach to the hotel in Paris.

Check-in, rest after the flight and first steps in the capital. In the evening, a **welcome dinner** opens this great journey dedicated to the **saints of France**.

DID YOU KNOW?

18

Figures of holiness mark this journey: kings, priests, nuns, parents, martyrs and missionaries.



THE BANKS OF THE SEINE AT SUNSET

DAY 2 · PARIS

Saint Louis, the king who placed *his faith at the heart of his reign*

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Guided visit of the Sainte-Chapelle	Free lunch and afternoon	Night cruise on the Seine
Professional guide	*Paris at your own pace*	*Second night in Paris*

The man behind the crown: duty, justice and prayer.

With a **professional guide**, the morning is devoted to **Louis IX**. King at twelve, father of eleven children, he built the **Sainte-Chapelle** to house the Crown of Thorns, acquired in 1239. Its **stained-glass windows** make it one of the high points of Rayonnant Gothic.

His friend **Joinville** recounts that after Mass he would sit at the foot of an oak tree in Vincennes to hear petitioners himself. Lunch and afternoon **at leisure**.

In the evening, a **sightseeing cruise** glides along the Seine, past the illuminated monuments.

IN THEIR WORDS

"Dear son, the first thing I teach you is to set your heart on loving God."

SAINT LOUIS, TEACHINGS TO HIS SON, AS RECORDED BY JOINVILLE



SAINT LOUIS, BY EL GRECO, C. 1590

THE STAINED-GLASS WINDOWS OF THE SAINTE-CHAPELLE



THE CHAPEL OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL, RUE DU BAC

DAY 3 · PARIS — LISIEUX

Three lives *in the service of God*

MORNING	Guided visit of the two chapels *Professional guide*
AFTERNOON	Lunch *Time of prayer at the shrines*
EVENING	Drive to Normandy, approx. 2 h 45 *Dinner, night in Lisieux*

A priest of the poor, a woman of action, a sister of steadfast silence.

With a **professional guide**, the day links three stories of charity. At **95 rue de Sèvres**, the Lazarist chapel holds the reliquary of **Saint Vincent de Paul**.

At **140 rue du Bac**, the chapel of the **Miraculous Medal** keeps the relics of **Louise de Marillac** and the body of **Catherine Labouré**. Time of prayer at the shrines.

In the late afternoon, drive to **Lisieux**. Dinner and overnight.

DID YOU KNOW?

1617

In Châtillon-les-Dombes, Vincent is told of a whole family lying sick. He speaks of it in his sermon: that afternoon, the crowd goes to them. He realises that charity must be organised, and founds his first "Charity".



THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

Two chapels, *three stories of charity*

Vincent formed Louise; Louise's sisters welcomed Catherine. One spiritual family.



PORTRAIT BY SIMON FRANÇOIS DE TOURS, 1660

Vincent de Paul

1581 – 1660 · PRIEST

The son of peasants from the Landes, he became chaplain to the great, then chose the poor. He founded the **Congregation of the Mission** (1625) and took in the **abandoned children** of Paris.

> *"Let us love God, my brothers, but let it be at the cost of our arms, by the sweat of our brow."*
>
> CONFERENCE TO THE MISSIONARIES



ANONYMOUS PORTRAIT, MUSÉE CARNAVALET

Louise de Marillac

1591 – 1660 · WIDOW, FOUNDRESS

Mother of one son, widowed at thirty-four, she met Vincent. Together, in 1633, they gathered the first **Daughters of Charity**, in the service of the sick. Their **correspondence** runs to hundreds of letters.

> *She died on 15 March 1660. Vincent followed her six months later.*



DEVOTIONAL IMAGE, 19TH CENTURY

Catherine Labouré

1806 – 1876 · DAUGHTER OF CHARITY

The daughter of Burgundian farmers, she lost her mother at nine. In 1830, as a novice on the Rue du Bac, she received, according to Catholic tradition, the apparitions of the **Miraculous Medal**.

> *She then served the elderly of a hospice for 46 years, never revealing who she was.*



THE RELIQUARY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL, RUE DE SÈVRES

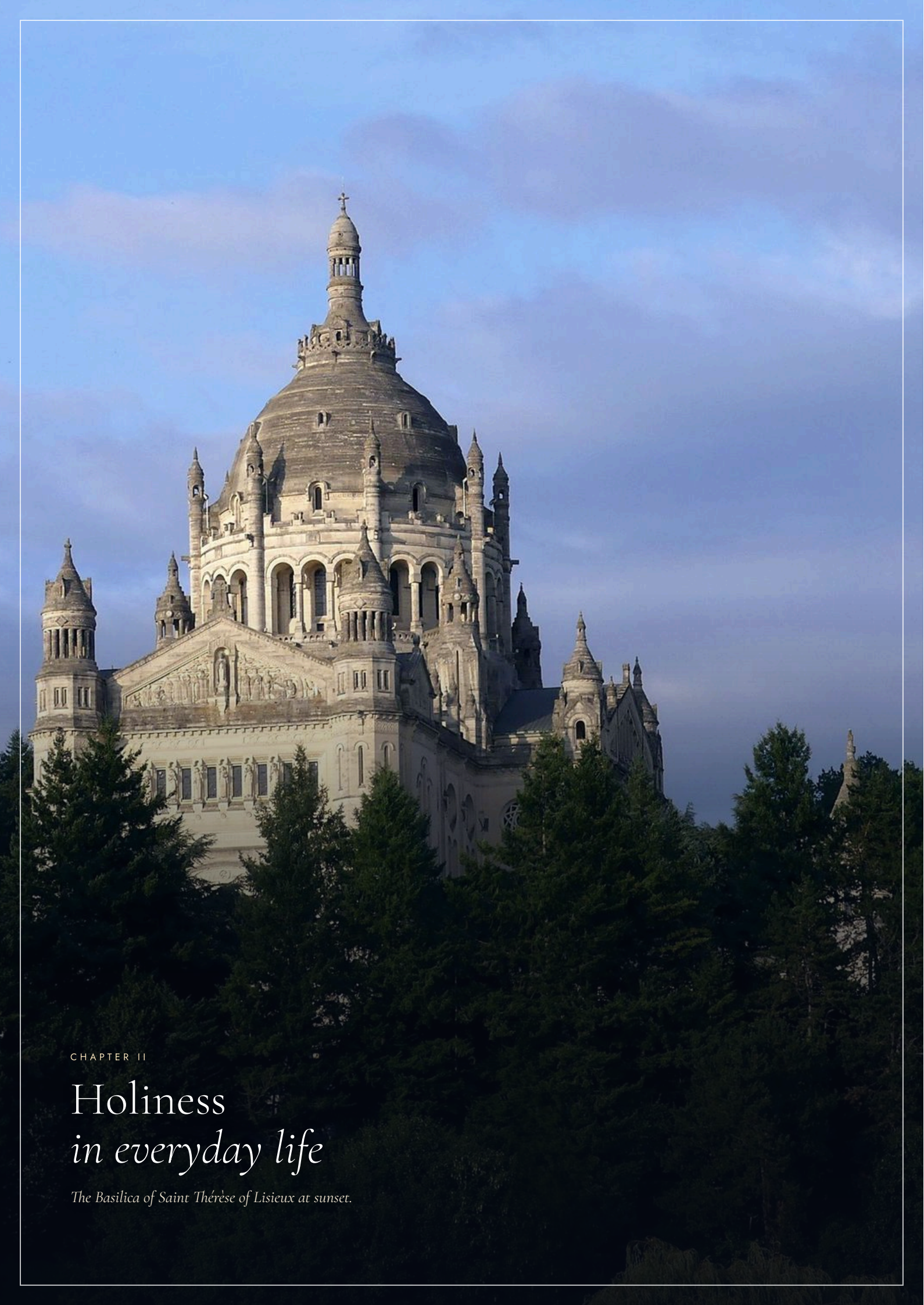


THE RELIQUARY OF SAINT LOUISE DE MARILLAC, RUE DU BAC

THE MEDAL

"O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."

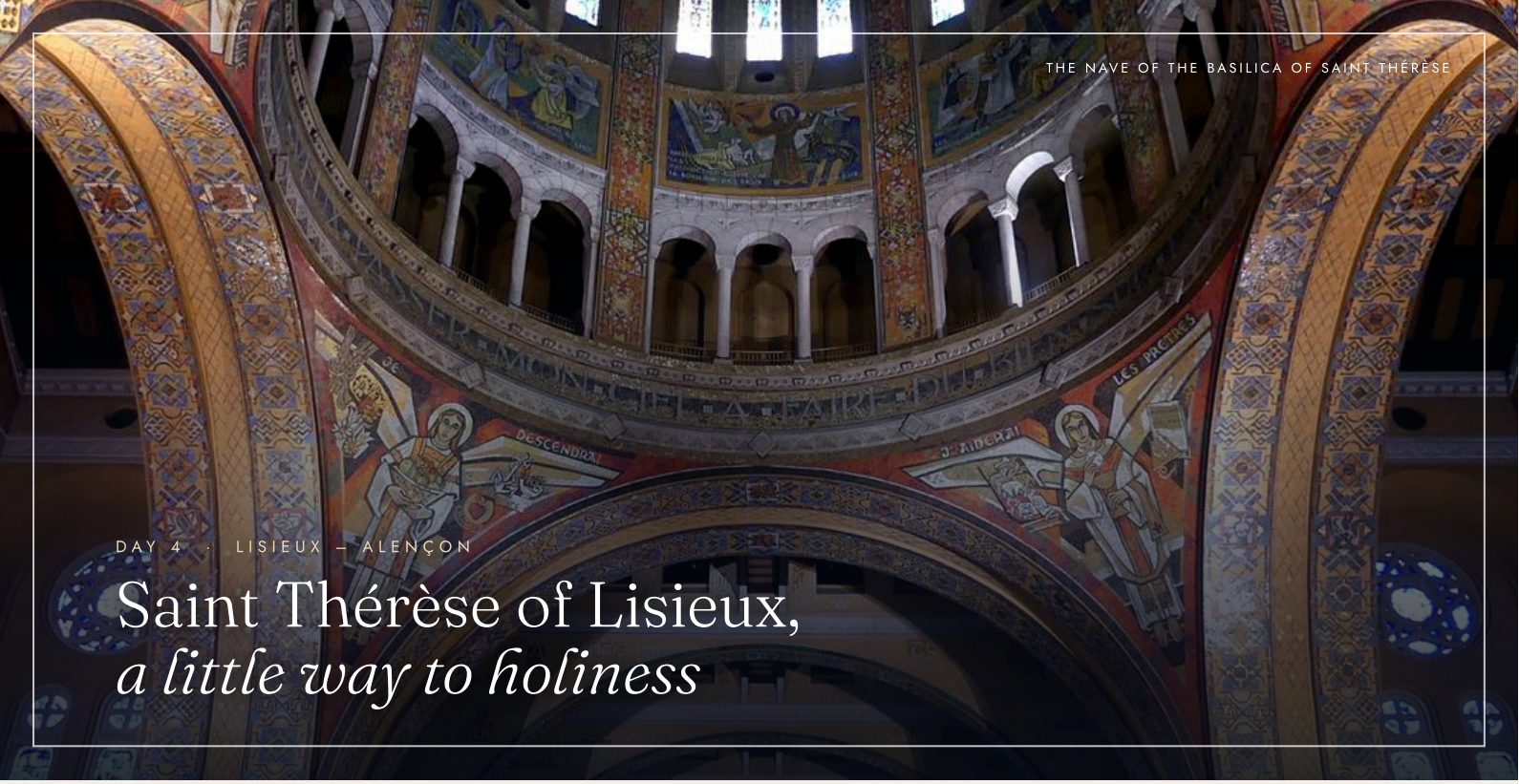
INSCRIPTION ON THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL, 1830



CHAPTER II

Holiness *in everyday life*

The Basilica of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux at sunset.



THE NAVE OF THE BASILICA OF SAINT THÉRÈSE

DAY 4 · LISIEUX — ALENÇON

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, *a little way to holiness*

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Les Buissonnets *Subject to opening conditions*	Carmel of Lisieux and basilica *Lunch during the day*	Drive to Alençon, approx. 1 h 45 *Dinner, night in Alençon*

A sensitive child who became a Doctor of the Church.

At **Les Buissonnets**, the house where she grew up after her mother's death, you discover her **bedroom**, her toys and the setting of her family life.

At the **Carmel**, which she entered at fifteen, the chapel holds her reliquary. The memorial recalls her writings, gathered in **Story of a Soul**, one of the most widely read spiritual books in the world.

Then the **Basilica of Saint Thérèse**, dedicated to her legacy. Drive to Alençon in the late afternoon.

IN THEIR WORDS

"My vocation, at last I have found it: my vocation is Love!"

THÉRÈSE, MANUSCRIPT B, 1896



LES BUISSONNETS, THÉRÈSE'S CHILDHOOD HOME



THE CHAPEL OF THE CARMEL OF LISIEUX



THÉRÈSE MARTIN, PERIOD PHOTOGRAPH

DAY 4 · LISIEUX

The little way *of Thérèse*

Thérèse Martin was born in Alençon on **2 January 1873**, the youngest of nine children. Her mother died when she was four; the family moved to Lisieux.

She founded nothing, never travelled, and died at **twenty-four**. But she wrote: do the smallest things with great love, and abandon yourself to God **like a child**.

CHRISTMAS 1886

Back from Midnight Mass, she hears her father sigh over her Christmas shoes: "Well, fortunately this will be the last year!" She holds back her tears. She would later say that, that night, she recovered the strength she had lost as a child.

PENTECOST 1887

In the garden of Les Buissonnets, she confides to her father her wish to enter the Carmel. He weeps with her, then picks a ***little white flower*** *and gives it to her, roots and all.*



SISTER THÉRÈSE IN THE CARMEL, PERIOD PHOTOGRAPH



LES BUISSONNETS, LISIEUX

"I want to spend my Heaven doing good on earth."

LAST CONVERSATIONS, 17 JULY 1897

Louis and Zélie Martin, *holiness at the heart of the family*

A watchmaker, a lacemaker, nine children. Canonised together by Pope Francis on 18 October 2015.



LOUIS MARTIN, PERIOD PHOTOGRAPH



ZÉLIE MARTIN, PERIOD PHOTOGRAPH

With a **professional guide**, the morning follows in the footsteps of an ordinary couple. **Louis** is a watchmaker and jeweller; **Zélie** runs her own **Point d'Alençon** lace business and its workers. They marry in 1858 at Notre-Dame d'Alençon.

The **family home** on rue Saint-Blaise, where Thérèse was born, tells of their daily life: work, the children's education, evening prayer, and the trials, the death of four children in infancy, then Zélie's illness, which took her at forty-five.

More than two hundred of Zélie's **letters** have survived. They speak of the workshop accounts, the little girls' fits of laughter, a mother's worries.

MORNING	Guided visit of Alençon *The Martin family home*
AFTERNOON	Lunch *Point d'Alençon lace workshop*
EVENING	Drive to Tours, approx. 2 h *Dinner, night in Tours*

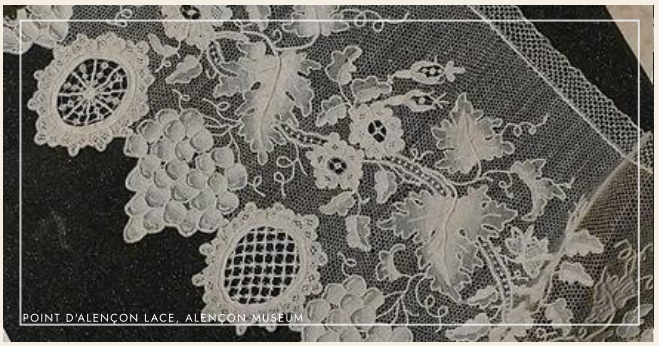
CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

The craft of Point d'Alençon

In the early afternoon, a **discovery workshop** introduces the gestures of needle lace, the craft that supported the Martin family. A savoir-faire inscribed on UNESCO's list of Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2010.

"God first served"

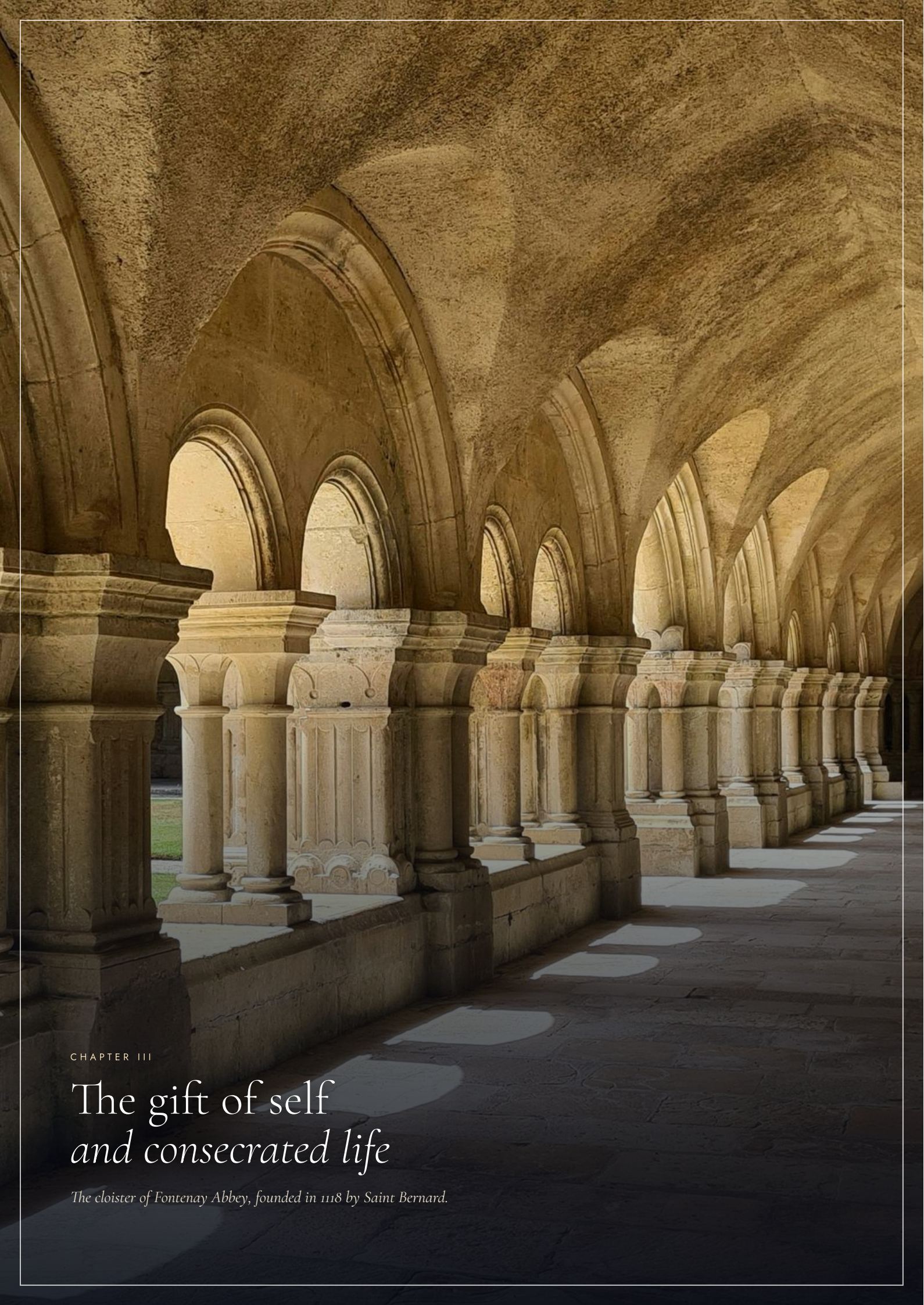
MOTTO OF LOUIS MARTIN



POINT D'ALENÇON LACE, ALENÇON MUSEUM



THÉRÈSE'S BIRTHPLACE, RUE SAINT-BLAISE



CHAPTER III

The gift of self *and consecrated life*

The cloister of Fontenay Abbey, founded in 1118 by Saint Bernard.

DAY 6 · TOURS — NEVERS

Saint Martin of Tours, *charity as a vocation*

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Guided visit of the basilica	Lunch	Drive to Nevers, approx. 3 h 30
Professional guide	*Tomb of Saint Martin*	*Dinner, night in Nevers*

A young Roman soldier who became a monk, then a bishop.

With a **professional guide**, discover **Martin**, born around 316 in Pannonia, present-day Hungary. An officer of the imperial guard, one winter evening he shared his cloak with a poor man **at the gates of Amiens**: it was there, and not in Tours, that the episode took place.

Once baptised, he founded at Ligugé the first monastery in Gaul, then became **bishop of Tours** in 371. The **Basilica of Saint Martin** rises over his **tomb**, once one of the great pilgrimages of the West.

In the afternoon, drive to **Nevers**.

IN THEIR WORDS

"Martin, still a catechumen, has clothed me with this garment."

WORDS OF CHRIST SEEN IN A DREAM, ACCORDING TO SULPICIUS SEVERUS, LIFE OF SAINT MARTIN



OLD TOURS

THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARTIN, OVER THE SAINT'S TOMB



THE FORMER CONVENT OF SAINT-GILDARD, NEVERS



THE RELIQUARY OF SAINT BERNADETTE

DAY 7 · NEVERS — SEMUR-EN-AUXOIS

Saint Bernadette, *the hidden life of Nevers*

MORNING	Espace Bernadette Soubirous *Former convent of Saint-Gildard*
AFTERNOON	Prayer by her reliquary *Lunch*
EVENING	Drive to Burgundy, approx. 2 h 15 *Dinner, night in Semur-en-Auxois*

After Lourdes, thirteen years of silence and obedience.

The world knows her for the apparitions of **Lourdes** in 1858. This morning, you discover the other Bernadette: the young woman who in 1866 joined the **Sisters of Charity of Nevers**.

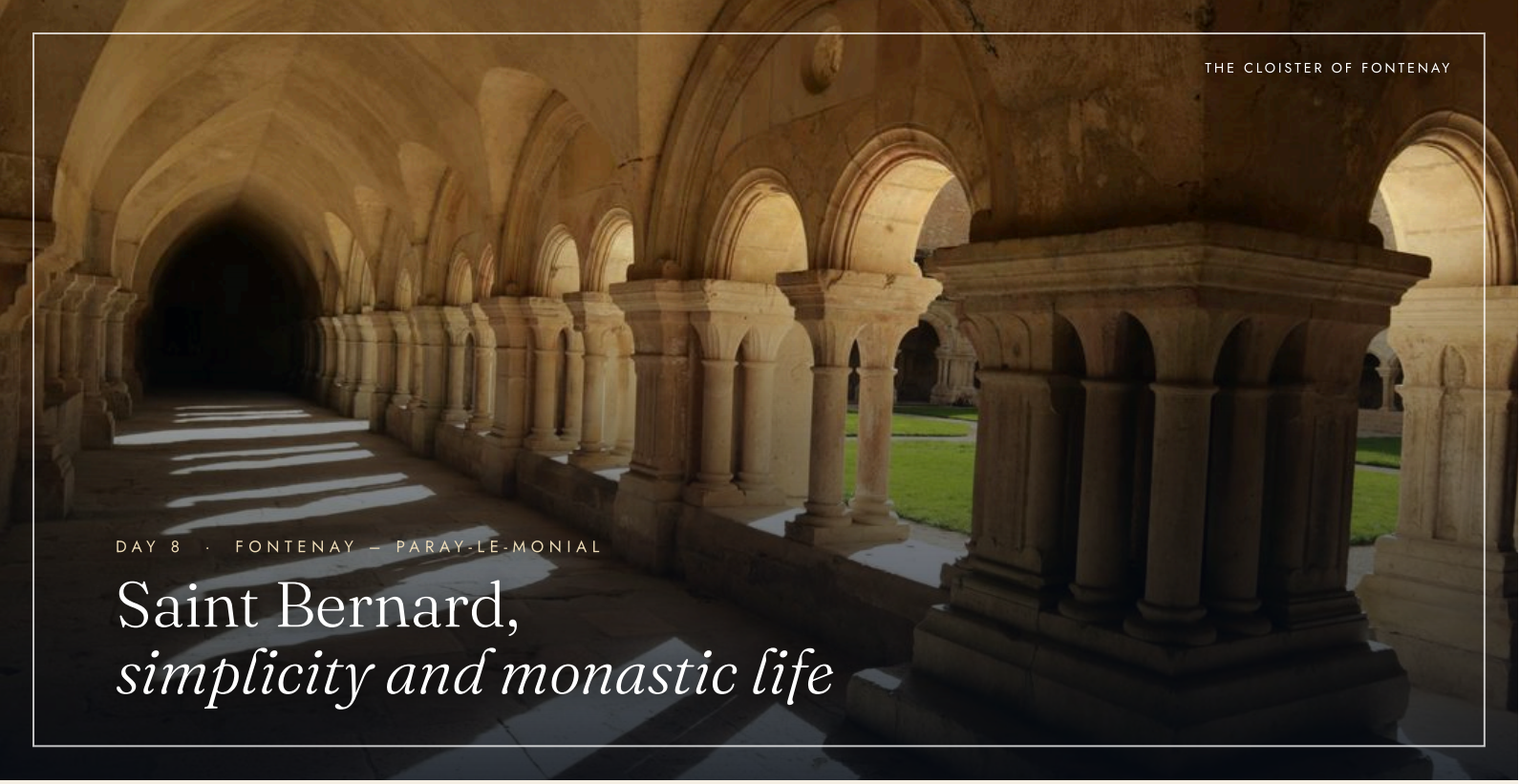
The **Espace Bernadette**, in the former convent of Saint-Gildard, recalls her daily life as an infirmary aide and sacristan, her asthma, her illness. In the chapel, a moment of prayer by the **reliquary** where her body rests.

After lunch, drive to **Semur-en-Auxois**.

IN THEIR WORDS

"The Blessed Virgin used me like a broom."

BERNADETTE, WORDS REPORTED BY THE SISTERS OF NEVERS



THE CLOISTER OF FONTENAY

DAY 8 · FONTENAY — PARAY-LE-MONIAL

Saint Bernard, *simplicity and monastic life*

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Fontenay Abbey *Cloister, church and historic spaces*	Lunch *Drive to Paray-le-Monial, approx. 2 h 15*	Check-in, dinner *Night in Paray-le-Monial*

The adviser of popes and kings, who wanted bare churches.

Born near Dijon in 1090, **Bernard** entered Cîteaux at twenty-two, bringing some thirty relatives and friends with him. Abbot of Clairvaux at twenty-five, he founded **Fontenay in 1118**.

The abbey is not his home: it is the expression of his ideal. The **cloister**, the unadorned church, the **dormitory** under its oak roof frame, the forge: everything speaks of prayer, work and **simplicity**.

A UNESCO World Heritage Site. Then drive to Paray-le-Monial.

IN THEIR WORDS

"The measure of loving God is to love Him without measure."

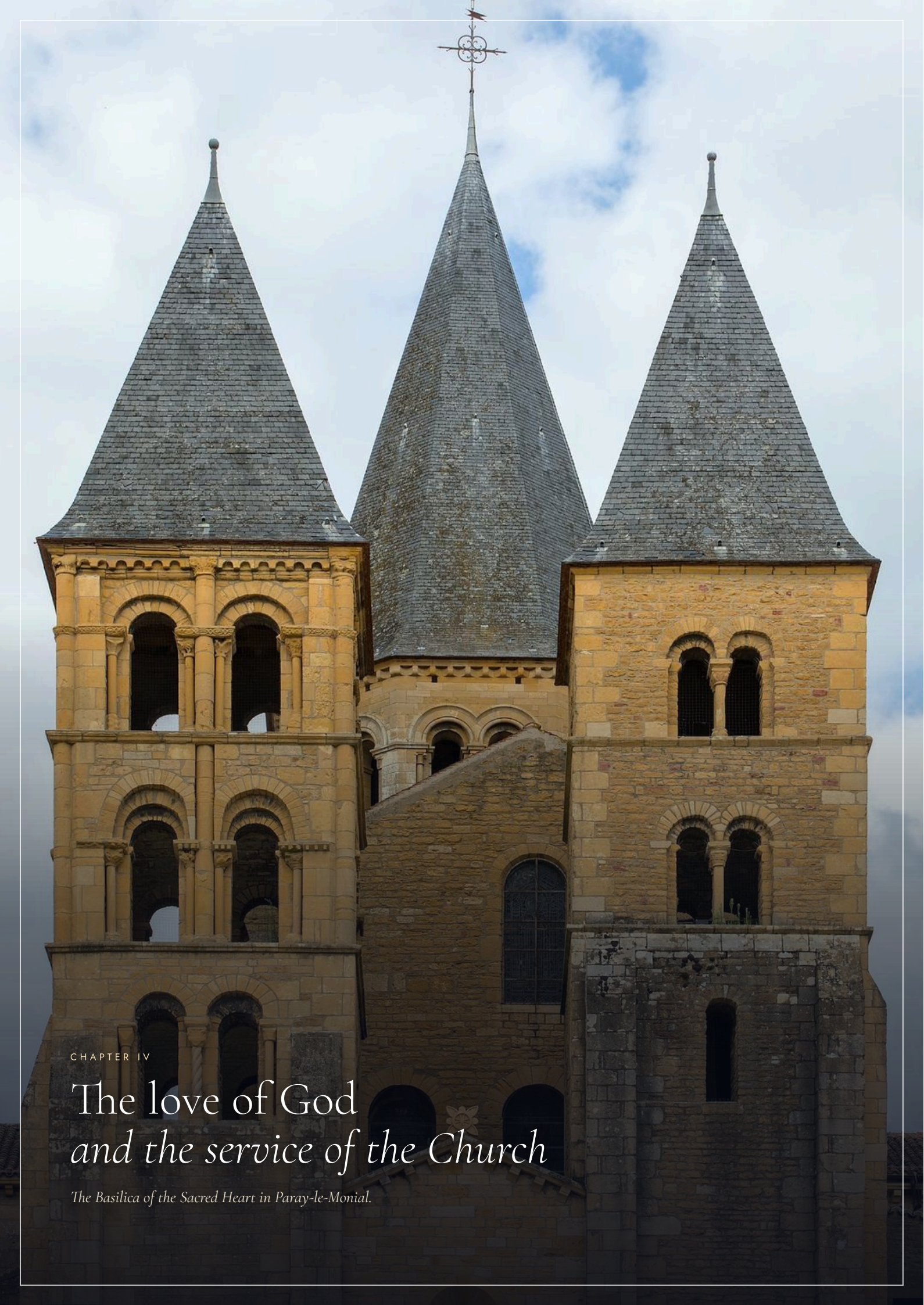
BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX, ON LOVING GOD



THE ABBEY IN ITS BURGUNDIAN VALLEY



THE ABBEY CHURCH, BARE AND LUMINOUS



CHAPTER IV

The love of God *and the service of the Church*

The Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Paray-le-Monial.



THE CHAPEL OF THE APPARITIONS, PARAY-LE-MONIAL

DAY 9 · PARAY-LE-MONIAL — ARS — LYON

Two paths *to the heart of Christ*

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Chapel of the Apparitions *Basilica of the Sacred Heart*	Ars-sur-Formans *Basilica and house of the holy Curé*	Drive to Lyon, approx. 45 min *Dinner, night in Lyon*

IN THEIR WORDS

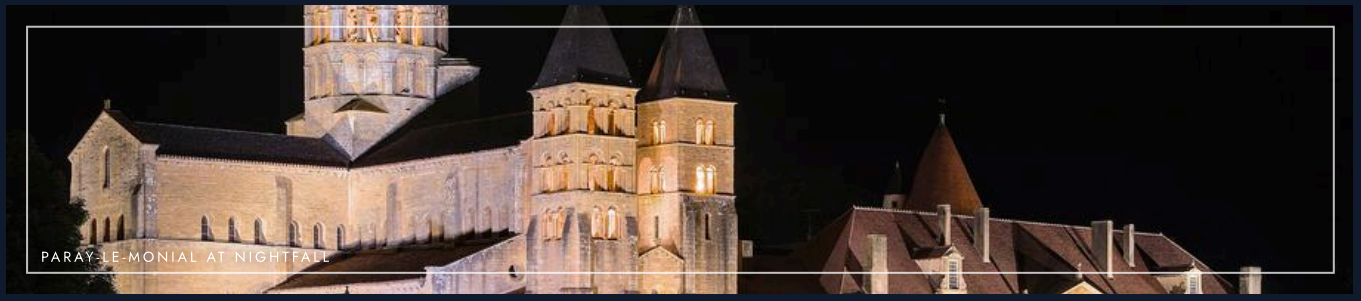
"Behold this Heart which has so loved men."

WORDS RECEIVED BY MARGARET MARY IN 1675, ACCORDING TO HER AUTOBIOGRAPHY

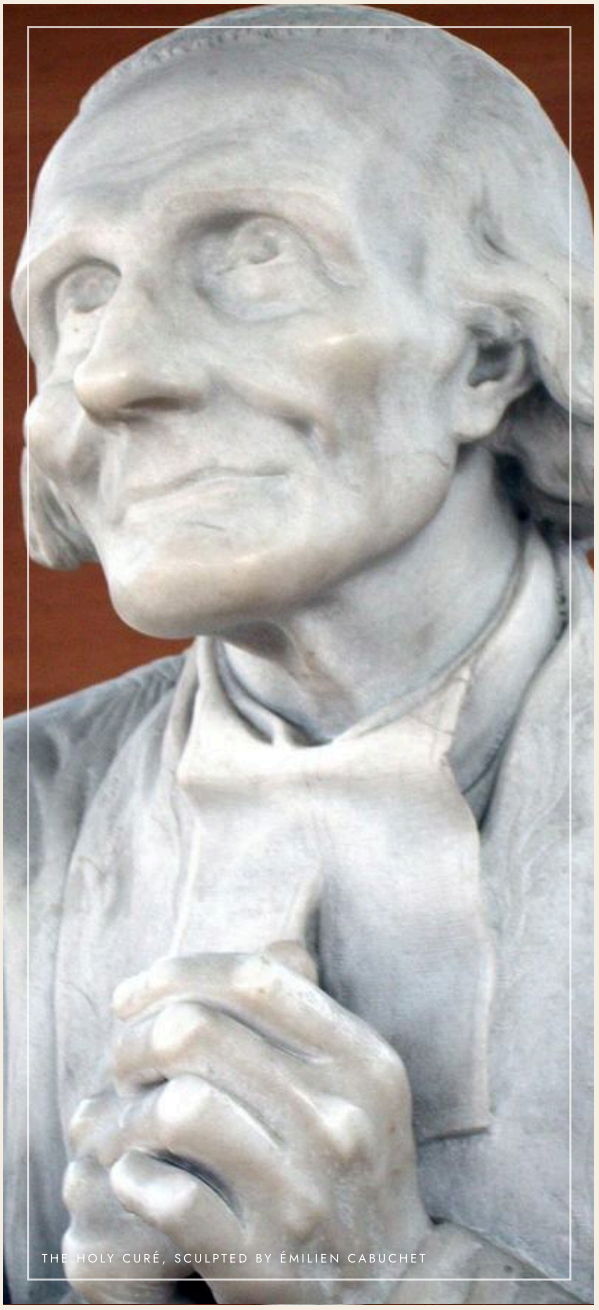
A Visitation nun, then a village priest.

In **Paray-le-Monial**, **Margaret Mary Alacoque**, bedridden for four years as a child, entered the Visitation in 1671. In the **Chapel of the Apparitions**, where her reliquary rests, she lived between 1673 and 1675 the mystical experiences at the origin of the devotion to the **Sacred Heart**.

A moment of prayer in the **basilica**, then drive to **Ars**, where a country priest drew all of France, presented on the next page. In the evening, Lyon.



PARAY-LE-MONIAL AT NIGHTFALL



THE HOLY CURÉ, SCULPTED BY ÉMILIEN CABUCHET

DAY 9 · ARS-SUR-FORMANS

In the room *of the Curé of Ars*

The son of peasants from Dardilly, **John Vianney** struggled with Latin and nearly failed at the seminary. In 1818 he was sent to a village of two hundred souls: **Ars**.

His **house** has been preserved: the narrow bed, the kitchen where he boiled his **potatoes** for several days at a time, his patched cassock, his breviary. Soon, pilgrims from all over France came to confess to him, **up to seventeen hours a day**.

FEBRUARY 1818

Lost in the fog, he asks a young shepherd, Antoine Givre, for the way. "You have shown me the way to Ars; I will show you the way to Heaven." A monument recalls the scene at the entrance to the village.



THE HOUSE OF THE CURÉ OF ARS



HIS RELIQUARY, IN THE BASILICA

"The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus."

JOHN VIANNEY, QUOTED IN THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH



CHAPTER V

The courage to bear witness *and the missionary spirit*

Lyon, Fourvière hill, where Pauline Jaricot lived.



THE AMPHITHEATRE OF THE THREE GAULS, LYON

DAY 10 · LYON – ANNECY

Lyon, from the first martyrs *to the great missions*

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Guided visit: Blandina and Irenaeus *Professional guide*	Maison de Lorette, Pauline Jaricot *Lunch*	Drive to Annecy, approx. 2 h *Dinner, night in Annecy*

From a persecuted Church to a Church that shines across the world.

In 177, persecution strikes the Christians of Lyon. A letter of the time, preserved by the historian Eusebius, tells of the courage of **Blandina**, a young slave who died in the **Amphitheatre of the Three Gauls**. Bishop **Irenaeus**, a theologian, takes up the torch.

Sixteen centuries later, **Pauline Jaricot**, daughter of a silk merchant, invents the **Propagation of the Faith**: groups of ten people each giving a sou a week for the missions. **Blessed** since 2022, she lived in the **Maison de Lorette**, on Fourvière hill.

IN THEIR WORDS

"I am a Christian, and nothing wicked is done among us."

BLANDINA, LETTER OF THE CHRISTIANS OF LYON, QUOTED BY EUSEBIUS



THE CRYPT OF THE CHURCH OF SAINT-IRÉNÉE



FOURVIÈRE, NEIGHBOUR OF THE MAISON DE LORETTE

DAY 11 · ANNECY – GRENOBLE

Francis de Sales and Jane de Chantal, *a spiritual friendship*

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Salesian guided visit *Professional guide*	Basilica of the Visitation *Lunch*	Drive to Grenoble, approx. 1 h 45 *Dinner, night in Grenoble*

A writer bishop, a widowed mother, a new order.

With a **professional guide**, discover **Francis de Sales**, bishop of Geneva residing in Annecy, who taught a holiness open to all, at home as at court, in **Introduction to the Devout Life**.

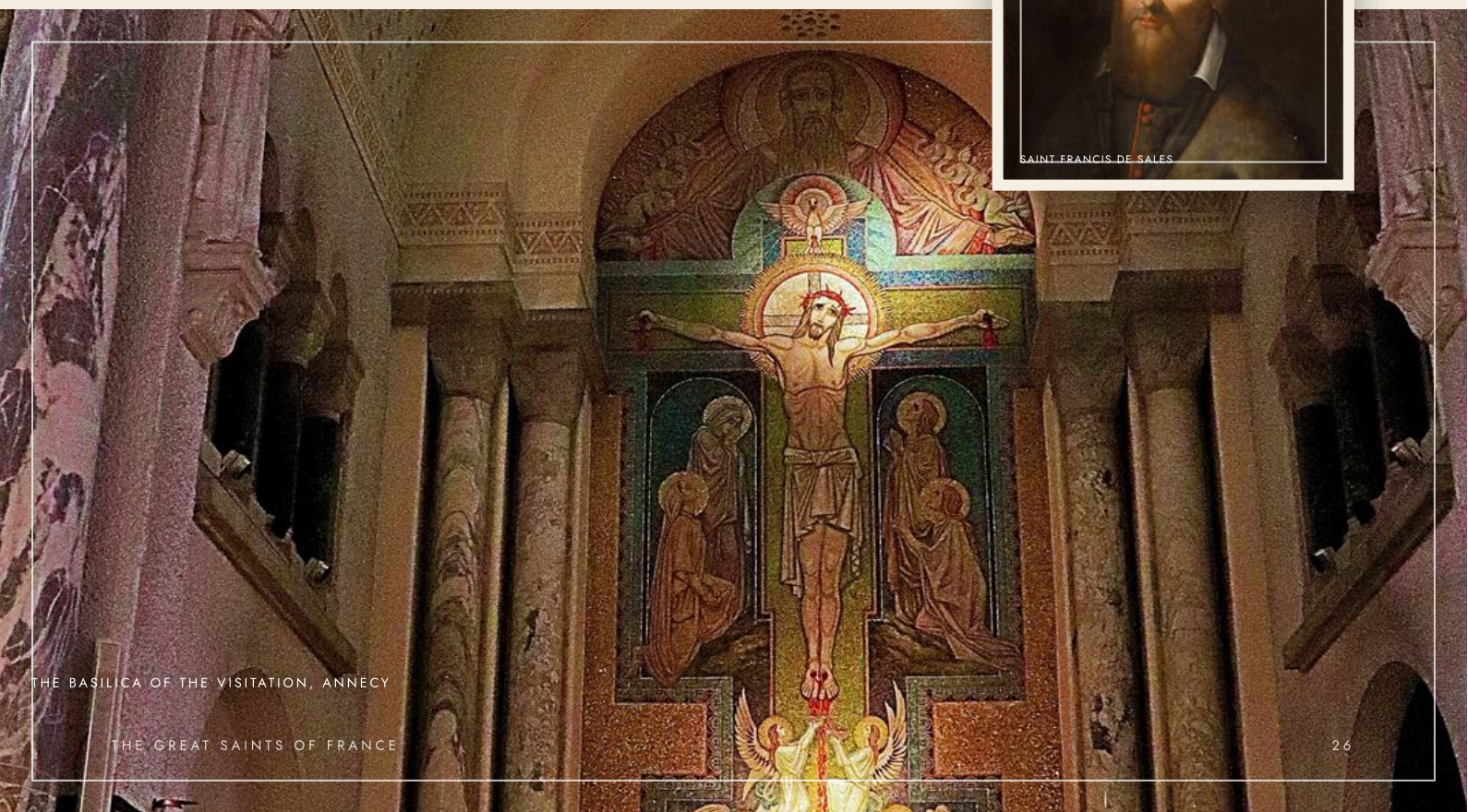
In 1604, in Dijon, he met **Jane de Chantal**, a widow and mother of four. Years of **correspondence** led them to found together the order of the **Visitation**, in Annecy, in 1610.

The **Basilica of the Visitation** keeps their relics, facing the lake.

IN THEIR WORDS

"It is an error, nay a heresy, to wish to banish the devout life from the households of married people."

FRANCIS DE SALES, INTRODUCTION TO THE DEVOUT LIFE, 1609

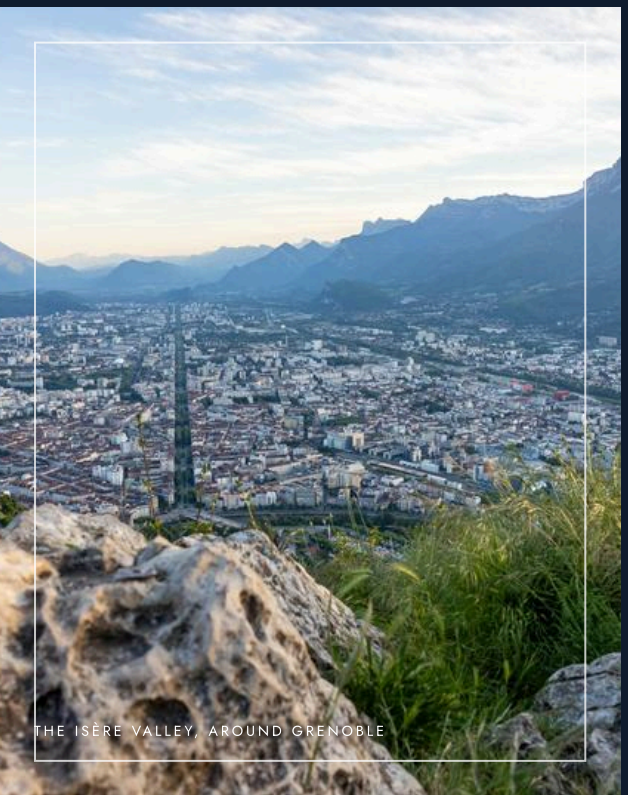


SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES

THE BASILICA OF THE VISITATION, ANNECY



GRENOBLE AND THE ALPS, FROM THE BASTILLE



THE ISÈRE VALLEY, AROUND GRENOBLE

DAY 12 · GRENOBLE – AVIGNON

Rose Philippine Duchesne, *from Grenoble to Missouri*

MORNING	Guided visit: her life and vocation *Professional guide*
AFTERNOON	Former convent of Sainte-Marie-d'en-Haut *Lunch*
EVENING	Drive to Provence, approx. 2 h 45 *Dinner, night in Avignon*

A woman of Grenoble who left for the New World at forty-eight.

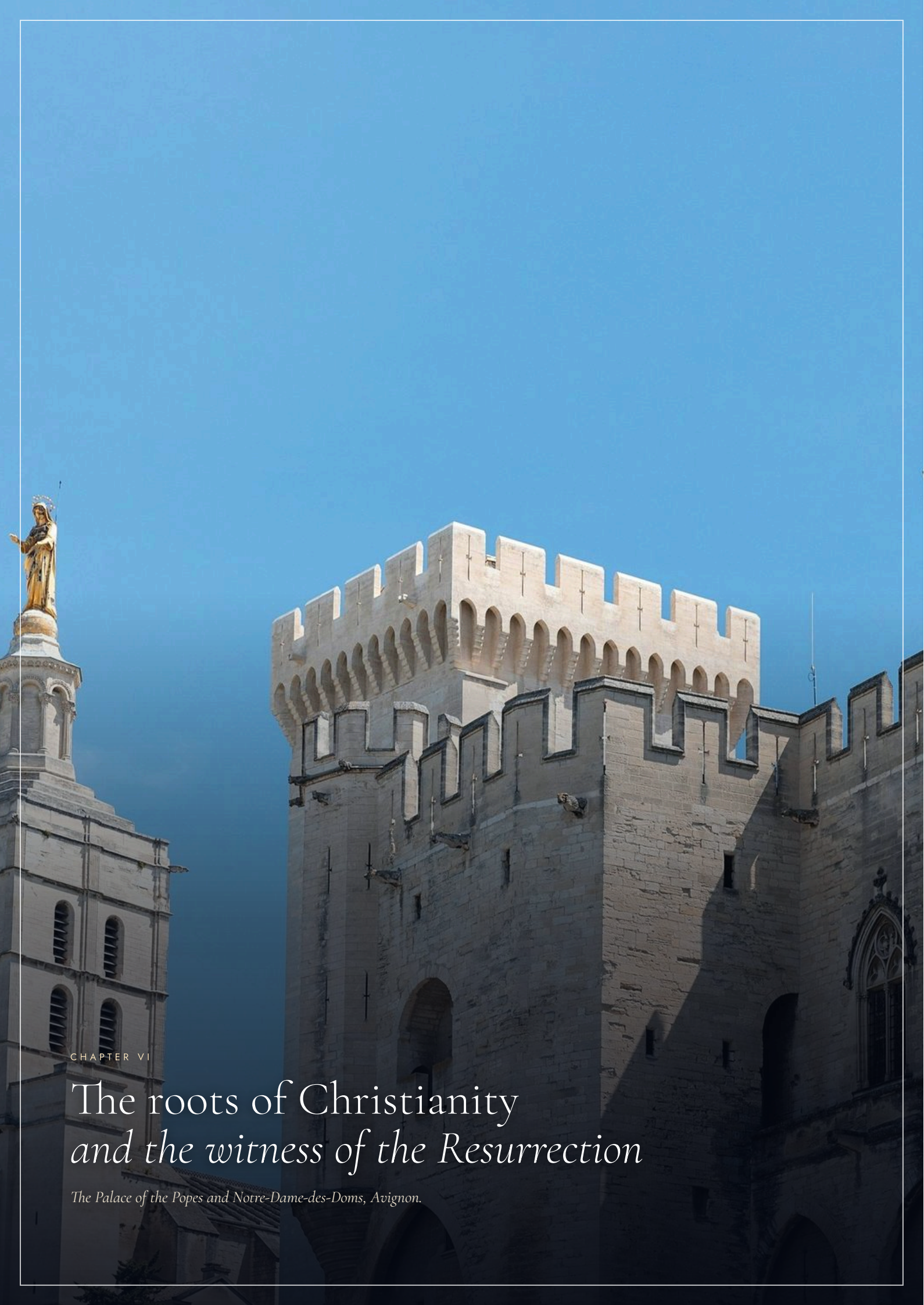
Born in Grenoble in **1769**, Philippine entered young the Visitation convent of **Sainte-Marie-d'en-Haut**, which the Revolution dispersed. She returned there and in 1804 joined the **Society of the Sacred Heart**. The convent now houses the **Musée dauphinois**.

In 1818, she crossed the Atlantic and opened a school for girls in **St. Charles, Missouri**. At seventy-two, she set out once more to live among the **Potawatomi**. Canonised in 1988.

DID YOU KNOW?

1841

At Sugar Creek, Kansas, the Potawatomi call her Quah-kah-ka-num-ad, "the woman who always prays". She is seventy-two years old.



CHAPTER VI

The roots of Christianity *and the witness of the Resurrection*

The Palace of the Popes and Notre-Dame-des-Doms, Avignon.



THE CRYPT AND THE RELIQUARY, SAINT-MAXIMIN

DAY 13 · AVIGNON — SAINT-MAXIMIN — MARSEILLE

Avignon and Mary Magdalene, *at the origins of Christianity in Provence*

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Palace of the Popes *Visit at your own pace*	Saint-Maximin-la-Sainte-Baume *Basilica and crypt*	Drive to Marseille, approx. 1 h *Dinner, night in Marseille*

The seat of the papacy, then the tradition of a disciple.

In the 14th century, seven popes resided in **Avignon**. Their **palace**, the largest Gothic complex of its time, can be visited freely this morning.

In **Saint-Maximin**, the basilica and its **crypt** venerate relics traditionally attributed to **Mary Magdalene**. The Gospels make her the first **witness to the Resurrection**; the Provençal tradition, recorded in the Middle Ages, has her living in Provence, though history cannot establish it.

In the late afternoon, Marseille.

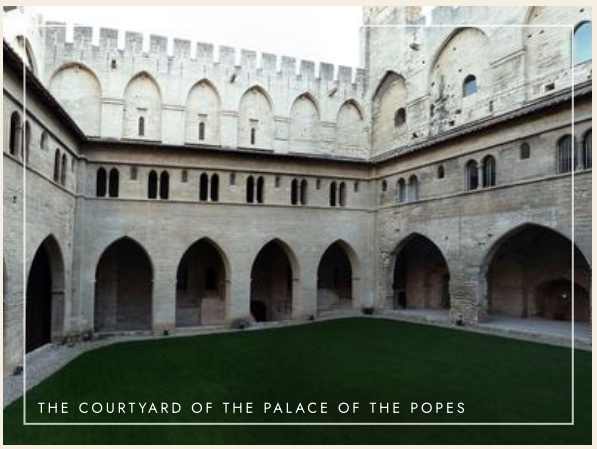
IN THEIR WORDS

"I have seen the Lord!"

MARY MAGDALENE TO THE DISCIPLES,
GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT JOHN, 20:18



THE MAGDALENE, GEORGES DE LA TOUR, C. 1640



THE COURTYARD OF THE PALACE OF THE POPES



THE OLD PORT OF MARSEILLE AT DUSK

DAY 14 · MARSEILLE – MARSEILLE-PROVENCE AIRPORT

The end of the journey, *and faces to remember*

MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Breakfast at the hotel	Coach transfer	Departure assistance
According to flight times	*To Marseille-Provence airport*	*End of the journey*

Fourteen days, centuries of Christian history.

After **breakfast**, and according to flight times, the coach takes the group to **Marseille-Provence** airport.

Departure assistance and the end of a journey to meet the lives, the testimonies and the legacy of the great Christian figures of France.

DID YOU KNOW?

2016

Pope Francis raises the memorial of Mary Magdalene to the rank of a feast, hailing her as "the apostle of the apostles".

Seven guided visits, *two chosen experiences*

A professional guide at the stages where the story of the saints calls for a storyteller.



THE PONT ALEXANDRE III ILLUMINATED

DAY 2 · EVENING

Night cruise on the Seine

A sightseeing cruise along the river, past the illuminated monuments of Paris, after the day devoted to Saint Louis.



THE STAGES OF LACEMAKING, ALENÇON MUSEUM

DAY 5 · EARLY AFTERNOON

Point d'Alençon workshop

Discovering the gestures and techniques of an exceptional lace, a natural extension of the life of Zélie Martin.

THE SEVEN PROFESSIONAL GUIDED VISITS

D2	PARIS	Saint Louis and the Sainte-Chapelle
D3	PARIS	Vincent de Paul, Louise de Marillac, Catherine Labouré
D5	ALENÇON	Louis and Zélie Martin, their family life
D6	TOURS	Saint Martin and the places of his story
D10	LYON	Blandina, Irenaeus and Pauline Jaricot
D11	ANNECY	Francis de Sales and Jane de Chantal
D12	GRENOBLE	Rose Philippine Duchesne and her vocation

YOUR SERVICES

A journey designed *down to the smallest detail*

So that everyone can devote themselves to what matters most: encounter, prayer and discovery.



THE BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART, PARAY-LE-MONIAL

TRANSPORT

- Welcome at Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport
- Private transfer to the hotel on arrival
- Luxury coach throughout the tour
- Transfer to Marseille-Provence airport on departure

ACCOMMODATION

- 13 nights in carefully selected hotels
- 4-star hotels and, depending on destinations and availability, of a higher category
- Comfort, quality of service and locations chosen for the visits

CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Night cruise on the Seine
- Discovery workshop of Alençon lace

VISITS AND DISCOVERIES

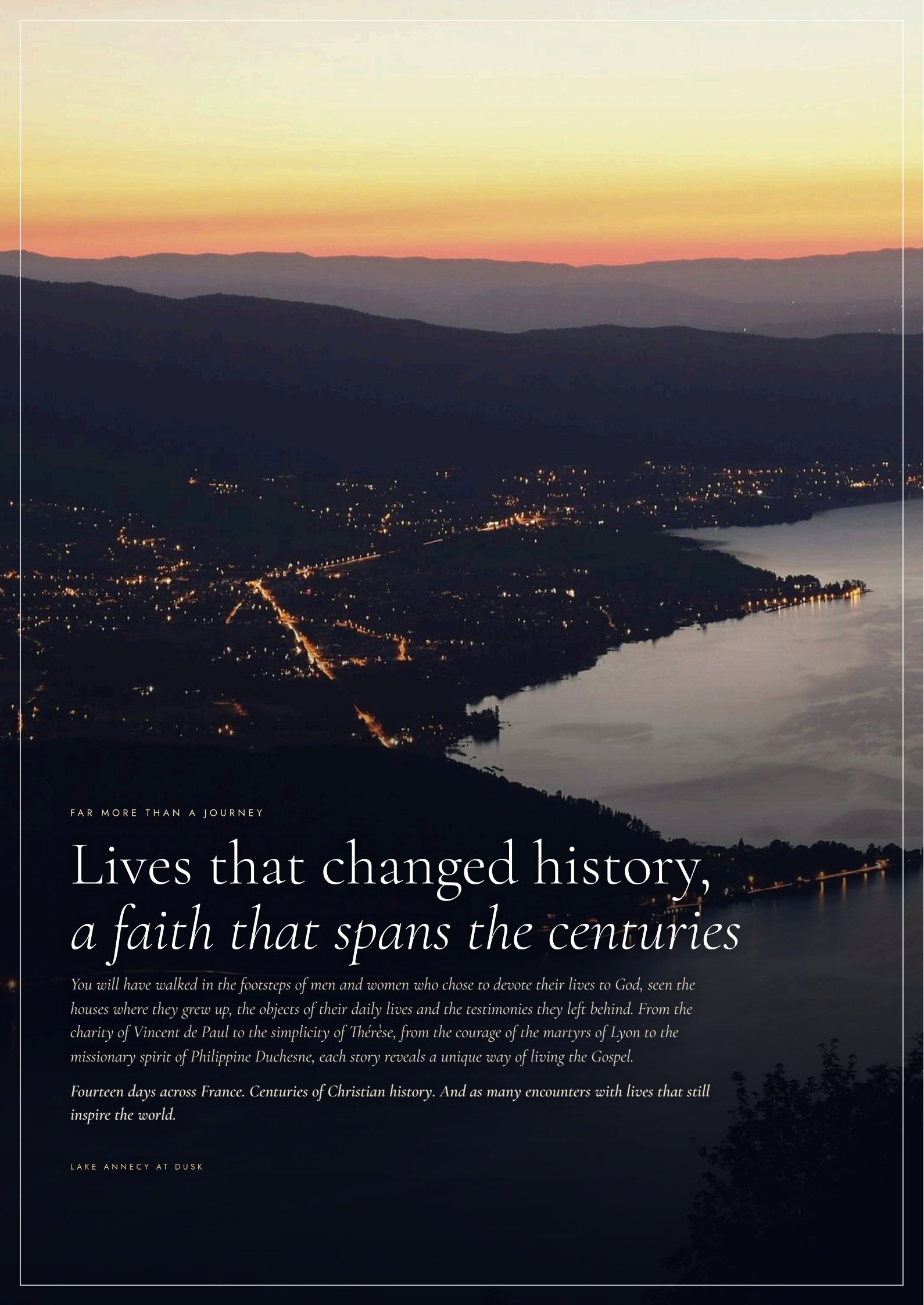
- Detailed spiritual and historical programme over 14 days
- Seven professional guiding services
- Shrines, chapels, basilicas and historic houses of the programme, according to their access conditions
- Sainte-Chapelle, Fontenay Abbey, Palace of the Popes
- Basilica of Saint Mary Magdalene in Saint-Maximin

SPECIAL MOMENTS

- Welcome dinner in Paris
- Times of prayer in the main shrines
- Discovery of the places where the saints lived and the testimonies they left
- Possible participation in celebrations, according to the calendars of each site

The visits in Lisieux, Nevers, Fontenay, Paray-le-Monial, Ars and Avignon take place without a professional guide. Access to the houses and preserved rooms, opening times and celebrations will be confirmed when the trip is produced. The meal plan will be specified in the proposal.

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FAR MORE THAN A JOURNEY

Lives that changed history, *a faith that spans the centuries*

You will have walked in the footsteps of men and women who chose to devote their lives to God, seen the houses where they grew up, the objects of their daily lives and the testimonies they left behind. From the charity of Vincent de Paul to the simplicity of Thérèse, from the courage of the martyrs of Lyon to the missionary spirit of Philippine Duchesne, each story reveals a unique way of living the Gospel.

Fourteen days across France. Centuries of Christian history. And as many encounters with lives that still inspire the world.

LAKE ANNECY AT DUSK