



The signs of Lourdes

1. The rock - the Grotto.



«That one is like a person building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation **on rock**; when the flood came, the river burst against that house but could not shake it because it had been well built. But the one who listens and does not act is like a person who built a house on the ground without a foundation». (Lk 6, 48 - 49)

2. The sign of the Cross.



From baptism until burial, the life of every baptized person is placed under the sign of the Cross. In fact, expressing our relationship with God, it marks at the same time the entrance into Christian life, the journey of our whole existence with Christ, and the end of life on earth. At the Grotto, even before speaking to Bernadette and telling her her name, the Blessed Virgin taught her to make the Sign of the Cross. To make it well. To make it often.

3. Water - the act of washing.



Drinking and washing are the two actions carried out at Lourdes, at the invitation of the Virgin Mary. This process began right after February 25, 1858, the day on which the Virgin Mary showed Saint Bernadette where to dig to find the spring. It is to this spring, which flows at the back of the Grotto, that Our Lady of Lourdes invites us to come "to drink and to wash." The act of water and of bathing purifies me and frees me from every stain.

4. The light.



«Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "**I am the light of the world**. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."». (Jn 8, 12). «Now this is the message that we have heard from him and proclaim to you: **God is light**, and in him there is no darkness at all».

(1 Jn 1, 5).

5. The processions.



They are a direct **response to Mary's request**: they express our desire to proclaim our faith, to "build together the Church" of Christ. The Eucharistic Procession allows for the adoration of Jesus, present in the Host, present among us, a comfort for those who suffer. As in Palestine 2000 years ago, He comes to bless the suffering that is placed before Him.

The so-called torchlight procession symbolizes our journey toward Christ, through Mary, who presents our prayers to Him.

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The **Eucharist** nourishes me and takes away my spiritual hunger.

The Eucharist is a foretaste of the wedding feast in Eternity.



The Chapel of Reconciliation

Confession restores me and keeps me away from spiritual death.

Confession is the key to entering the Kingdom, through forgiveness.

Opening hours: every day 8:45 – 12:15 and 14:00 – 18:15



Jesus healed many sick people: this activity plays a significant role in His public ministry. The healings performed by Jesus reflect the coming of the Kingdom and **require faith** as the only condition. (Mt 9,28 ; Mk 9,23).