

# FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

La Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

## Catholic Celebration of the Appearance of Mary to Juan Diego in México

Our Lady of Guadalupe, in Spanish Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, is also called the Virgin of Guadalupe, and in Roman Catholicism is the Virgin Mary in her appearance before St. Juan Diego in a vision in 1531. The name also refers to the Marian apparition itself. Our Lady of Guadalupe holds a special place in the religious life of México and is one of the most popular religious devotions. Her image has played an important role as a national symbol of México, and she is honored throughout the Americas.

The shrine at the Basilica of Guadalupe is one of the most famous shrines in the world. Every year, 20 million people visit the Basilica where the cloth is displayed. An estimated 3 million pilgrims visit annually on **December 12**, her feast day.

According to tradition, Mary appeared to Juan Diego, who was an Aztec convert to Christianity, on December 9 and again on December 12, 1531. During her first apparition she requested that a shrine to her be built on the spot where she appeared, Tepeyac Hill (now in a suburb of Ciudad de México/Mexico City). The bishop demanded a sign before he would approve construction of a

church, however. Mary then appeared a second time to Juan Diego and ordered him to collect roses. In a second audience with the bishop, Juan Diego opened his cloak, letting dozens of roses fall to the floor and revealing the image of Mary imprinted on the inside of the cloak—the image that is now venerated in the Basilica of Guadalupe. The Catholic church approved the apparition in 1555. Our Lady of Guadalupe was solemnly crowned Queen of the Mexican people in the name of Pope Leo XIII in 1895. She is also regarded as “the Mother of the Americas.” Juan Diego was canonized in 2002 by Pope John Paul II.



## Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe for the Protection from Coronavirus

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.

We fly to you today as your beloved children.

We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother,  
and gain for our nation and world,  
and for all our families and loved ones,  
the protection of your holy angels,  
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted,  
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.  
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,  
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing,  
teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind.

Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence,  
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,  
health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,  
keep us in the embrace of your arms,  
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.



## Oración a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe para la protección contra el coronavirus

Virgen Santísima de Guadalupe,  
Reina de los Ángeles y Madre de las Américas.  
Acudimos a ti hoy como tus amados hijos.  
Te pedimos que intercedas por nosotros con tu Hijo,  
como lo hiciste en las bodas de Caná.

Ruega por nosotros, Madre amorosa,  
y obtén para nuestra nación, nuestro mundo,  
y para todas nuestras familias y seres queridos,  
la protección de tus santos ángeles,  
para que podamos salvarnos de lo peor de esta enfermedad.

Para aquellos que ya están afectados,  
te pedimos que les concedas la gracia de la sanación y  
la liberación.

Escucha los gritos de aquellos que son vulnerables y temerosos,  
seca sus lágrimas y ayúdalos a confiar.

En este tiempo de dificultad y prueba,  
enséñanos a todos en la Iglesia a amarnos los unos a los otros  
y a ser pacientes y amables.

Ayúdanos a llevar la paz de Jesús a nuestra tierra y a nuestros  
corazones.

Acudimos a ti con confianza, sabiendo que realmente eres  
nuestra madre compasiva,  
la salud de los enfermos y la causa de nuestra alegría.

Refúgianos bajo el manto de tu protección, mantenenos  
en el abrazo de tus brazos,  
ayúdanos a conocer siempre el amor de tu Hijo, Jesús.  
Amén

Source: Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg, Florida

