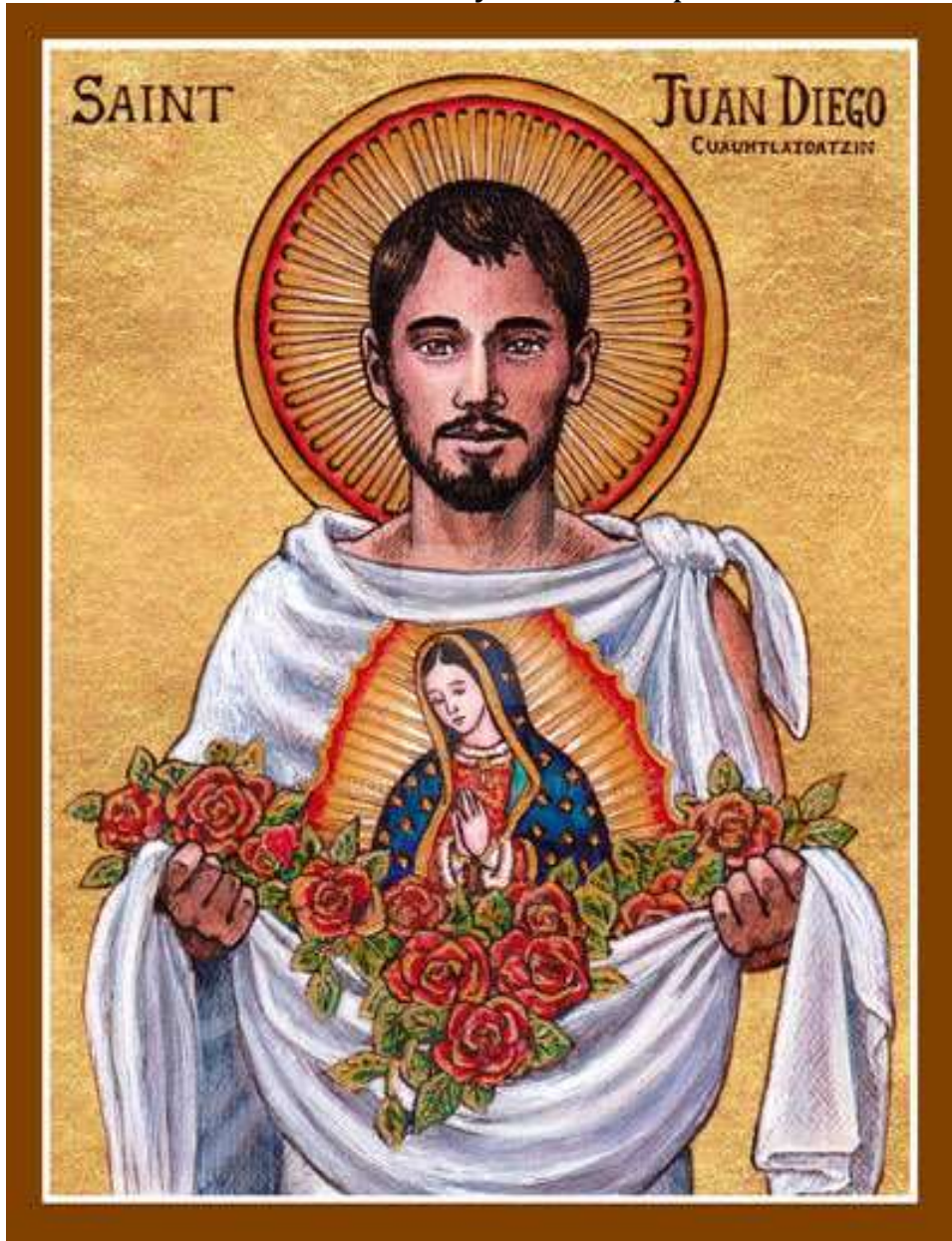


the faith & humility of Saint Juan Diego - December 9th (1474-1548 AD)
And The Visitation of Our Lady of Guadalupe



https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=73&fbclid=IwAR0gH9bAmTvhkkSY5RCVDb65CCmJcAL0dOdZ6k7ULIBW4kK3eE1xhBjgZVw

Monsignor Eduardo Chávez Sánchez was the postulator for the cause of canonization of Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin in 2002,

<http://www.guadalupecelebration.com/gc/en/bios/chavez.html>

the humble Catholic Layman to whom Holy Mary appeared in 1531 with The LORD's call to him to be an instrument of spreading The Holy Gospel of our Redeemer JESUS CHRIST in Mexico, throughout the Americas and the whole world.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=--](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=--IRbuAu2XQ&list=PL58g24NgWPIzvBk2IQVES_xC4WTm6-CDI)

[IRbuAu2XQ&list=PL58g24NgWPIzvBk2IQVES_xC4WTm6-CDI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=--IRbuAu2XQ&list=PL58g24NgWPIzvBk2IQVES_xC4WTm6-CDI)

It was fitting that "Pope John Paul II canonized Saint Juan Diego on July 31, 2002 at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, north of Mexico City - the very location where our Lady asked that a Church be constructed when she appeared to Juan Diego on Tepeyac Hill in December 1531,"

tearing down forever the false idols of mass human sacrifice practiced there by native Mexicans enslaved to their Aztec demon gods, and raising up The worship of The King of The Universe, cleansing multitudes in The Blood of The Lamb of GOD, JESUS CHRIST!

<https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/culture/catholic-contributions/saint-juan-diego-and-our-lady.html>

At the Mass of canonization, the Pope acclaimed Juan Diego as a great model of holiness, especially for our times. After all, Juan Diego was a Layman who humbly accepted the mission entrusted to him and persevered despite many obstacles." Juan Diego, with his wife Maria Lucia and his uncle Juan Bernardino, were Baptized by Franciscan missionaries in 1521 into The Catholic Church.

Their people had only just been liberated that same year from the human sacrifice cult of their bloody Aztec oppressors, who sacrificed tens of thousands of innocent adults and children yearly in their Empire by publicly cutting the hearts out of their victims on the peaks of their pyramid temples.

In His Mercy, The Almighty heard the cries of these oppressed and suffering people and delivered them. Like GOD sent Moses to deliver the captive children of Biblical Israel out of Egypt, as with a Pillar of Cloud by day and Fire by night, the Mexican Indians were set free from slavery, death and damnation.

The human instruments of their liberation were Conquistador Hernando Cortez, his small intrepid explorer army and a Catholic Priest - a Father Olmedo - who ended the terrible mass human sacrifice and consecrated the bloodied pagan temples, land and people to our Lord JESUS CHRIST and Holy Mary.

To further this deliverance, it was no wonder GOD chose faithful Juan Diego to miraculously receive a stunning message of hope in The Savior for his people from Holy Mary. For "His disposition to Charity was boundless as he cared for his dying uncle, Juan Bernardino, who was later healed by The Virgin herself."

Back in our own day, "Weeks after John Paul II's first visit to the Basilica in 1979, the [then] Pope reflected during his Angelus address on the importance of humility" GOD found in Saint Juan Diego. He observed, "Humility is not identified with humiliation or resignation. It is not accompanied by faint-heartedness. On the contrary, humility is creative submission to The Power of Truth and Love" of GOD for us found in our Lord JESUS CHRIST and our Lady Holy Mary.

Why did The Mother of GOD choose to reveal herself to this modest and lowly man of Faith, this servant of The Most High? Perhaps because, in his heart, The Almighty saw an imitation of the modest and lowly heart of Faith and purity in Mary herself, whom Heaven chose to receive, by The HOLY SPIRIT, The Incarnation of The Son of GOD, JESUS CHRIST.

At the center of a Catholic heart of faith, hope and love is the Christian virtue of humility, a "...rejection of appearances and superficiality; it is the expression of the depth of the human spirit; it is the condition of its greatness."

Monsignor Sánchez answers this question for us, "It is this humility that characterized Juan Diego's life. He had a good indigenous education and was a responsible steward of several possessions inherited from his ancestors. Nevertheless, he set everything aside after The Apparition to live in a small hut next to the Our Lady of Guadalupe hermitage. He gladly became the humble servant of our Lady, who desires to console us and make us conscious of GOD's immense Love for us, calling us to conversion."

When Juan Diego returned to Bishop Zumarraga with proof of Mary's Visitation to him, he opened his cloak. Roses falling to the floor, the Bishop beheld a perfect image of Our Lady of Guadalupe supernaturally imprinted onto Diego's cloak, preserved intact to this day. Bishop Zumarraga, dropping to the ground, declared, "It is The Immaculate One!"

<https://writecatholic.wordpress.com/2020/12/11/our-lady-of-guadalupe/>

Thereafter, as Our Lady of Gaudalupe requested, a Church was built on the very place where she had first revealed herself on GOD's command to Saint Juan, on Tepeyac Hill. Where once demons of Hell had enslaved men, demanding their earthly and eternal lives, now CHRIST reigns, bringing earthly healing and peace, and eternal salvation of souls to Heaven!

Once the miraculous image of Holy Mary, imprinted on Saint Juan Diego's tunic by the hand of GOD was revealed to the world by the then local Prelate, Bishop Zumarraga, thousands of Mexican Indians daily immediately found salvation in our Lord and converted to The Church. For centuries to this very day, Our Lady of Guadalupe has spread her mantle of intercession around the world, bringing untold numbers of souls to The saving Grace of our Deliverer JESUS CHRIST.

Monsignor Sanches continues his commentary for our hearts today, "To live in humility demands much fortitude, since it involves fleeing temptation and ridding one's life of sin. It is an arduous battle to uproot injustices and live honestly, to grow in virtue daily so as to live in true freedom" in His Divine Mercy!

"Humility is essential and glorifies GOD precisely because it is only The Divine Potter Who can mold us with sanctity; only GOD can truly form us to be His chosen people, to be His friends, to be His children," safe within The salvation found only in The faithful Church Militant, that we may on His command enter The Church Suffering and then The Church Triumphant! *

Our Lady of Guadalupe, and good Saint Juan Diego, pray for us, that we may be given The saving Grace, in humility, to cooperate with The Divine Mercy secured for us in our Lord JESUS CHRIST, that we may be faithful servants of GOD's Church on earth, and dwell with The LORD and His Hosts Above in Heaven forever! Amen.

"The Angelus"

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/angelus-383>

prayer spoken in English & Latin

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4KSlz1gPqY>

The Angel of The Lord declared to Mary [LUKE 1:28]:

And she conceived of The HOLY SPIRIT [LUKE 1:35].

Hail Mary, full of Grace, The Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, JESUS. [LUKE 1:28&42]

Holy Mary, Mother of GOD, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Behold the handmaid of The Lord: Be it done unto me according to Thy Word. [LUKE 1:38]

Hail Mary, full of Grace, The Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, JESUS. [LUKE 1:28&42]

Holy Mary, Mother of GOD, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

And The Word was made Flesh: And dwelt among us. [JOHN 1:14]

Hail Mary, full of Grace, The Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, JESUS. [LUKE 1:28&42]

Holy Mary, Mother of GOD, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of GOD, that we may be made worthy of The Promises of CHRIST.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy Grace into our hearts; that we, to whom The Incarnation of CHRIST, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to The Glory of His Resurrection, through The Same CHRIST Our Lord. [JOHN 3:14-18] Amen.

*[adapted from "Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin." The Magnificat, 12/09/2021. Meditation of the Day, "The Greatness of Being 'One of The Least.'" by Monsignor Eduardo Chávez Sánchez, p 132-133.]