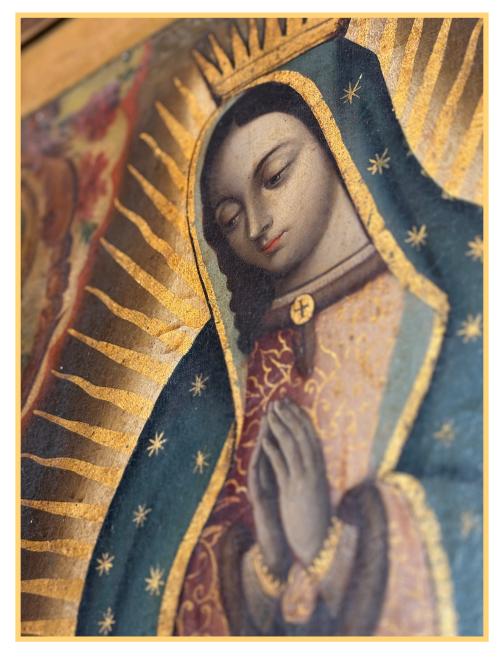
Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena



"I am honored to be your compassionate mother."

(Photo taken at Mission San Luis Rey - Oceanside, CA)

NOVENA IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

With selections each day from the Nican Mopohua.1

To be prayed from December 3rd - 11th

Totus tuus, Maria!

¹ The Nican Mopohua was written by Antonio Valeriano, an indigenous man educated by the Franciscans, between 1545-1547. It recounts the story of the apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe to Saint Juan Diego. Although Valeriano's work is the earliest document attesting to the historical veracity of the apparitions, according to priest, historian, and Guadalupe expert, Mons. Eduardo Chavez, it holds second place to three other historical sources: the oral tradition told by Saint Juan Diego, the signs of the times, and Juan Diego's *tilma*. Nevertheless, since Valeriano was a contemporary of Saint Juan Diego, and most probably heard the visionary's story firsthand, his work remains invaluable to the history of Mexico and Our Lady of Guadalupe. The work is also unique among Mexican literature since it is written in the native Nahuatl language using the Latin alphabet. Portions of this text will be used each day of this novena so as to enrich the faithful's understanding of the miraculous story, learn from St. Juan Diego's example, and listen to Our Lady's sweet words (indicated by the blue text). At the beginning the faithful will find the corresponding paragraph numbers used from the original text. This novena is using the 2008 English translation of the *Nican Mopohua* published by the "Instituto Superior de Estudios Guadalupanos" (ISEG) and made accessible by the Knights of Columbus: https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/our-lady-of-guadalupe/nican-mopohua.pdf

TO BE PRAYED EVERYDAY OF THE NOVENA

Make the Sign of the Cross and Say:

THE ACT OF CONTRITION

O My God,

I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee and I detest all of my sins because of Thy just punishment, but most of all because I have offended Thee, My God who are all good, and deserving of all my love.

I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace, to sin no more, And to avoid the near occasion of sin.

Amen.

THE FIRST DAY

December 3rd

Compassionate Mother

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Compassionate Mother, we ask that the peace of Christ may reign in every heart, in every home, and in every country, so as to reconcile all men to God and among themselves.

Nican Mopohua: Ten years after the conquest of the water, mountain and city of Mexico, when the arrows and shields were put aside, when there was peace in all the towns, their waters and their mountains. Just as it budded, faith now grows green, now opens its corolla, the knowledge of the Giver of life, the true God.²

Our Lady: "I am honored to be your compassionate mother, yours and that of all the people that live together in this land, and also of all the other various lineages of men; those who love me, those who cry to me, those who seek me, those who trust in me. Because there truly will I hear their cry, their sadness, to remedy, to cure all their various troubles, their miseries, their pains."

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Pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...

THE SECOND DAY

December 4th

Dawn of Salvation

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dawn of Salvation, we ask for the grace of conversion for all sinners and the grace of final perseverance for all baptized Christians.

Nican Mopohua: Then, in the year 1531, a few days into the month of December, it happened that there was an Indian, a *macehual*, a poor man of the people, his name was Juan Diego, he lived in Cuauhtitlán...It was Saturday, not yet dawn, he was coming in pursuit of God and His commandments. And as he drew near the little hill called Tepeyac, it was beginning to dawn.

...He was looking up toward the top of the hill, toward the direction the sun rises from...he heard someone calling him, from the top of the hill, someone was saying to him: *Dear Juan, dearest Juan Diego*...Then he dared to go to where the voice was coming from, his heart was not disturbed and he felt extremely happy...And when he reached the top of the hill, he beheld a Maiden standing there, She called to him to come close to her.

Our Lady: "Listen my son, my youngest son, Juanito, where are you going?"

Most Holy Trinity, God most high, who from the holy heights of heaven gifted us with Mary's first apparition at Tepeyac as a sign of your special love for the peoples of America, hear our plea for the salvation of all peoples. Many of our brothers and sisters are wandering far from you through their sins. At some point in our lives, we too were prodigal sons and daughters. And were it not for your abundant mercy, we might still be wandering in the distant country of sin ourselves, despising God and rejecting His Commandments. Hear our plea for a new outpouring of mercy and the grace conversion. May Our Blessed Mother, Holy Mary of Guadalupe once more come to the aid of all Your children born and reborn, showing herself as the Dawn of Salvation and beckoning them to ascend the heights towards holiness, which is none other than a perfect conformity to Your Son Our Lord Jesus Christ and a perfect docility to the Holy Spirit.

Pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...

THE THIRD DAY

December 5th

Ever Perfect Virgin

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Ever Perfect Virgin, we ask for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and for the sanctification of all priests.

Nican Mopohua: [Juan Diego] prostrated himself in [Mary's] presence, listened to her venerable breath, her venerable words, which were extremely affable, extremely noble, as if from someone who was drawing him toward her and loved him. She said to him:

Our Lady: "Listen my son, my youngest son, Juanito, where are you going?"

And he answered her: "My Lady, my Queen, my Little Girl, I am going as far as your little house in Mexico Tlatelolco, to follow the things of God that are to us given, that are taught to us by those who are the images of the Lord, Our Lord, our priests.' Then she talks with him, she reveals her precious will; she says to him:

Our Lady: "Know, know for sure my dearest and youngest son, that I am truly the ever perfect Holy Virgin Mary, who has the honor to be the Mother of the one true God for whom we all live, the Creator of people, the Lord of all around us and of what is close to us, the Lord of Heaven, the Lord of Earth."

If umbling ourselves before Your Majesty O God, Our Creator and Lord, we come to you seeking through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe the grace of perseverance in our respective vocations. We ask for it not only for ourselves, but also for all who have been baptized into Christ and are called to share in His Paschal Mystery through the special gift of their vocation. In particular we pray for those "who are the images of the Lord", Your priests. As St. Juan Diego experienced in Mary's presence her "extremely affable" and "extremely noble" words, may all priests and bishops trust that in being noble sons of so noble and affable a mother, her love will draw them towards the goal of their priestly consecration: perfect conformity to Christ the Priest on earth and a share in His Eternal Priesthood in Heaven. Knowing that perseverance in their vocations is impossible without "the gratuitous help of God sustaining him in good until the end of life"³, may every priest, by holy and humble constancy daily place themselves at Mary's feet entrusting to her precious will and compassionate heart the acquisition of such divine help. While at her feet, may they also learn from her, the "Teacher of hidden and silent sacrifices"⁴, that cooperation with God's grace of perseverance is forged in the hidden and silent sacrifices of each day.

Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...

³ St. Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologica, I-II, q. 109, a. 10

⁴ St. John Paul II, "Prayer before the Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe", January 25, 1979, <u>https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/es/speeches/1979/january/documents/hf_jp-ii_spe_19790125_preghiera-guadalupe.html</u>

THE FOURTH DAY

December 6th

Supplicant of a Sacred Little House

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of Our Savior Jesus Christ, we ask for the grace to be true slaves of Jesus in Mary.

Our Lady: I want very much that they build my sacred little house here, in which I will show Him, I will exalt Him on making Him manifest, I will give Him to all people, He who is my [Love-Person]⁵, my compassionate gaze, my help, my salvation...And to bring about what my compassionate and merciful gaze would achieve, go to the palace of the Bishop of Mexico, and tell him how I have sent you, so that you may reveal to him how I very much want him to build me a house here, to erect my temple on the plain; tell him everything, all you have seen and marveled at, and what you have heard. And know for sure that I will appreciate it very much and reward it, that because of it I will enrich you, I will glorify you; and because of it you will deserve very much how I reward your fatigue, your service in going to petition the matter for which I am sending you. Now, my dearest son, you have heard my breath, my word; go, do what you are responsible for doing."

Eternal and Incarnate Wisdom! O sweetest and most Adorable Jesus! True God and True Man, only Son of the Eternal Father, and of Mary always Virgin! Eternally conceived in the bosom of Your Father, in time You were conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. From the moment of Your conception, Mary became the New Ark of the Covenant, the New Tabernacle of Your Presence, the New Temple of Your Glory. Since that inaugural day of our salvation, she has never grown tired of fulfilling her role as the Mother of the Redeemer. She uniquely expressed her tireless zeal for Your cause and the cause of our salvation in becoming the supplicant woman at Tepevac. In asking St. Juan Diego to deliver her message and desire for a "sacred little house", Mary was doing more than just asking for a building, she was asking for the birth of a new civilization; a civilization consecrated in love to You through her. Thus, Tepeyac became a New Sinai and a New Hebron. Upon it she made new the prophetic message of the Gospel, that from the dawn of our salvation to the last day, the only hope of humanity lies in Jesus and Mary. "Neither Jesus without Mary; nor Mary without Jesus...Always Jesus and Mary; always Mary and Jesus." Placing our trust then, in the wonder of Your humble care for us and the tenderness of Mary's watchful gaze, we beg for the grace of true devotion to Mary in filial slavery of love, so as to be forgers of this "sacred little house", this new civilization of love that springs from fidelity to Christ and His Church in our own day.

Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...

⁵ Edited translation of "a Él que es mi Amor-Persona".

THE FIFTH DAY

December 7th

Queen of Heaven

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Queen of Heaven, we ask for the grace that all bishops may keep watch over God's flock wisely, govern it justly, and shepherd it in holiness.

Nican Mopohua: [Juan Diego] left [the bishop's residence] sad because the errand entrusted to him was not immediately accepted. Then he returned, at the end of the day, he went straight from there to the top of the little hill, and he arrived before Her, the Queen of Heaven: there exactly where she had appeared to him the fist time, she was waiting for him. As soon as he saw her, he prostrated himself before her, he threw himself to the ground, he said to her: "My Mistress, my Lady, my Queen, my littlest Daughter, my little Girl, I went to where you sent me to carry out your venerable breath, your venerable word. Although I entered with difficulty to where the place where the Governing Priest is, I saw him, before him I placed your venerable breath, your venerable word, as you ordered me to do. He received me kindly and listened with attention, but, from the way he answered me, it's as if his heart didn't recognize it, he doesn't think it's true."

Incarnate Lord, as You are the King of heaven and earth "by nature and by conquest", so Mary Your Mother is "the Queen of heaven and earth by grace". Increase Your grace within us, but especially increase it within the hearts and minds of our bishops. Throughout her apparitions at Tepeyac, Our Lady of Guadalupe placed great confidence in Your bishop, Fray Juan de Zumárraga to carry out God's will. And although there was a time when it seemed that he was deaf to her "venerable word", nevertheless his eyes were opened before the wonder of her venerable image. May Our Lady of Guadalupe, Your Mother and ours, come to the aid of God's flock once more. Through her powerful intercession as Queen of Heaven we ask you to direct anew the feet of all bishops towards the holiness of Your way; to open anew the eyes and ears of all bishops to the splendor of Your truth; and to embolden anew the hearts of all bishops to preach the Gospel of life.

Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...

THE SIXTH DAY

December 8th

Virgin Mother

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Maiden Mother, we pray for the needs of the Church.

Nican Mopohua: [Juan Diego said,] "So I beg you, my Lady, my Queen, my little Girl, to have one of the nobles who are held in esteem, one who is known, respected, honored, have him carry on, take your venerable breath, your venerable word, so that he will be believed . Because I am really just a man from the country, I'm the porter's rope, I'm a back frame, just a tail, a wing; I myself need to be led, carried on someone's back, it's not my place to go or to stay there where you sent me, my little Girl, my littlest Daughter, my Lady, my Girl. Please, excuse me, I will afflict your face, your heart; I will fall into your anger, your displeasure, my [Madam Lady]⁶." The Perfect Virgin, worthy of honor and veneration, answered him:

Our Lady: "Listen my youngest son, know for sure that I have no lack of servants, of messengers, to whom I can give the task of carrying my breath, my word, so that they carry out my will; but it is necessary that you, personally, go and plead, that by your intercession, my wish, my will, become a reality. And I beg you, my youngest son, and I strictly order you, to go again tomorrow to see the Bishop. And in my name, make him know, make him hear my wish, my will, so that he will bring into being, he will build my sacred house that I ask of him. And carefully tell him again how I, personally, the ever Virgin Holy Mary, I, who am the Mother of God, sent you as my messenger."

Mary Immaculate, "excellent masterpiece of God's hands". Nothing equals you in beauty and majesty, nothing but God Himself.⁷ In a stroke of God's divine artistry, He not only remarkably wed within you the plentitude of grace to the lowliness of a handmaid, but He also joined the continence of virginity to the fruitfulness of motherhood. The brilliance of such craftsmanship is depicted in your image of Guadalupe. Your mantle proclaims you the Queen of Heaven, while your dress reveals you to be a daughter of this earth. Your long flowing hair proclaims your virginity, while your black sash announces motherhood. Marveling at the wisdom of God's divine handiwork we wish to honor you today as our Virgin Mother. Although we too are unworthy servants—a porter's rope, a back frame, a tail, a wing—your virgin motherhood inspires us to have a loving confidence in your unfailing help. O Blessed Lady, O Blessed Mother, turn not your eyes away from the needs of the Church, who is also our mother. Help us to remain faithful to Christ Your Son, so that our belonging to His Mystical Body on earth, may come to that truly happy end of being forever united to Him in heaven. May what we possess now by faith and grace, become in heaven an eternal sharing in love and glory.

Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...

⁶ Edited translation of "Lady Mistress" from the Spanish "Señora Dueña mía"

⁷ Cf. St. Anselm's "Third Prayer to Mary", https://udayton.edu/imri/mary/a/anselm-of-canterbury.php

THE SEVENTH DAY

December 9th

Noble Lady of Tepeyac

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Noble Lady of Tepeyac, we pray for an increase in charity.

Nican Mopohua: On...Monday, when Juan Diego was to take some sign in order to be believed, he did not return. Because when he arrived at his house, the sickness had struck an uncle of his, named Juan Bernardino, and he was very ill. He went to get the doctor, who treated him, but it was too late; he was dying. And when night fell, his uncle begged him that while it was still the early hours of the morning...that he...call one of the priests to go and hear his confession, to get him ready, because it was in his heart, that it was truly now time, that now he would die....And [the next day], when it was still very dark, he came to leave from there...when he reached the side of the little hill, at the foot of Tepeyac, the end of the mountain range, where the road comes out, towards where the sun sets, where he had always gone before, he said: "If I follow the road straight ahead, I don't want this Noble Lady to see me because, for sure, just like before, She'll stop me so I can take the sign to the Governing Priest for Her, as She ordered me to do. First we must get rid of our first affliction; first I must quickly call the priest since my poor uncle anxiously awaits him." He immediately went around the hill, climbed up the middle, crossing over it, and emerged towards where the sun rises; so he could quickly arrive in Mexico City, so that the Queen of Heaven would not stop him. He thinks that where he made the turn the one who sees everywhere perfectly won't see him.

Mary Immaculate, in the image you left us at Tepeyac, you are cloaked with the blue-green mantle of imperial royalty, you are adorned with the stars of heaven, you are enthroned upon the moon, and the sun is your shining raiment; thus truly you are the Noble Lady of Tepeyac! And, yet, the truest mark of your nobility is your charity. For "charity is a noble virtue, superior to all other virtues, knowledge, and gifts." As on the day of your Visitation to your cousin Elizabeth, impelled by the Love present within you, you came in charity to the aid of the dying old man Juan Bernardino. Come to our aid as well! Come in haste! Bring us your love! Bring us Christ! Without Him we are nothing; and without Him we can do nothing. For it was by charity that Christ was conceived in your womb by the Holy Spirit. It was by charity that He offered His life for us on the Cross. "It is charity that cleanses [our] soul from sin and draws [us] to love God with [our] whole heart, mind, and soul...It is charity that justifies sinners, makes slaves into free men, enemies into friends, foreigners into fellow citizens, strangers into acquaintances, and wanderers into settlers; [by it] the proud become humble, the stubborn meek, the lukewarm fervent, the sad happy, the stingy generous, the worldly heavenly, and the unlearned wise."8 Look then with compassion upon us Noble Lady, and as you revealed to the venerable old man your name of "Guadalupe", so we pray that you may hasten to our aid as the "channel" of charity, so that through you and in union with Christ your Son, the Holy Spirit may be poured anew into our hearts.

Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...

⁸ Kempis, Bountiful Goodness: Spiritual Meditations for a Deeper Union with Christ

THE EIGHTH DAY

December 10th

Sentinel of Hope

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Sentinel of Hope, we pray for all families.

Nican Mopohua: [Juan Diego] saw how She was coming down from up on the hill, and that from there she had been looking at him, from where she saw him before. She came to meet him beside the hill, she came to block his way; she said to him:

Our Lady: "My youngest son, what's going on? Where are you going? Where are you headed?"

Nican Mopohua: And [Juan Diego], perhaps he grieved a little, or perhaps he became ashamed? Or perhaps he became afraid of the situation, became fearful? He prostrated himself before Her, he greeted Her, he said to Her:

"Though it grieves me, I will cause your face and your heart anguish: I must tell you, my little Girl, that one of your servants, my uncle, is very ill. A terrible sickness has taken hold of him; he will surely die from it soon. And now I shall go quickly to your little house in Mexico, to call one of the ones beloved of Our Lord, one of our priests, so that he will go to hear his confession and prepare him. Because in reality for this we were born, we who came to await the task of our death. But, while I am going to do this, afterwards I will return here again to go carry your venerable breath, your venerable word, Lady, my Little Girl. Forgive me, be patient with me a little longer, because I am not deceiving you with this, my youngest Daughter, my Little Girl, tomorrow without fail I will come in all haste."

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Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...

THE NINTH DAY

December 11th

Comforter of Troubled Hearts

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Comforter of Troubled Hearts, we pray for grace of courage in the face of all life's difficulties.

Nican Mopohua: As soon as [Our Lady] heard Juan Diego's words, the Merciful Perfect Virgin answered him:

Our Lady: Listen, put it into your heart, my youngest son, that what frightened you, what afflicted you is nothing; do not let it disturb your face, your heart; do not fear this sickness or any other sickness, nor any sharp or hurtful thing. Am I not here, I who have the honor to be your mother? Are you not in my shadow and under my protection? Am I not the source of your joy? Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms? Do you need anything more? Let nothing else worry you, disturb you; don't grieve your uncle's illness, because he will not die of it for now, you may be certain that he is already healed."

Nican Mopohua: (And at that very moment his uncle was healed, as they later found out). And Juan Diego, when he heard the venerable breath, the venerable word, of the Queen of Heaven, he was greatly comforted by it, his heart became peaceful; and he begged her to send him immediately as messenger to see the Governing Bishop, to take him her sign, for proof, so that he would believe.

od our Father, never was it known that anyone who trusted in You was left unaided. And as - a special sign of Your active love and providence in our lives, you sent us Your Daughter under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Prior to consoling us by leaving her blessed image, she spoke perhaps the most comforting of words atop Tepeyac hill. They were words that were not only intended to pierce the heart of St. Juan Diego, but to penetrate ours as well. "Am I not here, I who have the honor of being your mother?" What tenderness! What consolation! What humility! To have a mother so perfect, so venerable, and so filled with grace, it is we your children who are the ones who should be honored by such love; and yet it is she, Mary of Guadalupe who is honored to be our mother. Grant us, Lord, the grace to always trust in her unfailing protection; to always find our strength in her unwavering care; to always draw our courage from her unyielding love. And so, we also turn in trusting love to you O Mary, Comforter of Troubled Hearts! We need nothing more than you! Keep us in the hollow of your mantle and in the crossing of your arms; for only by remaining with you, can we be certain that we remain close to Christ and filled with His Holy Spirit, the True Comforters of Troubled Hearts. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, O Spouse of the Spirit of Love, despise not the petitions we have brought to you throughout this novena, but in your mercy and consolation hear and answer them. Amen.

Here pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be...

LITANY IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Based on the text of the Nican Mopohua

Lord have mercy	Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy	Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy	Lord have mercy
Christ hear us	Christ hear us
Christ graciously heart us	Christ graciously hear us
God the Father of Heaven	Have mercy on us
God the Son, Redeemer of the World	Have mercy on us
God the Holy Spirit	Have mercy on us
Holy Trinity, One God	Have mercy on us
Holy Mary of Guadalupe Holy Mother of God Mother of Our Savior Jesus Christ Most Beloved Daughter Precious Young Lady of Heaven Queen of Heaven Supplicant of a Sacred Little House Ever Perfect Virgin Merciful Perfect Virgin Noble Lady Majestic Lady Kind Lady Marvelous Lady Fair Lady Virgin Mother Venerable Mother Glorious Mother Precious Mother Precious Mother Ever-present Mother Unfailing Mother Merciful Mother of us all Mother who takes care of all our needs Mother who holds us in the hollow of her mantle Mother who carries us safely in the crossing of her arms Sentinel of Hope Comforter of Troubled Hearts Sower of Stouthearted Confidence Fountain of our Joy	Pray for us Pray for us
V. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the worldV. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the worldV. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world	R. Spare us O Lord. R. Hear us O Lord. R. Have Mercy on us.

Concluding Prayer

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe, that in your apparitions on Mount Tepeyac you promised to show pity and compassion to all who, loving and trusting you, seek your help and protection. Accordingly, O Ever-present and Unfailing Mother, listen now to our supplications and grant us relief. We are full of hope that, relying on your help, nothing can trouble or affect us. As you have remained with us through your admirable image, so now obtain for us the graces we need. Amen.