

NOVENA IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

With selections each day from the *Nican Mopobua*.¹

To be prayed from
December 3rd - 11th

Totus tuus, Maria!

¹ The *Nican Mopobua* was written between 1545-1547 by Antonio Valeriano, an indigenous man educated by the Franciscans. 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 Mopobua* 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 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 Mopobua: Then, in the year 1531, a few days into the month of December, it happened that there was an Indian, a *macebual*, a poor man of the people, his name was Juan Diego, he lived in Cuauhtitlán⁵...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.⁶

...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.⁷

Our Lady: “Listen my son, my youngest son, Juanito, where are you going?”⁸

O 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...

At the end of this prayer, the litany of Our Lady of Guadalupe is prayed (pg. 12) with the final prayer.

⁵ NM, 3-4

⁶ NM, 6-7

⁷ NM, 11-15

⁸ NM, 23

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.