

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 EIGHTH DAY

December 10th

Sentinel of Hope

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

Nican Mopobua: [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 Mopobua: 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.”²⁰

Holy Mary of Guadalupe, atop Tepeyac Hill you stood as the heaven-sent Sentinel of Hope. Like St. Juan Diego, we too often struggle to place all our trust in you. To trust you with the complete abandonment of a child not only takes great confidence but also great humility; but because of our pride we refuse to relinquish control; we painfully and stubbornly cling to it, trusting in our own strength and foolish wisdom. But you Kind Mother, do not look upon us with disdain, rather your gaze of mercy is always watching over us and your hands of love are always folded in prayer making intercession for us. Despite our desperation and despair, despite our obstinacy and pride, despite our superficiality and vain-glory, you remain our Unfailing Mother, our Ever-Present Mother, the Merciful Mother of us all. Look today with your eyes of mercy upon all families. Build them up in Hope. Rekindle in them the Light of Life. Reunite them in Love. In a word, do what you do best, placing in the heart of every father, mother, and child Christ Your Son.

Here 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.

²⁰ NM, 105-116

LITANY IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Based on the text of the *Nican Mopobua*

Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy

*Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy*

Christ hear us
Christ graciously hear us

*Christ bear us
Christ graciously bear us*

God the Father of Heaven
God the Son, Redeemer of the World
God the Holy Spirit
Holy Trinity, One God

*Have mercy on us
Have mercy on us
Have mercy on us
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
Suppliant 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
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
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Pray for us
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Pray for us
Pray for us*

V. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world
V. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world
V. 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.