

# Apparitions of Our Lady of GUADALUPE



500  
YEARS  
1531-2031

# Apparitions of OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

## **Main Characters:**

Narrator  
Virgin  
Juan Diego  
Juan Bernardino  
Bishop Zumarraga  
Friar 1  
Friar 2

## FIRST APPARITION

**Narrator:** Ten years after the taking of Mexico city the war was suspended and there was peace between the people. This is how the faith began to grow and the knowledge of the true God for which we live. In the year 1531, early in December, there was a poor indigenous man named Juan Diego. It was an early Saturday morning and Juan Diego was on his way to Holy Mass and catechism class. As he approached the hill known as Tepeyac, the sun was rising and he heard birds singing at the top of the hill.

**Juan Diego:** Am I in heaven or am I dreaming?

**(The Virgin Mary appears to Juan Diego)**

**Virgin:** Juan Diego, the littlest of my sons, where are you going?

**Juan Diego:** My Lady, I am on my way to your church in Tlatelolco to learn divine things from our priests.

**Virgin:** My most humble son, know and understand well that I am the perfect and ever virgin Holy Mary, Mother of the God of truth through whom everything lives, the Lord of all things near us, the Lord of heaven and earth. I truly wish to have a chapel be built here in my honor, where I can glorify, exalt him [God], and make his presence known. Here, I will share him with all people through my love, compassion, help, and protection. I am truly your merciful Mother and of everyone who lives in this land, and of all people who love me, call upon me, seek me, and trust in me. Here I will listen to their weeping and their sorrows; I will comfort them and heal their sufferings and afflictions. Therefore, go to the house of the bishop and tell him that the Virgin Mary has sent you to share her deep desire.

**Juan Diego:** As you wish, my Lady. I will return with his response.

**Narrator:** Juan Diego descends from Tepeyac hill and heads toward Tlatelolco to deliver the message that the Virgin has given him for the bishop.

**(Juan Diego arrives to see Bishop Zumarraga)**

**Juan Diego:** Bishop! I need to share with you what I saw this morning on Tepeyac hill. I saw the Mother of God! She was clothed in the sun with the moon under her feet. She was dressed in pink and green, and she was carried by an angel. Her mantle was covered with stars like the sky and her dress was like a hill enveloped in flowers. Her hair was black and her face was dark skinned and bronze. She asked for a chapel to be built in that place.

**Bishop:** My son, please come again another time, and I will listen to you more slowly. I will examine this again from the beginning and I will think about your request.

## SECOND APPARITION

**Narrator:** Juan Diego leaves, somewhat disappointed, and heads towards Tepeyac hill to take Bishop Juan de Zumarraga's response to the heavenly Lady. However, he returns to the top of the hill and finds the lady waiting for him in the same place where he saw her the first time. Upon seeing her, he prostrates himself before her and says:

**Juan Diego:** My Lady, though it was difficult to see the bishop, I went as you asked and delivered your message. He received me kindly and listened attentively, but I could tell he did not believe me. He said, "Come again, and I will listen more carefully and see your purpose." From his response, I realized he may think the request to build the chapel is my own idea, not yours. I beg you, my Lady, to send someone respected and well-known to deliver your message, for I am a lamb, a tiny ladder, the tail-end, a leaf, I am a lowly person.

**Virgin:** My son, though I have many messengers, it is necessary that you personally go and plead for my will to be fulfilled. I order you to return to the bishop tomorrow and tell him again that I, the ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of God, have sent you to request my sacred house.

**Juan Diego:** My Lady and my Child, I do not want to cause you grief. I will gladly go and fulfill your command. Tomorrow afternoon, when the sun sets, I will come to give you the bishop's response.

**(They exit. Juan Diego arrives to see Bishop Zumarraga. Two Franciscan friars are present.)**

**Juan Diego:** Bishop, I hope you believe my message and do the will of the Immaculate Virgin. She wants and asks for a little house on Tepeyac hill.

**Bishop:** Where did you see her? What was she like? Juan Diego, you need to understand that I can't just believe you because of your story. I need a sign for me to believe that the Blessed Mother sent you.

**Juan Diego:** I will go tell her your request. **(Juan Diego exits)**

**Bishop: (Speaking to the friars)** Come here, you two. Follow him and keep a close eye on where he goes and who he talks to.

**Friars:** Yes sir. **(Friars exit)**

**(Friars return)**

**Friar 1:** Bishop, we followed Juan Diego, and as soon as we left the city, he disappeared. It's as though he vanished into thin air.

**Bishop:** The only thing we can do now is wait to see if that beautiful Lady he claims to see gives us a sign that she is the true Mother of God.

### THIRD APPARITION

**Juan Diego:** My Lady and my Daughter, the bishop doesn't believe me. He's asking for a sign. I feel awful having to ask you for it. It's not for me though. I believe you!

**Virgin:** Return here tomorrow so that I can give you the sign for the bishop. With the sign, he will believe you. You will be blessed for your care, your work, and the fatigue you have endured for me. Now go. I will be waiting here for you tomorrow.

(The apparition scene ends. Juan Diego's uncle, Juan Bernardino appears prostrated on the floor with Juan Diego by his side.)

**Juan Bernardino:** Juan Diego, you need to stop worrying. It's not worth it. When a person becomes old, death is expected. Thankfully, there is consolation for my fear. I am blessed to have known the light of the true sun. There's no need to call a doctor. My life is in the hands of our Lord. The only thing I ask of you is to bring a priest.

**Juan Diego:** Uncle Bernardino, you're the only person I have left in this world. I'm going to be left alone! Not only that, but I haven't been able to fulfill my Lady's wish. She's going to be so disappointed. My Lady, as soon as I fulfill my uncle's wishes I will be all yours. My entire life will be for you.

**Juan Bernardino:** I beg you Juan Diego to go to Tlaltelólcō to find a priest to come and confess me. I don't think there's any way I will get better. My time has come.

**Juan Diego:** Yes, Uncle Bernardino. I will go as quickly as I can.

## FOURTH APPARITION

**Juan Diego:** If I go straight, I might run into the Lady of Tepeyac hill. If she tells me to take the sign to the bishop, she might delay me in finding a priest. My poor uncle. I'm going to go around the hill so she doesn't stop me.

**Virgin:** What's going on my son? Where are you going?

**Juan Diego:** My dear Daughter, I hope you are well. You're going to be very disappointed. I have not been able to fulfill your request because my uncle is very sick. He has contracted the plague and is near death. I am rushing to your house in Mexico to call a priest to go and confess him. I will return here as soon as I can to deliver your message.

**Virgin:** Listen, my son. Do not be afflicted or afraid and do not let your heart be troubled. Am I not here I who am your Mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms? Do you need something more? Do not fear; your uncle is not going to die. Be assured he is already well.

**Juan Diego:** Send me to see the bishop. I will take your sign so that he will believe me.

**Virgin:** My son, climb to the top of the hill, where I appeared to you the first time. You will find various flowers there. Cut them, gather them, then come down and bring them to me.

**(Goes to cut flowers)**

**Virgin:** My son, these roses are the sign that you will take to the bishop. Please tell him that through this sign, I am manifesting my will and that he must fulfill it. It's very important Juan Diego that you only open your tilma in front of the bishop. Then you will tell him everything that has happened.

**(THE APPARITION TO JUAN DIEGO ENDS AND UNCLE JUAN BERNARDINO APPEARS)**

**Virgin:** Juan Bernardino, go see the bishop of Mexico and reveal to him what you see and how you have been miraculously healed. Tell him that my name is the ever-**Virgin Holy Mary of Guadalupe**, and that from now on that is how my blessed image shall be known.

## JUAN DIEGO REVEALS THE SIGN TO THE BISHOP

### (DIALOGUE WITH THE BISHOP)

**Juan Diego:** Sir, I did what you asked. I went to the Lady from heaven, Holy Mary, the precious Mother of God to ask that she send a sign so that you can believe and build the temple in the place where she has requested. She sent me to the top of the hill where she first appeared to me and asked me to cut several Castilian roses. Even though I knew that there were no flowers on that hill, I didn't question her. When I reached the top of the hill, I saw beautiful and exquisite Castilian roses. I cut them, brought them down to her, and she arranged them in my tilma so that I could bring them to you. And now I am fulfilling her command, so that you may see in them the sign you ask for and fulfill her will.

Here they are, receive them.

(Juan Diego opens his tilma and reveals the roses. To the surprise of everyone, including Juan Diego, the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is imprinted on his tilma. Everyone falls to their knees and Juan Diego walks from one side of the stage to the other showing the tilma to the audience while a Marian song is played in the background.)



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