

SPECIAL  
POINTS OF IN-  
TEREST:

- **LA's Procession** in honor of Our Lady
- **US National Shrine Allentown PA**
- **Bishop Zumaraga's story** continued from the last newsletter
- **Pope Benedict's prayer**
- **A Secret Room**



# Our Lady of Guadalupe

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

JUNE—JULY 2019

## THE SYMBOLISM OF THE IMAGE

To the Natives it was a story in pictures

**Her Eyes** – Our Lady is looking down, showing that she is not a god, the Aztec gods always looked straight ahead. She is revealing in her humility that, as great as she is, she is not God.

**Her Face** – The image is of a dark skinned woman with dark hair, like the natives. The natives believed that a face is a window of the inner person. Her face shows love and compassion. According to the Aztec, a good woman is one that shows her femininity in her face.

**Her Hands** – They are in the native fashion of of-

fering, she is indicating that she has something to offer or to give them.

**Her Maternity Band** – The black tie around her waist indicates in the Aztec fashion that she is expecting a baby.

**The Stars on Her Garment** – Native tradition used stars to indicate a new era, and the end of an old era.

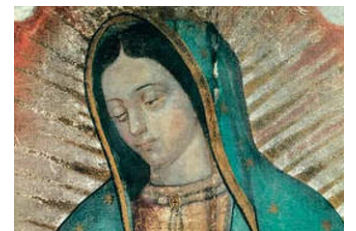
**The Rays of the Sun Encircling Her** – The natives worshiped the sun, She stands in front of it, blocking it, indicating that she is greater than the sun.

**Her Mantle** – its main color is a blue-green, the color of the Aztec god

Omecihuatl, the greatest of all Aztec gods, representing unity among the natives.

She is standing on the **moon** – indicating that she is greater than their moon god.

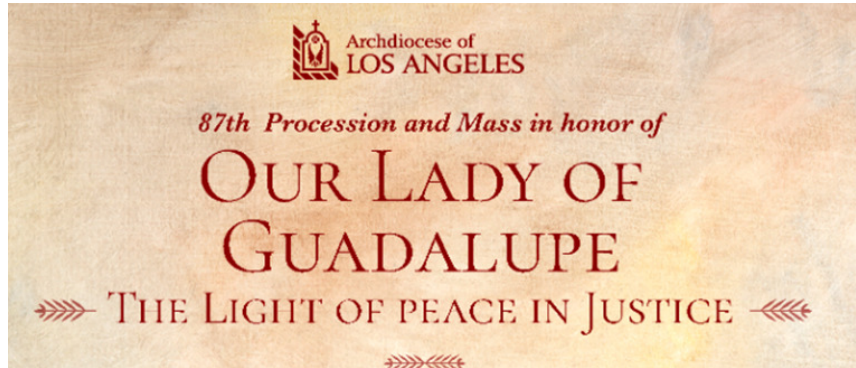
The **Angel** carrying Our Lady – indicates he is carrying in a new era, the old one is dead, and a new one is born.



## HEALING MIRACLE

Jennifer Yeo the wife of a diplomat attributes her cancer cure to our Virgin Mother under the title of **Our Lady of Guadalupe**. Mrs. Yeo, whose husband made headlines as the first lay Catholic to be on the Vatican Council for the Economy in 2014, was suffering from a rare and aggressive nasal cancer called Sinonasal Undifferentiated Carcinoma. On September 6 of 2017, she and her husband visited the Shrine in Guadalupe. January 29, 2018 she went to the hospital for a complete checkup and was diagnosed cancer free. She is a lifelong Catholic and attributes this miraculous cure her visit to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the intervention of Our Blessed Mother.

## THE CITY OF THE ANGLES HONORS OUR LADY



The Archdiocese of Los Angeles annually honors Our Lady of Guadalupe with a major Procession and Mass. The solemn Feast begins nearly 3 months prior to the actual feast day. **La Peregrina**, (as the image is called) and an image of St. Juan Diego begin touring parishes in the five regions of

the Archdiocese. The pilgrimage continues from parish to parish visiting as many as possible throughout October, November and December culminating in the Solemn Procession of December 9 in East Los Angeles. (East LA College Stadium) This final procession leading up to Mass in the stadium is a gala event with

Marching bands, musicians, Aztec dancers, and floats. This year, 2019 will be the **88th anniversary** of the first Procession.

**(La Peregrina– The Pilgrim)**



## ALLENTOWN PA, US NATIONAL SHRINE

As well as the replica of Our Lady of Guadalupe image on the side altar, there is a statue of Her and of St. Juan Diego. For more information: (610) 433-4404

Allentown Pennsylvania is home to the **US National Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe**. St. John Neumann founded the first parish in Allentown PA. He named his parish The Church of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The National Conference of Catholic Bishops named this church, Immaculate Conception as the US National Shrine

in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1974. It was chosen over 41 other churches in consideration for this honor.

The Church was picked for several reasons. First, its distance from Mexico, it offered an alternative to people that could not travel that far. In addition, the parish and church are noted for their great devotion to Our Lady. The stained glass windows depict

the life of The Virgin Mary.

In the church today is an exact replica – a photograph – of the original **tilma**.

When the Shrine opened, October 5, 1974, 1,500 people attended the ceremony and Mass. There has been a steady stream of visitors ever since.

## BISHOP JUAN DE ZUMARRAGA'S STORY CONTINUED

Bishop Zumarraga ran into problems with other Bishops that challenged his authority. He received the title **Apostolic Inquisitor** of the city of Mexico and of the entire diocese and the outlying areas. He received many duties with the title including delivering criminals to secular courts. He never established a tribunal, nor availed himself of this title with one exception. He did deliver to a secular court a revert to idolatry that was offering human sacrifices. The elderly **Fr. Bartholome de Las Casas** left Mexico to travel to Spain to beseech the intervention of Charles V to help natives. He returned with New Laws, that conclusively and decisively prohibited the enslavement of the Indians. All land grants

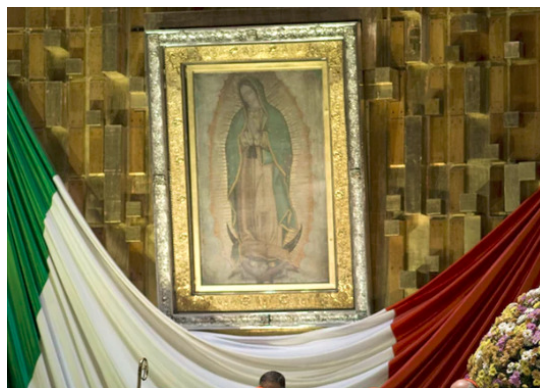
were cancelled, corporations, secular and cleric officials, governors, viceroys etc . . . that received land must return it, and no future land grants would be made. This set of rules called New Laws would have caused a crisis for the elderly Spanish that had grown old in their adopted home. Bishop Zumarrago intervned at the behest of the Spanish in the colony. Once again Charles V settled the dispute. He modified the law, while still correcting the major abuses without undue hardship for the Spanish. The intervention of Bishop Zumarraga and the decision by Charles V averted what would have been a bloody struggle for land and processions. Peru suffered this fate with the final outcome having the natives emerge much worse off than before the land grants were cancelled.

The final years of Bishop Zumarraga life were devoted to programs to improve life in Mexico - a school for Indian Girls, a College, bringing the first printing press to the New World, establishment of several hospitals, set up of small industries, creation of farms. **Pope Paul III** established Mexico as an Archdiocese, appointing Bishop Zumarraga as its first Archbishop. The diocese would consist of all of Mexico and Guatemala. The appointment was made July 8, 1548, one month after Bishop Zumarraga died. Communication at that time was very slow.

## THE SECRET ROOM FOR PAPAL VISITS



The Image of Guadalupe is mounted high on a wall in the **Great Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe** in Mexico City. For private inspection and veneration it can be spun around and be viewed and touched by visitors in a small private room behind the display. On Feb. 13, 2016 that was done to fulfill **Pope Francis** desire to pray in silence before the miraculous image of Our Lady. In a homily later in the day he said "Just as she made herself present to little Juan, so too she continues to reveal herself to all of us, especially to those who feel -- like him -- 'worthless,'" the pope said."





## The Wise and Learned Adore Her

Our Holy Fathers throughout history have had great love and devotion to Mary. She is especially dear to them under her title of Our Lady of Guadalupe. **St. Pius X** named her **Patroness of Latin America** in 1910. Thirty-five years later **Venerable Pius XII** name her **Empress of the Americas**. Our own dear **St. John Paul II** gave her the titles **Patroness of the Americas and Star of the New Evangelization**. St. John Paul II declared her feast day – December 12, and proclaimed it to be celebrated throughout the Americas. He canonized St. Juan Diego in 2002. Devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe is strong throughout the Americas but it is strongest in Mexico and in the US. Devotion to Our Lady under this title has grown rapidly with schools, Churches, Parish Centers, Chapels, etc. . . named in her honor. European, African and Asian decent American Catholic have embraced Our Lady of Guadalupe. In 2001, **The Knights of Columbus** executive officers and Board of Directors flew to the Basilica in Mexico City to place the Knights under her protection and to beseech her intercession. Human Life International President Fr. Shenan J. Boquet stated “Fr. Paul Marx, O.S.B., who chose Our Lady of Guadalupe as patroness of Human Life International, did so because he saw devotion to Mary as “the solution” to moral decay.”



## Prayer of Pope Benedict XVI - May 13th 2005, Vatican Gardens

Holy Mary, who under the advocacy of Our Lady of Guadalupe, are invoked as mother of the men and women of the Mexican nation and of Latin America, encouraged by the love you inspire in us, we again place our lives in your maternal hands. You, who are present in the Vatican Gardens, reign in the hearts of all mothers of the world and in our hearts. With great hope, we come to you and trust in you.

## News Flash:

Viva Guadalupe Apostolate “seeks to promote devotion and knowledge of Our Lady of Guadalupe emphasizing the unprecedented explosion of evangelization that was brought about by her appearances in 1531 and her important role in the mission of the “New Evangelization” and the Pro-Life battle taking place today. It will encourage all to invoke her help on both a personal and societal level.” From their website [vivaguadalupe.org](http://vivaguadalupe.org). This organization has purchased land very close to the Shrine of Guadalupe in Mexico City where they are constructing a welcome center for English speaking pilgrims. This center will offer Mass in English, be a liaison between the Shrine and the US to help promote evangelization and pro-life activities. The Father Andrew Apostoli Pro-Life Welcome Center is under construction. For more information visit their website.

## Pilgrimage to The Shrine in Des Plaines

What started as a pilgrimage of one, a 15-mile walk to [Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine in Des Plaines](#), in 2011 has snowballed into a pilgrimage of thousands. In 2017 those making a pilgrimage to the Shrine numbered 200,000. 2018 saw the number of visitors exceed 300,000. The pilgrimage covers several days which prevents congestion and allows for more people to visit. There are processions, torch light ceremonies, singing, dancing, prayers and, of course, Mass and confession. Pilgrims come by bus, car or walk. Last year over 30 organizations in Illinois officially signed up to make the pilgrimage. Dozens of others came without signing up and others came from out of state. Most of the Shrine festivities are outside and it is noteworthy to mention that the average daily temperature in Des Plaines at that time of year is in the 20’s, if the weather is good. At night, it gets much colder.