

# Our Lady of Guadalupe Vignette: Supplies Needed

*(Source unknown, but adapted by Coleen D'Amato for ICC Annandale, for Religious Education use)*

**Characters:** Narrator, Mary, Juan Diego, Bishop

**Staging:** Chair or stepstool for Mary to stand on, and optional chair for bishop

**Costumes:** Two options:

1) Bare minimum basic costumes:

- a. Bishop: Mitre made from poster board
- b. Mary: Blue scarf for veil
- c. Juan Diego: Simple Fabric Tilda with OLG image stapled to reverse side (see below for more instructions)
- d. Slik flowers of any kind in multiple colors

2) Simple cut and glue costumes may be made from inexpensive fabric and crafts supplies at Walmart. (see below)

**Needed:**

- Fabric: 1 each of 24"-36" wide by 60" long in the following colors:
  - Rose
  - dark brown
  - off white/light tan (**2 each**)
  - navy blue (24" x 36" long)
- Fabric Glue; small bottle (or Glue Gun with glue refills)
- 2-3 dozen stars; ½" to 2" gold, self-stick, Fun-Foam & sparkly (may come sold in package with other colors)
- Seam Cover Binding; sparkly gold (looks like ribbon, but wrapped around a rectangular cardboard). This will be unfolded and wrapped and glued over the edge of Mary's veil; you will see the bottom and top of it around her face.
- ½" thick roughly textured rope, approximately 2 yards/96", cut this length in half to make 2 belts that are each 36" long
- 2" wide black ribbon, 1 yard/36" long for Mary's belt
- 1 piece of white Poster Board
- Brown Marker (optional brown or gold paint)
- Stapler
- Large image of Our Lady of Guadalupe to refer to in the end of the skit

**How make simple Tunics for averaged sized children:**

- Tunics for averaged sized children: You will need fabric approximately the width of a regular pillow case by two pillow cases long (approximately 24-26" wide by 60" long). Fold the fabric in half so it looks about the size of a pillow case; use a dinner plate to trace a half circle on the fold, and cut on the traced line through both halves of the fabric, so as to make a circle shaped hole to go over the child's head. Fold and cut again a little wider if necessary. If it fits over your head, it will fit over their head.

### Costumes per character:

- Mary: Rose colored tunic, Navy blue veil decorated with stars and seam cover binding, black ribbon belt tied high above waist
- Juan Diego: 2 off white/light tan tunics; 1) worn as usual 2) with a print out of image of Our Lady of Guadalupe stapled to the lower of one half. Juan should wear this 2<sup>nd</sup> tunic folded up to hide OLG's image until the right time; it can be tucked up into his belt and with his back facing the audience, just before he places the roses in his tilma, he can untuck it and cover the image with the roses...and then after he has the roses in it, he can hold it up "in half" so no one can see the image
- Bishop: Franciscan brown robe and a Bishop's Mitre made of white poster board, (draw or paint a thick brown or gold cross on front of Mitre

# **Our Lady of Guadalupe Vignette: Director's Notes**

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## **Director's Notes:**

### **The Narrator:**

*The Narrator should be an adult or older child who can speak slowly and clearly, emphasizing and exaggerating the directive portion of the script, thus prompting the actors to follow those directives (eg. "Juan was walking slow...ly") and allowing them the time to do so.*

*This script is designed to be simple and able to be primarily acted out via the Narrator and Narrator's directives included within the Narrator's lines from the script. The Narrator should always read from their script; allow the Narrator at least a day to rehearse on their own.*

### **Microphone usage:**

*Allow the narrator to use the microphone at the Ambo or Cantor Stand and read from the script. Use the parish's hand held or clip on microphones, one for each actor. If your parish only has one mobile microphone, have Juan Diego hold it, and pass it back and forth to Mary and the Bishop, when it's their turn.*

### **Moving actors (Juan Diego, Mary & the Bishop):**

*One script is highlighted and included in this document for each actor. While cast members are welcome to memorize their lines, you may also simply enact this script without rehearsal, and-on-the-spot, while allowing your cast to use and read from their scripts, or simply enlarge the font and print out only the lines they need. Cut out the individual line, or grouping of lines, and glue them onto black construction paper/card stock. Place these line cards at the actor's feet (number them so you can easily keep them in order), or allow the cast to hold them in their hands.*

### **Simple Staging:**

*If permitted, this simple vignette can be acted out in the sanctuary, in front of the altar. Mary should stand on a chair on one side, and the Bishop should sit on a chair (or stand) on the opposite side. Juan Diego should approach Mary from the side of the sanctuary closest to Mary, or for a more dramatic entrance, he can walk down the center aisle.*

# Our Lady of Guadalupe Vignette: Script

## Director's Script

*(Source unknown, but adapted by Coleen D'Amato, PCL for ICC, Annandale, for Religious Education use)*

**Narrator:** Juan Diego was a humble, poor Aztec Indian man, living in Guadalupe (pronounced Gwah-da-loop-ey), and in what we now call Mexico City, Mexico. Most Aztec Indians worshipped false Gods. There were Catholic Missionaries from Spain living in Mexico City trying to teach the native people about the One True God, but it was a difficult task. Many Aztec people did not want to listen to the Missionaries and there was a lot of fighting. But Juan listened. And he believed. Juan learned about The Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and he asked to be baptized and become Catholic. He learned all the amazing stories of Jesus' love and miracles. Juan learned how Mary said "Yes!" and agreed to be Jesus' mother and how Jesus loved us so much, that he came to earth and suffered and died, so that the gates of heaven would open....and that we could live with God...forever!

Juan loved Jesus very deeply and he had a very strong faith. One chilly, winter morning, on December 9, 1531, Juan was walking slowly over the hill of Mount Tepeyac (pronounced Tep-ee-ack), on his way to morning Mass. Suddenly, a woman's voice called to him.

*(Juan walks slowly)*

**Mary:** *(Standing on a stool or chair)* Juan! Juan Diego!

**Narrator:** Juan looked around

*(Juan looks around)*

**Mary:** Juan! Juan Diego come over here!

**Narrator:** Juan saw the woman and he moved closer to her

*(Juan moves closer)*

**Mary:** Juan, my son. I am the Virgin Mary. I have chosen you to give a message to the bishop. Go to him and tell him that I desire a church to be built in my honor at the bottom of this hill.

**Juan:** My little blessed Mother! *(Juan kneels down and bows his head and counts silently to 3)*

**Mary:** Juan, my son, I have chosen you to give a message to the bishop. Go to him and tell him that I desire a church to be built in my honor at the bottom of this hill.

**Juan:** I will do as you wish.

**Narrator:** Juan Diego goes to see the bishop. He is a little nervous because he is not sure if the bishop will believe his surprising and unusual story.

*(Juan walks over to the bishop)*

**Juan:** Sir, my name is Juan Diego. The Virgin Mary has just appeared to me and requested that I give you a message.

**Narrator:** *The bishop looks quite surprised by this announcement*

**Bishop:** How can this be? What do you mean Juan Diego?

**Juan:** As I was walking to Mass this morning, the Blessed Mother came to me and spoke. She said she wants a church built at the bottom of the hill where she appeared to me.

**Bishop:** Juan, I am sure you are a good, holy man, but it is hard to believe that the Mother of Our Lord Jesus appeared to you. Go back to your home and pray for God's blessing.

**Narrator:** Juan feels and looks discouraged. He walks away slowly with his head bowed down in disappointment. He returns to tell Mary of his experience with the Bishop. *(Juan walks away looking discouraged and returns to the spot of the vision.)*

*(Juan lowers his head and walks away slowly looking discouraged and returns to the spot of the vision.)*

**Juan:** Dearest Mary, I am sorry. The bishop did not believe me.

**Narrator:** Mary smiled and looked at Juan with great understanding in her eyes.

*(Mary smiles at Juan)*

**Mary:** You are a faithful servant, Juan. Return to the bishop and tell him again.

*(Juan walks back to the bishop.)*

**Narrator:** The next day Juan returns to the bishop.

*(Juan and the Bishop engage in a silent discussion while the narrator reads.)*

**Narrator:** Again the bishop is surprised to see him and asks him many questions. Finally the Bishop says:

**Bishop:** I have listened to your story, but I still have doubts that this could actually happen. I need some kind of sign to believe that what you say is true.

**Narrator:** Juan returns to the hill to tell Mary about the bishop's request for a sign. Mary promises to meet the bishop's request the next day. However, Juan is not able to return to the hill the next day because his uncle becomes seriously ill. Juan goes out to seek medical help but is unable to find someone to treat his uncle. Instead, Juan tells his dying uncle that tomorrow he will get a priest to hear his confession and anoint him in preparation for his death. The next day Juan starts out for the priest. Mary comes down the hill to meet him as he is hurrying along.

*(Juan hurries by Mary with his head down. Mary steps down to meet him face-to-face)*

**Juan:** Dearest Lady, I am not trying to avoid you, by my uncle is sick and needs a priest.

**Mary:** Do not worry about your uncle. I have appeared to him and cured him. He is healthy now. Instead go to the top of the hill and gather the flowers you find there.

*(Juan walks to the very edge of the sanctuary to the bouquet of roses. He turns his back to the audience and discreetly untucks his tilma. While still holding the bottom corners of his outer tilma, Juan picks up the flowers and places them into the folded tilma, making sure to cover the hidden image of Our Lady. Once he is sure no one can see Mary's image on his tilma, Juan then turns around and faces the audience and carries the flowers to Mary.)*

**Narrator:** When Juan walks back over to Mary, Mary carefully re-arranges the roses in his tilma.

*(Mary carefully re-arranges the roses in Juan's tilma)*

**Narrator:** Then Mary says:

**Mary:** Take these to the bishop.

**Narrator:** Juan walks back to the bishop.

*(Juan walks back over to the bishop.)*

*(The Bishop faces Juan) (And Juan faces the audience. Juan is very excited!)*

**Narrator:** And the bishop's smiles and greets him warmly.

**Bishop:** Juan Diego! God bless you! How nice to see you again! How are you, my son?

**Juan:** My Bishop! Our Lady has sent me to you again. Even though it is the winter, and flowers will not grow outside in the cold, Our Little Mother told me where I would find these beautiful roses growing on the hill! These roses must be the sign that you have asked for!

**Narrator:** Juan then drops the roses onto the ground to show them all to the bishop.

*(Juan opens the bottom half of his tilma and allows the flowers to fall to the ground.)*

**Narrator:** But when the flowers fall, the Bishop notices something amazing and miraculous on Juan's tilma!

*(The bishop kneels down and stares in awe at the image of Mary imprinted on Juan's tilma)*

**Narrator:** The image imprinted on the cloak convinces the bishop that Juan Diego's story is true. The image shows Mary, the Mother of Jesus. In this image, Mary is known as Our Lady of Guadalupe. She looks the same as the people of Mexico. This helped show the people of Mexico, Central America, South America that Christian belief is open to them as much as it is the Europeans. Mary's appearance to Juan Diego inspired a deeper devotion to God and elevates her to a place of honor among Latin Americans, however, Our Lady of Guadalupe is the protector of ALL the Americas, including North America, and in the United States and in Canada, we honor her in a special way too!

Our Blessed Mother, has made many appearances around the world over the centuries and has many different titles, but she is still the same Mary!. I'm sure you have heard some of her titles! Besides being called Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mary the Mother of God, is known as Mary, the Blessed Mother, The Virgin Mary, the Madonna, The Queen of Heaven, Our Lady of Peace, Our Lady of Sorrow, Our Lady of Hope, Our Lady of Fatima and Our Lady of Lourdes, and the title of our own parish: The Immaculate Conception. And these are just SOME of her titles!

There are many interesting facts about the image Our Lady of Guadalupe left imprinted on Juan Diego's tilma:

- The image imprinted on Juan Diego's tilma is still in existence today: 488 years later
- Juan's tilma is made of gage, which is a cactus type plant. Fabric made from this plant only has a lifespan of about 30 years. Science cannot explain why it has lasted for 488 years.
- The colors of the image have never faded.
- The stars on Our Lady's Tilma are a map and are in the exact position as the constellations appeared in the sky before dawn on the morning of December 12, 1531.
- Mary stands on a crescent moon; the same moon as appeared that night.
- There are no brush strokes on the image
- There is no sketch or drawing on the image
- No natural animal or mineral colorings or paint are found on the tilma
- When inspected through a microscope, Mary's eyes in the image reflect the images of the witnesses present at the time the flowers uncovered the image; including Juan Diego and the Bishop. It would not be possible for an artist to paint this detail

Additionally, everything in this image is a pictograph which could be read and understood by the Aztec Indians.

- Our Lady appears as a beautiful young Indian maiden and Queen.
- Her eyes are looking down with humility and compassion. She is human, not God.

- She is wearing a blue-green mantle (the color worn by royalty) covered with stars.
- Her robe is colored rose or pale red and covered with Aztec flowers, symbolic of an Aztec princess.
- Her hands are joined in prayer and, therefore, she is not God but clearly there is one greater than she and she points her finger to the cross on her brooch.
- Her fur cuffs symbolize royalty.
- She wears a black maternity band signifying she is with Child.
- A black cross is on the brooch around her neck. This signifies she is a follower of the God of the Spanish Missionaries, Jesus Christ who died on the cross for all.
- She stands in front of the sun. The sun symbolizes the greatest Aztec god. She announces the God who is greater than their sun god.
- She stands on the moon. The crescent moon symbolized the Aztec feathered serpent moon god. She has clearly crushed and defeated him.
- An Angel with eagle's wings supports the Mother of God. The eagle was the "bird of the sun." Here the eagle is the servant of the Virgin. She holds her mantle in one hand and rope with the other, signifying the Son she bears is from both heaven and earth.

Juan Diego's Bishop believed Juan because of our Lady's sign on his tilma. The Bishop followed Our Lady of Guadalupe's directions and built a church in her honor, in the location she chose. Today, people from all over the world travel to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, Mexico annually. Word spread of this heavenly appearance, and this miraculous image. Even though the Spanish Missionaries struggled to teach the people about God, our Lady of Guadalupe did not. Within only 7 years after Our Lady's appearance to Juan Diego, 9 million Aztec people converted to Christianity. This is the largest conversion of people in history!

There are miracles all around us. Our Lady of Guadalupe can bring us to deeper faith in God, just as she did to Juan and the bishop and the Aztec people. This year, our Diocese of Metuchen, is asking all of us to consecrate ourselves to Our Lady of Guadalupe. That means that we are asking her to be with us, to pray for us and to help guide us in God's ways. We are going to consecrate ourselves to Our Lady of Guadalupe now. Please read along with your prayer cards. Please be sure to bring them home today and leave them on your nightstand or dresser so that you can pray this prayer every day until December 12: The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Let us begin: In the name of the Father...

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*(Juan moves closer)*

**Mary:** Juan, my son. I am the Virgin Mary. I have chosen you to give a message to the bishop. Go to him and tell him that I desire a church to be built in my honor at the bottom of this hill.

**Juan:** My little blessed Mother! *(Juan kneels down and bows his head and counts silently to 3)*

**Mary:** Juan, my son, I have chosen you to give a message to the bishop. Go to him and tell him that I desire a church to be built in my honor at the bottom of this hill.

**Juan:** I will do as you wish.

**Narrator:** Juan Diego goes to see the bishop. He is a little nervous because he is not sure if the bishop will believe his surprising and unusual story.

*(Juan walks over to the bishop)*

**Juan:** Sir, my name is Juan Diego. The Virgin Mary has just appeared to me and requested that I give you a message.

**Narrator:** *The bishop looks quite surprised by this announcement*

**Bishop:** How can this be? What do you mean Juan Diego?

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**Narrator:** Juan returns to the hill to tell Mary about the bishop's request for a sign. Mary promises to meet the bishop's request the next day. However, Juan is not able to return to the hill the next day because his uncle becomes seriously ill. Juan goes out to seek medical help but is unable to find someone to treat his uncle. Instead, Juan tells his dying uncle that tomorrow he will get a priest to hear his confession and anoint him in preparation for his death. The next day Juan starts out for the priest. Mary comes down the hill to meet him as he is hurrying along.

*(Juan hurries by Mary with his head down. Mary steps down to meet him face-to-face)*

**Juan:** Dearest Lady, I am not trying to avoid you, by my uncle is sick and needs a priest.

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*(Juan walks to the very edge of the sanctuary to the bouquet of roses. He turns his back to the audience and discreetly untucks his tilma. While still holding the bottom corners of his outer tilma, Juan picks up the flowers and places them into the folded tilma, making sure to cover the hidden image of Our Lady. Once he is sure no one can see Mary's image on his tilma, Juan then turns around and faces the audience and carries the flowers to Mary.)*

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**Mary:** Take these to the bishop.

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*(The Bishop faces Juan) (And Juan faces the audience. Juan is very excited!)*

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Additionally, everything in this image is a pictograph which could be read and understood by the Aztec Indians.

- Our Lady appears as a beautiful young Indian maiden and Queen.
- Her eyes are looking down with humility and compassion. She is human, not God.

- She is wearing a blue-green mantle (the color worn by royalty) covered with stars.
- Her robe is colored rose or pale red and covered with Aztec flowers, symbolic of an Aztec princess.
- Her hands are joined in prayer and, therefore, she is not God but clearly there is one greater than she and she points her finger to the cross on her brooch.
- Her fur cuffs symbolize royalty.
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## Our Lady of Guadalupe Vignette: Script

### Mary's Script

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**Narrator:** Juan Diego was a humble, poor Aztec Indian man, living in Guadalupe (pronounced Gwah-da-loop-ey), and in what we now call Mexico City, Mexico. Most Aztec Indians worshipped false Gods. There were Catholic Missionaries from Spain living in Mexico City trying to teach the native people about the One True God, but it was a difficult task. Many Aztec people did not want to listen to the Missionaries and there was a lot of fighting. But Juan listened. And he believed. Juan learned about The Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and he asked to be baptized and become Catholic. He learned all the amazing stories of Jesus' love and miracles. Juan learned how Mary said "Yes!" and agreed to be Jesus' mother and how Jesus loved us so much, that he came to earth and suffered and died, so that the gates of heaven would open....and that we could live with God...forever!

Juan loved Jesus very deeply and he had a very strong faith. One chilly, winter morning, on December 9, 1531, Juan was walking slowly over the hill of Mount Tepeyac (pronounced Tep-ee-ack), on his way to morning Mass. Suddenly, a woman's voice called to him.

*(Juan walks slowly)*

**Mary:** *(Standing on a stool or chair)* Juan! Juan Diego!

**Narrator:** Juan looked around

*(Juan looks around)*

**Mary:** Juan! Juan Diego come over here!

**Narrator:** Juan saw the woman and he moved closer to her

*(Juan moves closer)*

**Mary:** Juan, my son. I am the Virgin Mary. I have chosen you to give a message to the bishop. Go to him and tell him that I desire a church to be built in my honor at the bottom of this hill.

**Juan:** My little blessed Mother! *(Juan kneels down and bows his head and counts silently to 3)*

**Mary:** Juan, my son, I have chosen you to give a message to the bishop. Go to him and tell him that I desire a church to be built in my honor at the bottom of this hill.

**Juan:** I will do as you wish.

**Narrator:** Juan Diego goes to see the bishop. He is a little nervous because he is not sure if the bishop will believe his surprising and unusual story.

*(Juan walks over to the bishop)*

**Juan:** Sir, my name is Juan Diego. The Virgin Mary has just appeared to me and requested that I give you a message.

**Narrator:** *The bishop looks quite surprised by this announcement*

**Bishop:** How can this be? What do you mean Juan Diego?

**Juan:** As I was walking to Mass this morning, the Blessed Mother came to me and spoke. She said she wants a church built at the bottom of the hill where she appeared to me.

**Bishop:** Juan, I am sure you are a good, holy man, but it is hard to believe that the Mother of Our Lord Jesus appeared to you. Go back to your home and pray for God's blessing.

**Narrator:** Juan feels and looks discouraged. He walks away slowly with his head bowed down in disappointment. He returns to tell Mary of his experience with the Bishop. *(Juan walks away looking discouraged and returns to the spot of the vision.)*

*(Juan lowers his head and walks away slowly looking discouraged and returns to the spot of the vision.)*

**Juan:** Dearest Mary, I am sorry. The bishop did not believe me.

**Narrator:** Mary smiled and looked at Juan with great understanding in her eyes.

*(Mary smiles at Juan)*

**Mary:** You are a faithful servant, Juan. Return to the bishop and tell him again.

*(Juan walks back to the bishop.)*

**Narrator:** The next day Juan returns to the bishop.

*(Juan and the Bishop engage in a silent discussion while the narrator reads.)*

**Narrator:** Again the bishop is surprised to see him and asks him many questions. Finally the Bishop says:

**Bishop:** I have listened to your story, but I still have doubts that this could actually happen. I need some kind of sign to believe that what you say is true.

**Narrator:** Juan returns to the hill to tell Mary about the bishop's request for a sign. Mary promises to meet the bishop's request the next day. However, Juan is not able to return to the hill the next day because his uncle becomes seriously ill. Juan goes out to seek medical help but is unable to find someone to treat his uncle. Instead, Juan tells his dying uncle that tomorrow he will get a priest to hear his confession and anoint him in preparation for his death. The next day Juan starts out for the priest. Mary comes down the hill to meet him as he is hurrying along.

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