

First Monday of the Third Week of Advent

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe



Today on this feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, there are a number of readings from which to choose. In Revelation it says that a great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun and the moon under her feet and she was with child. When Mary appeared to Juan Diego she was with child. The cloak of Juan Diego shows Mary surrounded with the sun and the moon under her feet. She had the features of the people of Juan Diego and wore the dress of the indigenous.

In the Gospel, Mary travels to visit her cousin, Elizabeth to share her good news. In one of her visits to Juan Diego, Mary tells him she desires that a church be built on the spot of her appearance and asks him to make this request of the bishop. He is reluctant to go because he does not think that he is worthy. Finally he does agree to go and share the good news. The Bishop does not believe him but when Juan Diego returns with roses in December and the image of Mary on his cloak the bishop believes him.

Mary and Juan Diego were faithful to their calls. They both suffered because they answered their calls. We, too, share the good news like Mary and Juan Diego. And we do that every day. We might share it with a family member, it may be with someone who searches us out or even with a stranger reaching out to us. In word and action we share the good news.

The communion antiphon, Psalm 147 states: God has not acted thus for any other nation; to no other people has God shown God's love so clearly. We all are recipients of this love. We are shown every day that we are loved by God. We continue to share that love and the call of the good news with each person we meet.

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