

Our Lady of Guadalupe Patch Activities

The National Catholic Committee for Girl Scouts and Camp Fire, a constitutive member of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, invites youth in grades K-12 to learn more about the appearance and miracles of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico almost 500 years ago. Youth will also learn about Our Lady's powerful meaning to people of Mexican heritage and about her love and compassion for the whole world.

The patch activities below are designed to teach participants about the wonderful events that occurred at Tepeyac Hill in 1531 and to connect the special message of Our Lady of Guadalupe to their prayers and actions.

Participants are encouraged to:

Grade K-1 – complete 4 of the following

Grade 2-3 – complete 5 of the following

Grade 4-5 – complete 6 of the following

Grades 6 and above – complete 7 of the following

*****All participants should complete Requirement #1 and #2 *******

- 1. Read a book or story or watch a movie about Our Lady of Guadalupe. Tell in your own words or write down the answers to these questions: In what country did Our Lady of Guadalupe appear? In what year did Our Lady appear? What was the name of the man who saw Our Lady? What message did Our Lady give him? When do we celebrate the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe?**
- 2. Our Lady of Guadalupe presented us with her beautiful image on a garment known as a *tilma*, and this *tilma* is now displayed in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. Find a good photo in a book or online that shows the original image. Tell in your own words or write down some of the important features of this image, such as the color of Our Lady's hair and skin, the type of clothing she wears, and so on.**
3. Celebrate the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe with a prayer service and feast. Prepare a shrine with a stature or picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Make decorations and food. Ideas would be to make Mexican flowers, sing songs, etc. (see Resources)
4. Put on a play about Our Lady of Guadalupe. (see Resources)
5. Our Lady appeared to St. Juan Diego 5 times. Discover what took place at each apparition.
6. Praying is an extremely important part of any feast day. Find several different prayers to Our Lady of Guadalupe and use them in a Feast Day prayer service.
7. Locate a Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in your town. If there no shrine, look online and take a virtual tour of Shrines of Our Lady of Guadalupe.



8. On the eve of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, millions of people in Mexico and in many cities across the Americas make a pilgrimage to the basilica or church of celebration. Discuss some important parts of a pilgrimage, and complete a pilgrimage to a local Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe or to a local church that has a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe.
9. St. Juan Diego stayed home one day instead of going to see Our Lady due to him needing to take care of his dying Uncle. As a work of Mercy, do something for the sick or dying.
10. Learn about the miracle of the roses that Our Lady gave St. Juan Diego. Gather real roses (with permission!) or make paper roses for use in other activities, such to present at a shrine, to use in a play, or to decorate for the feast day celebration.
11. Our Lady of Guadalupe came to bring unity. She came to call both the Spanish and the Native Peoples to come together and birth a new nation. She birthed a *mestizaje* (a mixture), a new race. She finds her place in the very heart of all the children - *Indio* (native), *Mulato* (Spanish-African), *Mestizo* (Spanish-Native), *Criollo* (Spanish - born in the New World) and says, "It is I, your Mother." Read more about how Our Lady of Guadalupe is a symbol of Mexican heritage and identity (see Resources below). Discuss with your troop, group, or family about some of the ways Our Lady speaks to all of us.
12. Learn more about St. Juan Diego by earning the patch in his honor from the NCCGSF Models of Faith series (see Resources below).

Resources

St. Juan Diego Patch – Activity Sheet with short summary of Our Lady of Guadalupe’s appearance
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/58b629408419c2fa764ff65c/t/59d78e32268b967d454398e9/1507298875846/Juan_Diego_Worksheet.pdf

Ideas for celebration - <https://ourladyofguadalupe.weebly.com/celebrate-the-day-of-our-lady-of-guadalupe.html>

Script for Our Lady of Guadalupe Play -
<https://www.catholicfamilycelebrations.com/uploads/3/0/2/6/30263311/ourladyofguadalupeplay.pdf>

Our Lady of Guadalupe for Children/ Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe para Niños (English & Spanish), by Lupital Vita, published by Libros Liguori, 2011.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, by Carmen T. Bernier-Gran, published by Two Lions, 2012.

Online LA Times article from Feb. 2016 - <http://www.latimes.com/world/mexico-americas/la-fg-ff-mexico-pope-virgin-guadalupe-20160211-story.html>

Online NBC News article from December 2016 <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/our-lady-guadalupe-powerful-symbol-mexican-identity-n694216>

Order Information

Patches may be ordered from the Online Store of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry
<https://store.nfcym.org/product/our-lady-of-guadalupe-patch/>