



One Life, One Rose Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Run

The Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Program began in 1960 to honor the Blessed Virgin under her title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas. The program has continued since then as a project of Squires Circles, Councils, and Fourth Degree Assemblies in about 35 jurisdictions.

The program consists of three roses that simultaneously start in London, Ontario and then travel on the west coast, central United States, and the east coast. All three roses will meet at the same time in Texas to travel over the International Bridge to be handed over to our Brother Knights in Monterrey, Mexico.

Saskatchewan will receive the Silver Rose from Manitoba on May 23, 2010. The route will take the Silver Rose into 23 Saskatchewan councils with day stops in some councils and overnight stops in others. At each stop, a special prayer service honouring Our Lady of Guadalupe will be celebrated. The kit will contain the rose, prayer service booklets, and a log book.

Through the Silver Rose Program, the Knights of Saskatchewan show their support for the church and its bishops and priests as they pray for the continued strength to do so in these troubled times. The Silver Rose also symbolizes Knight's commitment to restoring respect for the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. As Knights think in terms of "One Life, One Rose", it is most appropriate that they turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through Juan Diego and the Miracle of the Roses. The program will begin in London, Ontario and conclude in Mexico on Dec. 12, 2010, the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe.



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

In the days of the conquest of Central America, there was a small village where Mexico City would one-day stand. Now it came to pass that the Bishop of the village wanted to build a cathedral in honor of the Virgin Mary, but neither the Bishop nor the other leaders knew where the site of the cathedral should be.

Most of the villagers were poor native inhabitants of Central America, and were treated little better than slaves. Among them was a very devout man called Juan Diego. One day while working in the fields, he met a beautiful lady who seemed to have a warmth and radiance about her. When he came closer, she spoke to him and said, "Go to the Bishop and tell him that I wish the church he would dedicate to me to be built on this spot" Bowing respectfully, Juan Diego immediately set off to see the Bishop, but being busy, the Bishop was only able to see him after several days. After Juan was finally ushered into the Bishop's presence, he proceeded to describe what he had seen and told the Bishop the message that was given to him. The Bishop thought that Juan was crazy and had him thrown out.

Juan Diego returned to the spot where he had met the lady and there she appeared to him a second time. "Go again to the Bishop and tell him that I wish the church be built on this spot," she spoke.

Juan again returned and asked for an audience with the Bishop. This time after a much longer wait, he was again brought before the Bishop. After Juan had recounted his second meeting with the lady, the Bishop said, "If it is the Virgin, who speaks with you, then bring me some proof of this!"

For the third time Juan returned to the spot where he had met the Virgin, and again she appeared to him. He proceeded to tell her that the Bishop wanted some proof from him to show that he really spoke to her. Now at this time there were no roses in the New World, and it was the middle of December. But when the Virgin placed her hand on the earth, roses suddenly grew and bloomed in moments. Juan took the roses and piled them in the front of his tabard, and rushed off to the Bishop.

The "Miracle of the Roses" is the culminating scene of this story. Juan Diego comes into the Bishop's presence bearing the proof from the Virgin. He lets go of his tabard showering the astonished Bishop with roses, only to find that the symbol of the Madonna is now indelibly marked on the front of his tabard. His tabard can still be seen in the cathedral that was built to honour the Virgin.

Though the tabard which was made of cactus cloth should have disintegrated many years ago, it remains in the same condition as the day Juan Diego wore it, and the picture of the Virgin Mary remains on the cloth the same as that day the Bishop observed it