



Holy Hour for Life
with
Our Lady of
Guadalupe



Opening Announcement

Leader: In 1531, Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to St. Juan Diego on Tepeyac Hill, outside of what is today known as Mexico City. Our Blessed Mother appeared as a pregnant woman, wearing the traditional black sash of motherhood that a pregnant woman would have worn at the time in that culture. It is for this reason that Our Lady of Guadalupe is known as the Patroness of the unborn.

It is crucial to note that the Blessed Virgin Mary did not come alone, but carried Jesus in her immaculate womb. She told St. Juan Diego that a church should be built for Jesus to make him known and to exalt him. All of these signs point to the Virgin of Guadalupe as a Woman of the Eucharist.

Today, we ask for Our Lady's intercession while praying this Holy Hour, which we offer for the pro-life cause.

The Holy Hour begins with the priest or deacon exposing the Blessed Sacrament.

The following reflection and prayers may be read after the Blessed Sacrament is exposed:

Respect Life Reflection: Cherished, Chosen, Sent

Leader: Let us meditate on the following reflection.

In 1531, when the indigenous peoples of Mexico were subjugated and the practice of human sacrifice was still a recent memory, the Mother of God appeared to St. Juan Diego as a pregnant native woman, now known as Our Lady of Guadalupe.

She sent him with miraculous flowers in his cloak to tell the bishop to build a church where people could receive her Son and her loving, tender care. When St. Juan Diego opened the cloak before the bishop, an image of Our Lady was revealed that remains to this day. The chapel was quickly built, millions embraced Christianity, and the Church increased its protection of the indigenous peoples.

By embracing the mission entrusted to him, St. Juan Diego helped bring Christ's transforming love to cultures gripped by oppression and death.

Today, we again see the dignity of human life disregarded. Unborn children are destroyed through abortion, and ill people are encouraged and assisted to take their own lives. How do we respond?

The essence of our identity is that we are created in God's image and likeness and loved by Him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is **cherished**.

God creates every person for eternal union with Himself and continually invites us to embrace a loving relationship with Him. Every person is **chosen**.

We are called to be messengers of God's love, treating one another as cherished and chosen by Him. In doing so, we help build a culture that respects all human life. Every person is **sent**.

Like St. Juan Diego, let us embrace our daily mission to help others encounter God's transforming, life-giving love.

At some point during the holy hour, a rosary to Our Lady of Guadalupe may be prayed for pro-life intentions.

Rosary to Our Lady of Guadalupe

Leader: Let us now pray the holy rosary for the cause of life.

*Additional rosary prayers and a list of mysteries
can be found in the appendix.*

INTRODUCTORY PRAYERS

Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Pray the following:

- Our Father 1x
- Hail Mary 3x
- Glory Be 1x

MYSTERIES AND INTENTIONS

For each decade, the leader announces the mystery followed by the intention and prayers noted below.

Leader:

1. The first mystery is [announce mystery]. We offer this decade for an end to abortion and the legal protection of the unborn.
 - Our Father 1x
 - Hail Mary 10x
 - Glory Be 1x
 - Fatima Prayer 1x
 - “Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!” 1x

Repeat these prayers for each remaining mystery and intention.

2. The second mystery is [announce mystery]. We offer this decade for all expectant mothers, that they may choose life, and for all fathers, that they may accept and fulfill their responsibilities towards their children.
3. The third mystery is [announce mystery]. We offer this decade for married couples struggling with infertility and pregnancy loss.
4. The fourth mystery is [announce mystery]. We offer this decade for an end to assisted suicide.
5. The fifth mystery is [announce mystery]. We offer this decade that all may recognize the inherent dignity of every human life from conception to natural death.

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

Hail, Holy Queen

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,

R. That we be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Prayer After the Rosary

Let us pray: O God whose only begotten Son, who by his life, death, and resurrection has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech thee, that by meditating on these mysteries of the most holy rosary of the blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Before the Blessed Sacrament is reposed,
you may pray the following as a closing prayer.*

A Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe

Virgin of Guadalupe,
Patroness of unborn children,
we implore your intercession
for every child at risk of abortion.
Help expectant parents to welcome from God
the priceless gift of their child's life.

Console parents who have lost that gift
through abortion,
and lead them to forgiveness and healing
through the Divine Mercy of your Son.

Teach us to cherish
and to care for family and friends
until God calls them home.
Help us never to see others as burdens.

Guide our public officials
to defend each and every human life
through just laws.
Inspire us all to bring our faith into public life,
to speak for those who have no voice.

We ask this in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ, who is Love and Mercy itself.
Amen.

*The Holy Hour ends when the priest or
deacon reposes the Blessed Sacrament.*

*You may also conclude the Holy Hour
with a hymn to Our Lady of Guadalupe.*

Closing Announcement

Leader: Thank you for attending this Holy Hour for Life with Our Lady of Guadalupe! I hope it has been a fruitful time of prayer for you. I encourage each of you as you leave here to continue asking Our Lady of Guadalupe to intercede for the cause of life. May God bless you.

Appendix

PRAYERS OF THE ROSARY NOT LISTED ABOVE:

Our Father

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Fatima Prayer

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell; lead all souls to heaven, especially those most in need of thy mercy.

Mysteries of the Rosary

Joyful Mysteries

1. The Annunciation
2. The Visitation
3. The Nativity of Jesus
4. The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple
5. The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple

Luminous Mysteries

1. The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan
2. The Wedding Feast at Cana
3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God
4. The Transfiguration
5. The Institution of the Eucharist

Sorrowful Mysteries

1. The Agony in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. The Crowning with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion

Glorious Mysteries

1. The Resurrection
2. The Ascension
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit
4. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven
5. The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven

Acknowledgments

Respect Life Reflection: Cherished, Chosen, Sent. Copyright © 2018, USCCB, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

A Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe. Copyright © USCCB. Used with permission.



**Knights of
Columbus®**

1 COLUMBUS PLAZA NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-3326
203-752-4270 www.kofc.org