



St. Juan Diego  
“Fresh Roses in Winter”  
EDUCATION GUIDE FOR PARENTS



## **Thank you for purchasing our Glory Story on St. Juan Diego!**

We hope you enjoy listening to this CD as much as we had fun creating it!

Like many parents or teachers, you may be wondering how best to use your newly-acquired audio CD. Never fear!

Here are **7 ideas** on how to use your new St. Juan Diego Glory Story:

### **1. During Car Rides or Road Trips**

*"We love learning about saints, and my children ask me to play the glory stories over and over in the car!! They never get tired of hearing the stories!!" – Joanna from Friendswood, TX*

Play the Glory Story while driving to your next field trip or event! Kids will stay interested in the story and characters (instead of the next pit-stop!)

### **2. In the Classroom**

*"It is great reinforcement for any reading you are doing on the Saints." – Mom of 5 from Albuquerque, NM*

Supplement your CCD or religious education classes with Glory Stories! Play small sections of the Glory Story each class and pose a discussion question. Our suggested questions on page 3 suggest perfect stopping points in the CD to aid you in lesson planning!

### **3. Celebrating Feast Days**

*"When your grandson calls you and is jumping up and down with joy over a gift you know you found the perfect item" – Diane from San Diego, CA*

Use the Glory Story as part of your feast day celebrations! Mark December 9 or December 12 in your calendar, and plan a day dedicated to St. Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe! Play the Glory Story, eat a yummy Mexican treat, and have kids make a cool craft! For ideas on décor, activities, and more, check out our "St. Juan Diego" board on [Pinterest!](#)

### **4. Gifts for Birthdays or Receiving Sacraments**

*"I love all the Glory Stories, but this is definitely one of my faves! What a perfect First Holy Communion present!" – Holly from Aberdeen, NC*

Know someone named Juan, Diego, or Guadalupe? Is your grandchild receiving First Holy Communion soon? What better gift than a Glory Story to both further their religious education and let them know they are loved!

## 5. Parenting Tools

*“Our whole family enjoys listening to the lovingly written & read stories. A great way to help us think like saints.” – Michelle from Larkspur, CO*

Use the Glory Story to bring up important and relevant topics with your kids. Listening to the story can help start conversations about treating others with respect, telling the truth, and other virtues!

## 6. Donations to Parish or School Community

*“I can't say enough on how great these CDs teach and entertain.” – Jennifer from Quincy, IL*

Know people in your parish community who could use a Glory Story or two? Donate a copy to your parish library, Catholic school, or daycare!

## 7. Afternoon Down-Time or Bedtime

*“A great way to use what would be wasted time; now we use it learning about God. Thank you!” – Homeschool Mom*

Give momma a well-deserved break! Entertain the kids without having to turn on the TV! Kids will exercise their imagination, creativity, and listening skills while learning about their faith...it's a win-win! Or, pop in a Glory Story CD before bedtime to help kids wind down from the day.

**[Collect the entire set!](http://www.holyheroes.com) Visit [www.holyheroes.com](http://www.holyheroes.com) today!**



## Discussion Questions

Not sure how to talk about the story with your kids? We've created a list of discussion questions for you! Of course, feel free to adapt or omit these questions based on your child's age, maturity, interests, attention span, etc.

*Note: St. Juan Diego is featured on the same CD as Blessed Imelda (another Holy Hero with her own, separate study guide)! For questions connecting their two stories, see the next section. St. Juan Diego's story starts on Track 6 of the CD.*

1. Can you remember Juan Diego's name before he was baptized? *Cuauhtlatoatzin (what a name!)...it means "eagle that speaks."*
2. Who did Juan Diego live with after his wife Maria Lucia died? *His Uncle Bernardino.*
3. Juan Diego would walk many miles on foot to get to Mass. Would you be willing to do that too? Talk about a time when you didn't really "feel" like going to Mass, but you went anyway...Our Lady was really happy you did!
4. What did Mary ask for? *She wanted a chapel built on Mount Tepeyac in her honor.*
5. Juan Diego was obedient to Mary and went to the bishop, even though he was probably very intimidated and scared! He trusted that Our Lady would protect and help him. Who are some people we should be obedient to, and how can we be obedient to them? Can you think of some other saints who were obedient to God?
6. What was the bishop's reaction to Juan Diego's message? *He didn't believe him, and told him to come back later.*
7. The bishop wanted proof that Mary had really appeared...have you ever asked God for a sign? Did God answer your prayer in the way that you thought he would?
8. Do you know what day we celebrate the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe? Why do you think that is? *Her feast day is December 12, the day when she produced the miracle for the bishop.*
9. What did Mary make grow in winter? *Roses!*
10. What appeared on Juan Diego's tilma? *A beautiful image of Mary!*
11. What did Juan Diego do after this miraculous event? *He became a lay missionary and spread the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the beauty of the Catholic faith.*
12. Can you still see Juan Diego's tilma today? *YES! It is displayed inside the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe.*

## Connecting the Saints (Juan Diego and Imelda)

Use these questions to connect the two stories featured on the CD!

1. Do you see any similarities or differences between Juan Diego and Imelda? *Possible answers...were obedient, chose different vocations, came from different backgrounds, etc.*
2. Do you think they would have been good friends on earth? Do you think they are good friends in heaven?
3. When you get to heaven, what would you want to ask them? What do you think they would say?
4. Bonus question: What's the difference between a saint and a blessed? What are the steps in canonizing a saint, and which one is Blessed Imelda or Saint Juan Diego on?

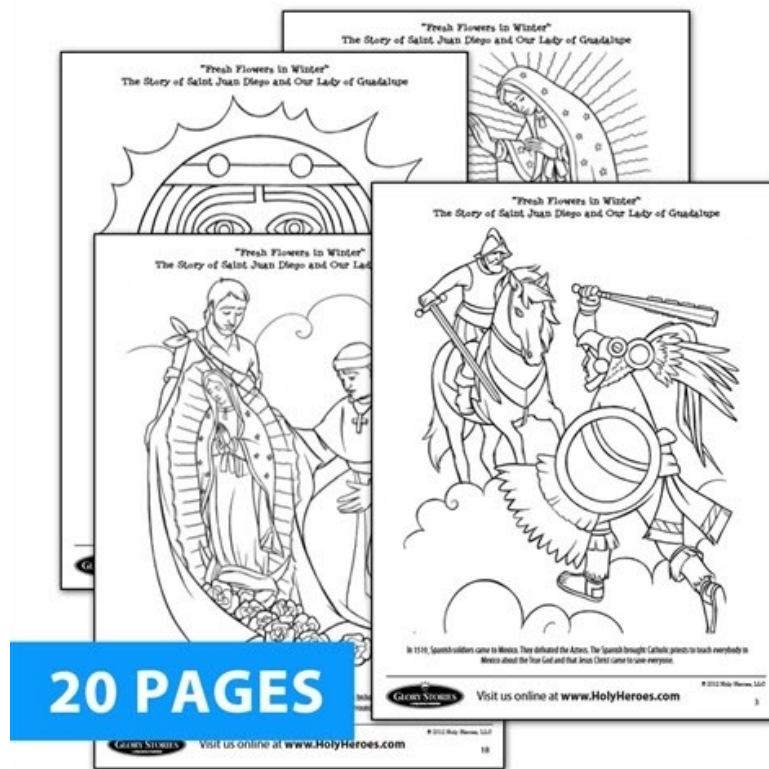
## Definitions to Know

Is your child struggling with an unfamiliar word? Here are a few of the harder terms to understand (and suggested ways to explain them)!

- **Tepeyac** - a hill on the outskirts of Mexico City
- **Bishop** - a priest who has been appointed by the pope to oversee a diocese, or collection of parishes
- **Basilica** - a church with certain privileges conferred on it by the Pope
- **Juanito** - the Spanish form of "Little Juan," meant as an affectionate title
- **Tilma** - an Aztec poncho

## Our Lady's Words to Juan Diego

***"Do not let your countenance or your heart be disturbed. Do not fear this sickness of your uncle or any other sickness, nor anything that is sharp or hurtful. Am I not here, I, who am your Mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Am I not the source of your joy? Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms? Do you need anything more? Let nothing else worry you or disturb you."***



## Activity Ideas

Help your kids retain the Glory Story through a fun activity! We recommend brainstorming some simple but fun ways your family or class can practice Juan Diego's virtues.

Here are a few of our own! As always, adapt or create a project that is perfect for you!

- **Learn about roses!**

Castilian roses, also known as Damask roses, were the variety that Mary made bloom in winter. Why not combine the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe with biology and botany to teach children about the wonder of God's creation?

If your family isn't keen on gardening, you probably know someone who loves to take care of roses. Ask them to come and give a lesson on taking care of plants! Learn about how to take care of roses, the season when they usually bloom, and more!

- **Make tilmas!**

Did you know that you can make a wearable craft tilma using a paper bag and some crayons? Flip the bag upside down, then cut out a hole in the bottom of the bag (large enough to fit a child's head through). Then, cut out the sides of the bag, creating a tilma!

Have your kids draw the Guadalupe image on the tilma...let them be creative (older kids can help)! You could even glue some "roses" on! Later, maybe kids can use their "tilma" to reenact St. Juan Diego's story!

- **Have a unit study on miraculous images of Mary and Jesus!**

Several teams of scientists have studied St. Juan Diego's tilma, and it continues to baffle even the smartest of them! What better way to engage your kids in the wonder of the faith than to learn more about this great miracle!

The image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is just one of many miraculous images that God has gifted us! Be sure to include other images, like [The Holy Veil of Manoppello](#) (the most astounding--but largely unknown--relic of the Resurrection!) and the Shroud of Turin.

Most amazing of all, did you know that these miraculous images of Jesus overlap? Holy Heroes offers [limited edition prints](#) of the Holy Veil and the Shroud that perfectly show the similarities! [It's a wonderful gift for your pastor](#), or a stunning addition to your school room wall!

- **Visit a shrine to Our Lady of Guadalupe (or make your own)!**

Your parish probably has a statue of or shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe. Make a mini-pilgrimage there as a family. It's also a perfect opportunity to pray the Rosary together in Mary's honor!

Another option...make your own shrine! Of course, you'll need a statue or picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe (hint: you could even use the one in the [Marian Block Set](#)). You'll also need some flowers (artificial is good), and a candle (you can get votive candles from your parish bookstore). Set it up for the month of December and encourage your kids to bring their petitions before Mary!

- **Make an outdoor obstacle course to get to Our Lady!**

Here's a fun game...be inspired by St. Juan Diego's hike up Mt. Tepeyac and create an outdoor obstacle course to get to Mary!

Older kids can come up with the path and (safe!) obstacles to avoid. Maybe kids can only hop on one leg for part of the course, or perhaps they have to bark like a dog before they can pass! Adapt it for the age and physical ability of your kids..the obstacles can even be trivia questions about St. Juan Diego!

The best part? Your kids will sleep soundly all night long!

- **Drink some Mexican hot chocolate!**

Winter calls for warm drinks, and what kid doesn't love hot chocolate? But if you haven't tried Mexican hot chocolate yet, you're missing out!

Check your local grocery store or Mexican market for the mix (it usually comes in large tablets). It's super easy to make, and can be made dairy-free if need be!

Then, cozy up with a read-aloud...[Our Lady's Wardrobe](#) has gorgeous pictures of Mary's different outfits during her apparitions! Or, surprise your kids with a coloring page or two from our [St. Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe Coloring Download!](#)

### **Additional Resources**

Need more ideas? Check out these cool books, websites, and more!

#### **Books:**

Guadalupe Mysteries: Deciphering the Code by Grzegorz Gorny and Janusz Rosikon  
[Our Lady's Wardrobe by Anthony DeStefano](#)  
[When Heaven Comes to Earth Board Book by Holy Heroes](#)

#### **Movies:**

Juan Diego: Messenger of Guadalupe (CCC) - 2005  
Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message (narrated by Jim Caviezel) - 2015

#### **Websites / Pilgrimage:**

[Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe \(Guadalupe\) Virtual Tour](#)

Church of the Fifth Apparition / Santa Maria Tulpetlac\*

*\*This church is built on the site where Mary appeared to Juan Diego and cured his uncle Bernardino! There's no official website, but [Google](#) has lots of pictures!*

The Chapel of the Little Hill of the Angels / Capilla del Cerrito de los Ángeles

*\*This chapel lies on top of Tepeyac Hill, and is quite a climb! Tradition says that it marks the exact spot where the miracle of the roses happened! There's no official website, but [Google](#) has lots of pictures!*



**This Glory Story pairs well with...**

[Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Pillowcase](#)

[Send your Angel to Mass Prayer Card \(English and Spanish\)](#)

[Holy Heroes Spiritual Journal](#)

[St. Juan Diego Tiny Saint Charm](#)

[Marian Block Toy Collection](#)

[Visits from Our Lady Color-by-Number](#)

[St. Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe 20-Page Coloring Download](#)

