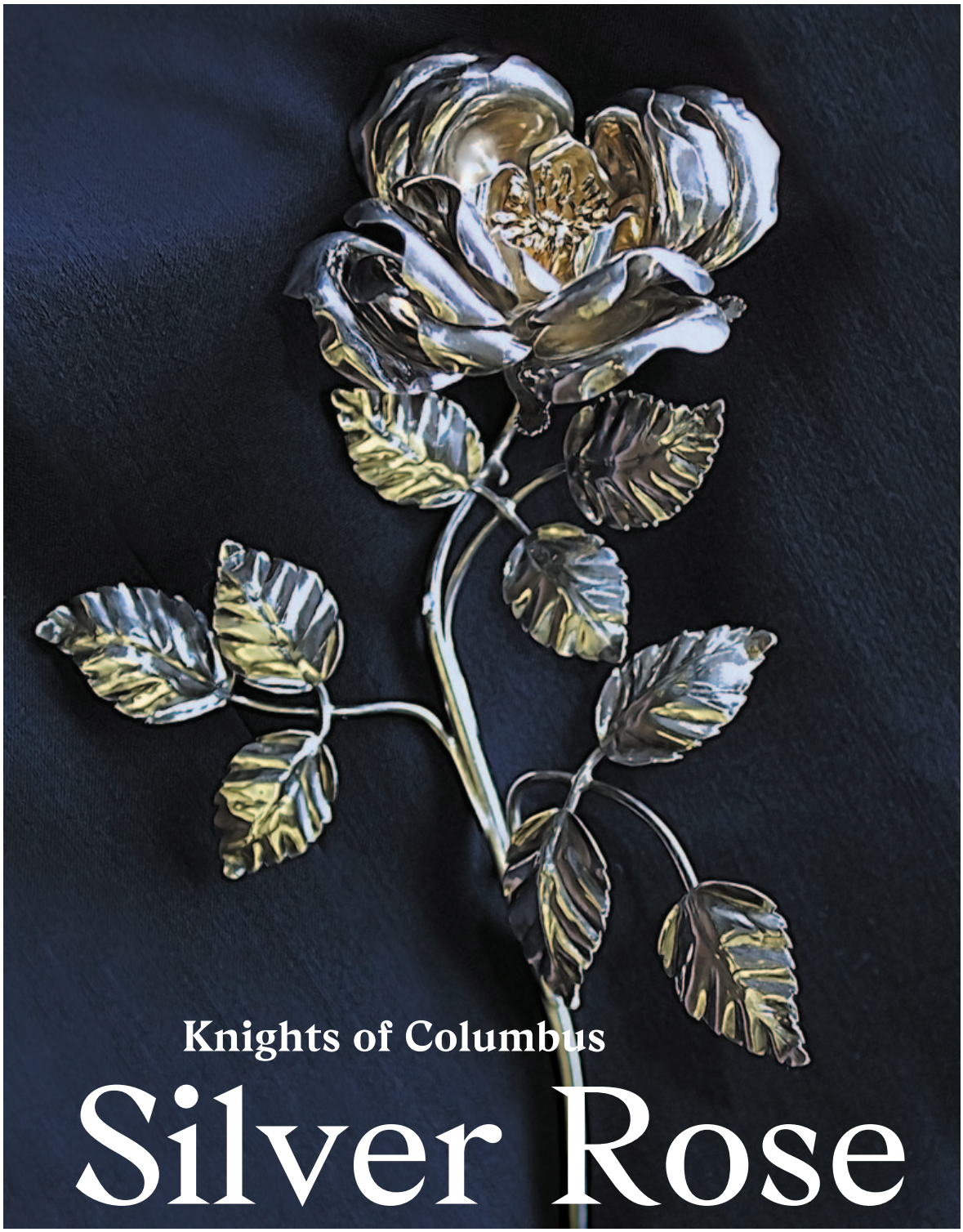

Knights of Columbus

Silver Rose

Prayer Service Booklet

Faith in Action Life

History of the Silver Rose

Our Lady of Guadalupe did so much for her people in Mexico that, in 1960, the Columbian Squires, a youth organization of the Knights of Columbus, wanted to give something back to her.

The group of young men in Knights of Columbus Council 2312 in Monterrey, Mexico, came up with the idea of running a rose to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Monterrey, Mexico. The rose was chosen to commemorate Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses, an important part of the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The first rose was a natural rose and was blessed by Bishop John C. Cody of London. It was then flown to New York where it was received by Grand Knight Joseph Thomasen, who in turn, took it to Supreme Knight Luke E. Hart. Mr. Hart then shepherded the rose to Dallas, Texas. There, Texas State Deputy Jack Collerin received the rose and took it to Laredo, Texas, where it was finally given to the Squires from Monterrey, Mexico, at the International Bridge in Laredo. They ran the rose from the International Bridge through Sabinas Hidalgo N.L., Mexico, to Cienega de Flores and on to the Basilica in Monterrey, Mexico, on December 12, 1960.

(Continued on the inside back cover)

Knights of Columbus
Silver Rose Prayer Service

Introduction

Reader: "Through [the Silver Rose Program] we honor not only Our Lady of Guadalupe and express the unity of the [the Knights of Columbus], but we also reaffirm [our] dedication to the sanctity of human life. It is to the Blessed Mother that we turn in prayer as we work to end the Culture of Death that grips our society. As we think in terms of 'One Life, One Rose,' it is most appropriate that we turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses."

– Past Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson

Early on a cold Saturday morning (Dec. 9, 1531), Juan Diego, baptized into the faith as an adult in 1523, was on his way to assist at Mass about 2.5 miles from Tlatleloco, where there was a church. Suddenly he heard beautiful music and a woman's voice calling to him from the top of Tepeyac Hill. At the top he saw a beautiful woman who revealed that she was the Blessed Virgin Mary. She instructed him to visit the bishop to tell him that a temple should be built in her honor at the base of the hill.

Juan Diego immediately went to Bishop Juan de Zumarraga, who received him kindly but was reluctant to believe the story. Juan Diego returned to the hill to report his failure. The Lady told him to return to the bishop repeating the request.

On Sunday (Dec. 10) Juan Diego returned to the bishop who – after many questions – said he needed a sign before believing that it was really Our Lady who had appeared. Juan Diego relayed the message to the Lady who told him to come back on the next day, and she would fulfill his request. On Monday (Dec. 11), however, the uncle of Juan Diego became gravely ill, so he was unable to return to Tepeyac.

After a day of fruitlessly searching for someone to help his uncle, Juan Diego told him that he would bring a priest the next morning, so his uncle could make his confession and die at peace. Very early Tuesday morning (Dec. 12), rushing toward Tlatleloco to find a priest, he passed Tepeyac Hill. Thinking it better not to let the Lady interrupt his errand of mercy, he decided to go around the other side of the hill. But the Lady came down the hill to meet him.

After listening to his explanation for not keeping the appointment, she told him that his uncle would not die of the sickness and that he was healthy. (That same morning, the Lady appeared to his uncle and cured him.) Juan Diego was greatly relieved. The Lady told him to go to the top of the hill and gather the flowers he would find there. Upon arrival at the top, he found in the frozen earth a miraculous garden of roses not native to the area. He gathered some and then brought them to the Lady, who arranged them in his cloak. She told him to take them to the bishop as the sign he had requested.

When Juan Diego arrived in front of the bishop, he opened his cloak, and the roses fell to the floor. At that moment, they both discovered something even more wondrous: a remarkable portrait of Our Lady was imprinted on the coarse fabric of the cloak.

In 1946, Pope Pius XII declared Our Lady of Guadalupe Patroness of the Americas, and in 1990, St. John Paul II beatified Juan Diego. On July 31, 2002, the late Holy Father visited Mexico City and declared sainthood of Blessed Juan Diego. Today the Feast Day of St. Juan Diego is Dec. 9. The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is celebrated on Dec. 12, and the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is still celebrated and visited by pilgrims year-round.

Processional Hymn ***(stand)***

Leader: O God, come to my assistance.
All: **O Lord, make haste to help me.**

Leader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
All: **as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Leader: As Catholics, we are called to be a people of life and a people for life. The challenge before us is to teach the world that the life of each human being, unique and unrepeatable, begins at the moment of conception and ends by natural death. To accomplish this we turn to the Blessed Virgin Mary, through whom the Word was made flesh. Through Mary, under her title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, we seek the grace and strength to bear witness to the reality that every human life is sacred, a gift from God. We take this opportunity to commend ourselves to our Mother, seeking the strength to proclaim the gospel of life, in season and out of season, until respect for the sanctity of human life is restored throughout the world.

Part One: The Holy Rosary

All: **In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Leader: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

All: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

Leader: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

All: **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.**

Leader: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

All: **Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**
(*repeat the Hail Mary two more times*)

Leader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

All: **as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

The Glorious Mysteries

Leader: The First Glorious Mystery:
The Resurrection of Our Lord from the Dead

All: **Let us bless the fruit of Mary's womb, Jesus raised from the dead.**

Let us praise his life of loving obedience to the Father.

Let us praise his promise to be with us always.

Our Father (*as above*)
Hail Mary (*as above, ten times*)
Glory be (*as above*)

Leader: The Second Glorious Mystery:
The Ascension of Our Lord into Heaven

All: **Let us bless the fruit of Mary's womb, Jesus ascended into heaven.**

Let us bless his name "above every other name."

Let us acclaim his kingship: "Jesus Christ is Lord!"

Our Father (*as above*)
Hail Mary (*as above, ten times*)
Glory be (*as above*)

Leader: The Third Glorious Mystery:
The Descent of the Holy Spirit

All: **Let us bless the fruit of Mary's womb, Jesus, who with the Father sent the Holy Spirit to the Church.**

Let us bless the Holy Spirit who animates and guides the Church as he animated and guided Mary.

Let us bless the same Spirit communicating divine life to all of us.

Our Father (*as above*)
Hail Mary (*as above, ten times*)
Glory be (*as above*)

Leader: The Fourth Glorious Mystery:
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven

All: **Let us bless the fruit of Mary's womb, Jesus, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit assumed her into heaven.**

Let us bless Mary at the close of her saintly life.

Let us bless Mary with Elizabeth's words: "Blessed are you among women."

Our Father (*as above*)
Hail Mary (*as above, ten times*)
Glory be *(as above)*

Leader: The Fifth Glorious Mystery:
The Coronation of Mary as Queen

All: **Let us bless the fruit of Mary's womb, Jesus, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit crowned her Queen.**

Let us bless Mary acclaimed by all the angels and saints.

Let us bless Mary in union with all the generations that call her blessed.

Our Father (*as above*)
Hail Mary (*as above, ten times*)
Glory be (*as above*)

All: **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.**

Leader: Pray for us, Holy Mother of God.
All: **That we may be worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Leader: Let us pray:
All: **O God, whose only-begotten Son, by his Life, Death and Resurrection has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech thee, that we who meditate on these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the blessed Virgin Mary, may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Part Two: Liturgy of the Word *(sit)*

(note: In the interests of time, part two may be omitted.)

New Testament Reading (1 Cor 9:24-27)

Reader: A reading from the first letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

Do you not know that runners in the stadium all run in the race, but only one wins the prize? Run so as to win. Every athlete exercises discipline in every way. They do it to win a perishable crown, but we an imperishable one. Thus I do not run aimlessly; I do not fight as if I were shadowboxing. No, I drive my body and train it, for fear that, after having preached to others, I myself should be disqualified.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9)

Reader: ℟ My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, whom I seek:
for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts.

All: ℟ My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Reader: Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary
to see your power and your glory,
for your kindness is a greater good than life;
my lips shall glorify you.

All: ℟ My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Reader: Thus I will bless you as I live;
lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.

As with the riches of the banquet shall my soul be satisfied,
and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

All: **R/ My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

Reader: You are my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.
My soul clings fast to you;
your right hand upholds me.

All: **R/ My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

Gospel (Luke 1: 26-38)
(*stand*)

Reader: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All: **Glory to you, Lord.**

Reader: The angel Gabriel was sent from God
to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,
to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph,
of the house of David,
and the virgin's name was Mary.
And coming to her, he said,
"Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."
But she was greatly troubled at what was said
and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.
Then the angel said to her,
"Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found favor with God.
Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus.
He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,
and the Lord God will give him the throne of David
his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob
forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."
But Mary said to the angel,

"How can this be,
since I have no relations with a man?"
And the angel said to her in reply,
"The Holy Spirit will come upon you,
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.
Therefore the child to be born
will be called holy, the Son of God.
And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,
has also conceived a son in her old age,
and this is the sixth month for her who was called
barren; for nothing will be impossible for God."
Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word."
Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(if an ordained minister is present, he may preach a homily)

Homily

Part Three: Act of Consecration *(stand)*

Leader: O Mary,
bright dawn of the new world,
Mother of the living,
to you do we entrust the *cause of life*:
All: **Look down, O Mother,**
upon the vast numbers
of babies not allowed to be born,
of the poor whose lives are made difficult,
of men and women
who are victims of brutal violence,

of the elderly and the sick killed
by indifference or out of misguided mercy.
Grant that all who believe in your Son
may *proclaim the Gospel of Life*
with honesty and love
to the people of our time.
Obtain for them the grace
to *accept that Gospel*
as a gift ever new,
the joy *of celebrating* it with gratitude
throughout their lives
and the courage to *bear witness to it*
resolutely, in order to build,
together with all people of good will,
the civilization of truth and love,
to the praise and glory of God,
the Creator and lover of life.

Evangelium Vitae
Pope St. John Paul II

Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary (*stand or kneel*)

Leader: Lord, have mercy on us.
All: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

Leader: Christ, have mercy on us.
All: **Christ, have mercy on us.**

Leader: Christ, hear us.
All: **Christ, graciously hear us.**

Leader: God the Father of heaven.
All: **Have mercy on us.**

Leader: God the Son, redeemer of the world.
All: **Have mercy on us.**

Leader: God the Holy Spirit.
All: **Have mercy on us.**

Leader: Holy Trinity, one God.
All: **Have mercy on us.**

Leader: Holy Mary. **R/. Pray for us.**
All: R/ Holy Mother of God. **R/.**
Holy Virgin of virgins. **R/.**
Mother of the Church. **R/.**
Mother of divine grace. **R/.**
Mother most pure. **R/.**
Mother most chaste. **R/.**
Mother inviolate. **R/.**
Mother undefiled. **R/.**
Mother immaculate. **R/.**
Mother most amiable. **R/.**
Mother most admirable. **R/.**
Mother of good counsel. **R/.**
Mother of our Creator. **R/.**
Mother of our Savior. **R/.**
Virgin most prudent. **R/.**
Virgin most venerable. **R/.**
Virgin most renowned. **R/.**
Virgin most powerful. **R/.**
Virgin most merciful. **R/.**
Virgin most faithful. **R/.**
Mirror of justice. **R/.**
Seat of wisdom. **R/.**
Cause of our joy. **R/.**
Spiritual vessel. **R/.**
Vessel of honor. **R/.**
Singular vessel of devotion. **R/.**
Mystical rose. **R/.**
Tower of David. **R/.**
Tower of ivory. **R/.**

House of gold. **R/.**
Ark of the covenant. **R/.**
Gate of heaven. **R/.**
Morning star. **R/.**
Health of the sick. **R/.**
Refuge of sinners. **R/.**
Comforter of the afflicted. **R/.**
Help of Christians. **R/.**
Queen of angels. **R/.**
Queen of patriarchs. **R/.**
Queen of prophets. **R/.**
Queen of apostles. **R/.**
Queen of martyrs. **R/.**
Queen of confessors. **R/.**
Queen of virgins. **R/.**
Queen of all saints. **R/.**
Queen conceived without original sin. **R/.**
Queen assumed into Heaven. **R/.**
Queen of the Most Holy Rosary. **R/.**
Queen of families. **R/.**
Queen of peace. **R/.**

Leader: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
All: **Spare us, O Lord.**

Leader: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
All: **Graciously hear us, O Lord.**

Leader: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
All: **Have mercy on us.**

(*the service ends here unless a priest or bishop is presiding, in which case it concludes with the Final Blessing*)

Part Four: Final Blessing *(stand)*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing. The son of God redeemed mankind. May he enrich you with his blessings.
All: Amen.

Celebrant You have received the author of life through Mary. May you always rejoice in her loving care.
All: Amen.

Celebrant You have come to pray that the sanctity of human life, from the moment of conception until natural death, will, once again reign in human hearts and enjoy the full protection of law. Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, may you be granted the wisdom, strength and grace to persevere in this effort.
All: Amen.

Celebrant May almighty God bless you, the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit
All: Amen.

New Testament Reading
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Responsorial Psalm and Gospel
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Knights of Columbus Supreme Council

History of the Silver Rose
(Continued)

The Squires were so enthused by the success of this effort that they wanted to invite other Squires from around the world to participate. They called on Squires from Texas and Ontario to join them. The Canadian Squires asked that the journey of the rose begin in their home and move from there through the United States, finishing at the Basilica in Mexico.

After a year, the first rose had decomposed, so a group decided to make a bronze rose that would not age. When the Squires of Circle 660 in Monterrey heard of the bronze rose, they decided to make a similar rose. Silver was chosen for this new rose because it is a precious metal of Mexico.

The first Silver Rose was blessed by Bishop Alfonso Espino Silva and sent to the Supreme Council headquarters of the Knights of Columbus in New Haven, CT. Both the Bronze Rose and the Silver Rose were received by Supreme Knight Luke E. Hart and were so admired by Archbishop Francis J. Spellman of New York that he kept them for a special Mass before they were flown to Texas to once again be turned over to brother Knights at the midpoint of the International Bridge.

After 1961, the program was conducted by the Knights of Texas and Mexico and the Our Lady of Guadalupe Province of the Fourth Degree until the mid-1990s, when it was adopted as a Knights of Columbus Supreme Council program. In 2001, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson expanded the Silver Rose program further. “[This is] a perfect program for the Knights of Columbus,” said Mr. Anderson. “Through it we honor not only Our Lady of Guadalupe and express the unity of the Order, but we also reaffirm the Order’s dedication to the sanctity of human life. It is to the Blessed Mother that we turn in prayer as we work to end the Culture of Death that grips our society. As we think in terms of ‘One Life, One Rose,’ it is most appropriate that we turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses.”

Today, eight roses run along different North American routes that include Canada, every U.S. state, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and Mexico. This tradition spreads devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe and embodies international brotherhood as jointly nurtured across the continent.

Knights of Columbus®

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