

Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 4-12, 2025



Diocese of Saginaw
Parish Schedules



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF SAGINAW

December, 2025

Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us! One of the shining lights in this Advent season is Our Lady of Guadalupe. In her own words, *"I will give Him [Jesus] to the people in all my personal love, in my compassion, in my help, in my protection: because I am truly your merciful Mother, yours and all the people who live united in this land and of all the other people of different ancestries, my lovers, who love me, those who seek me, those who trust in me."*

Our Lady of Guadalupe is the voice of Jesus to us in the same way that she was to Juan Diego – a voice which shared this deep compassion for this suffering people of Mexico. In the season of Advent and as we approach the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12th, we are invited to reflect upon how we, as individuals, communities and a nation share this same compassion for the immigrants among us.

The Church has consistently taught that God calls us to welcome the stranger. Our Lady of Guadalupe reminds us that God's unfailing love encompasses all of us, regardless of status, race, nationality, or our differences. As we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, we also honor the millions of refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers in the United States and across the world who live in fear because of the current political climate.

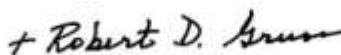
Our Catholic teaching exhorts all of us to recognize the fundamental dignity of all persons, including immigrants. During this Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe, we can all take positive steps in this regard. I encourage you to pray and advocate for a meaningful reform of our nation's immigration laws and procedures. Our concern for the human person and national security are not in conflict. Both are possible if people of good will work together. Our concern for neighbor and our concern for immigrants is a response to the Lord's command to love as He has loved us (*John 13:34*).

Make attending Mass for this intention a priority during this Novena. Spend additional time in prayer and the reading of Sacred Scripture. Take the time to educate yourself and others about Catholic Social Teaching around immigration and Our Lady of Guadalupe's message. Allow your heart of compassion to help those in need. Donate money, food or clothing to help through your local charities. Look for ways to volunteer your time to help migrants and others in our communities.

As we celebrate the miracle of Our Lady of Guadalupe, we thank God for her tender love and protection. We ask Our Lady to watch over us, our families and our children, especially the poor and vulnerable.

We ask Our Lady of Guadalupe to lead all of us to a new spirit of welcoming and responsibility for others, regardless of who they are and where they are from. During this season of Advent, we ask Our Lady of Guadalupe to keep our hearts focused on the promises of this season, leading us all to a deeper life in her Son, Jesus.

Peace and joy in Christ,


Most Reverend Robert D. Gruss
Bishop of Saginaw



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF SAGINAW

Diciembre de 2025

Novena a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

Saludos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo,

¡Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, ruega por nosotros! Una de las luces brillantes de esta temporada de Adviento es Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. En sus propias palabras, *"Le entregaré [a Jesús] al pueblo con todo mi amor personal, en mi compasión, en mi ayuda, en mi protección: porque soy verdaderamente tu Madre misericordiosa, tuyos y todas las personas que viven unidas en esta tierra y de todos los demás pueblos de diferentes ascendencias, mis amantes, que me aman, los que me buscan, los que confían en mí."*

Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe es la voz de Jesús para nosotros del mismo modo que lo fue para Juan Diego: una voz que compartía esta profunda compasión por este pueblo sufriente de México. En la temporada de Adviento y al acercarnos al Día de la Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe el 12 de diciembre, estamos invitados a reflexionar sobre cómo nosotros, como individuos, comunidades y nación, compartimos esta misma compasión por los inmigrantes entre nosotros.

La Iglesia ha enseñado constantemente que Dios nos llama a dar la bienvenida al forastero. Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe nos recuerda que el amor inagotable de Dios nos abarca a todos, sin importa de nuestro estatus, raza, nacionalidad o nuestras diferencias. Al celebrar la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, también honramos a los millones de refugiados, migrantes y solicitantes de asilo en los Estados Unidos y en todo el mundo que viven con miedo debido al clima político actual.

Nuestra enseñanza católica nos exhorta a todos a reconocer la dignidad fundamental de todas las personas, incluidos los inmigrantes. Durante esta Novena a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, todos podemos dar pasos positivos en este sentido. Te animo a rezar y abogar por una reforma significativa de las leyes y procedimientos migratorios de nuestro país. Nuestra preocupación por la persona humana y la seguridad nacional no están en conflicto. Ambas cosas son posibles si personas de buena voluntad trabajan juntas. Nuestra preocupación por el prójimo y nuestra preocupación por los inmigrantes es una respuesta al mandamiento del Señor de amar como nos ha amado a nosotros (*Juan 13:34*).

Haz de la asistencia a misa con este propósito una prioridad durante esta Novena. Dedica tiempo adicional a la oración y a la lectura de las Sagradas Escrituras. Tómate el tiempo para informarte a ti mismo y a otros sobre la Doctrina Social Católica en tocante la inmigración y el mensaje de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Permite que tu corazón de compasión ayude a quienes lo necesiten. Dona dinero, comida o ropa para ayudar a través de tus organizaciones benéficas locales. Busca maneras de ofrecer tu tiempo como voluntario para ayudar a migrantes y a otras personas en nuestras comunidades.

Al celebrar el milagro de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, damos gracias a Dios por su tierno amor y su protección. Pedimos a Nuestra Señora que vele por nosotros, nuestras familias y nuestros hijos, especialmente los pobres y vulnerables.

Pedimos a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe que nos guíe a todos hacia un nuevo espíritu de bienvenida y responsabilidad hacia los demás, no le hace de quiénes sean y de dónde vengan.

Durante esta temporada de Adviento, pedimos a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe que mantenga el corazón enfocado en las promesas de esta temporada, llevándonos a todos a una vida más profunda en su Hijo, Jesús.

Paz y alegría en Cristo,

Reverendísimo Robert D. Gruss
Obispo de Saginaw

¿NO ESTOY YO AQUÍ, QUE SOY TU MADRE? AM I NOT HERE, WHO AM YOUR MOTHER?

(Nican Mopohua, n.119) Diciembre de 1531

The Apparitions of Our Lady the Virgin of Guadalupe to Juan Diego *Las Apariciones de Nuestra Señora Virgen de Guadalupe a Juan Diego*



First Apparition: Saturday Dec. 9 at dawn

Juan Diego hears bird songs. They call him by his name; he climbs to the top of the Tepeyac hill and sees the Girl who orders him to go to the Bishop to ask him for a temple on the plain. “My dearest son: I am the perfect ever Virgin Holy Mary, Mother of the most true God..., I very much want you to kindly build me my little temple...I will always be there to listen to your cries, your sadness, to purify, to cure all their different miseries, their sorrows, their pains”.

Second Apparition: Sat., December 9 at about 5 PM.

Juan Diego returns to the summit, relaying the Bishop’s incredulity, and asks that another messenger be chosen. Nevertheless, the Virgin confirms him to her mission and orders him to go back the next day. “My little son, the smallest: it is essential that it be entirely through your intervention that my wish be carried out. I beg you very much and I strictly command you, that tomorrow you go again to see the Bishop. And make him hear my will very clearly, so that he can make my temple that I ask of him”.

Third Apparition: Sun., Dec. 10, about 3 PM.

Back at the summit, Juan Diego recounts his second interview with the Bishop. He still does not believe her and orders her to ask the Lady for a sign. The Virgin orders Juan Diego to return to the hill the next day to receive the sign that she will give him. “That’s right, my little son, the most beloved. Tomorrow you will come here again to take the proof to the High Priest, the sign that he asks of you. With that he will immediately believe you, and he will not distrust you at all”. Juan Diego does not return due to the illness of his uncle Juan Bernardino.

Fourth Apparition: Tuesday, December 12, very early in the morning.

Faced with his uncle’s seriousness, Juan Diego leaves for Mexico to look for a priest. He circled the hill so that the Virgin would not find him. But she goes out to meet him and reassures him not to worry about his uncle’s illness: “I give you the full assurance that he is healed.” She sends him to the summit for the roses that will be the sign. On his return, the Virgin tells him, “My dearest son, these different precious flowers are the proof, the sign that you will take to the Bishop. On my behalf you will tell him to please see my desire in them, and with that, abide by my will.”

Fifth Apparition: Tuesday, December 12, very early in the morning.

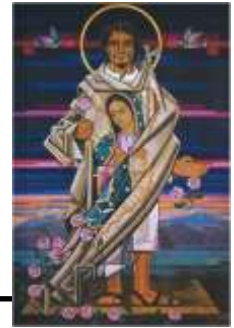
At the same time that She appears to Juan Diego, She appears to Juan Bernardino, the seer’s uncle, in his house. She heals him of his illnesses and tells him Her name and asks that from now on, “That Her precious image be precisely called and known as the EVER VIRGIN SANTA MARIA DE GUADALUPE”.

The imprinting of the Tilma: Tuesday, December 12 at noon.

In the house of Bishop Fray Juan de Zumárraga, Juan Diego shows the roses that he carried in his tilma, the sign given by the Virgin. He unfolded his cloak, where he carried the flowers. And in doing so, the different precious flowers were scattered, at that very moment... the revered image of the ever Virgin Mary, Mother of God, appeared suddenly in the humble tilma, just as we now see it and have the joy of venerating her in what is Her favorite home, Her temple of Tepeyac.

St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatatzin, 1474–1548, Nahua peasant and Marian visionary. He was granted visits by Our Lady of Guadalupe on four occasions in December 1531. The Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, located at the foot of Tepeyac, houses Juan Diego's cloak (*tilmahtli*). The image of the Virgin was miraculously imprinted as proof of the authenticity of the apparitions.

St. Juan Diego was beatified on May 6, 1990 and canonized on July 31, 2002, by Pope John Paul II. His feast day is December 9th and he is the patron saint of Indigenous people.



Primera Aparición: Sábado 9 de diciembre en la madrugada.

Juan Diego oye cantos de pájaros. Le llaman por su nombre; sube a la cumbre del cerro del Tepeyac y ve a la Niña que le ordena ir ante el Obispo para pedirle un templo en el llano. «Hijito mío el más amado: yo soy la perfecta siempre Virgen Santa María, Madre del verdaderísimo Dios, mucho quiero tengan la bondad de construirme mi templecito. Allí estaré siempre dispuesta a escuchar su llanto, su tristeza, para purificar, para curar todas sus diferentes miserias, sus penas, sus dolores».

Segunda Aparición: Sábado 9 de diciembre aproximadamente a las 5 de la tarde.

Juan Diego vuelve a la cumbre y da cuenta de la incredulidad del Obispo y pide que escoja otro mensajero. Pero la Virgen le confirma en su misión y le ordena insistir al día siguiente. «Hijito mío el más pequeño: es indispensable que sea totalmente por tu intervención que se lleve a cabo mi deseo. Muchísimo te ruego y con rigor te mando, que mañana vayas otra vez a ver al Obispo. Y hazle oír muy claro mi voluntad, para que haga mi templo que le pido».

Tercera Aparición: Domingo 10 de diciembre como a las 3 de la tarde.

Nuevamente en la cumbre, Juan Diego refiere su segunda entre-vista con el Obispo. Aún no le cree y le ordena pedir a la Señora alguna señal. La Virgen ordena a Juan Diego que vuelva al cerro al día siguiente para recibir la señal que le dará. «Así está bien, hijito mío, el más amado. Mañana de nuevo vendrás aquí para que lleves al Gran Sacerdote la prueba, la señal que te pide. Con eso enseguida te creará, y ya para nada desconfiará de ti». Juan Diego, no vuelve por la enfermedad de su tío Juan Bernardino.

Cuarta Aparición: Martes 12 de diciembre muy de madrugada.

Ante la gravedad de su tío, Juan Diego sale a México para buscar un sacerdote. Rodeó el cerro para que la Virgen no lo encontrara. Pero ella sale a su encuentro; lo tranquiliza de la enfermedad de su tío: «Te doy la plena seguridad de que ya sanó»: Lo envía a la cumbre por las rosas que serán la señal. A su regreso, la Virgen le dice: «Hijito queridísimo: estas diferentes flores son la prueba, la señal que le llevarás al Obispo. De parte mía le dirás que por favor vea en ella mi deseo, y con eso, ejecute mi voluntad».

Quinta Aparición: Martes 12 de diciembre muy de madrugada.

Al mismo tiempo que se aparece a Juan Diego, se aparece a Juan Bernardino, tío del vidente, en su casa le cura de sus enfermedades y le manifiesta su nombre y pide que de ahora en adelante, «a su preciosa imagen precisamente se le llame, se le conozca como la SIEMPRE VIRGEN SANTA MARIA DE GUADALUPE».

La estampación en la Tilma: Martes 12 de diciembre al mediodía.

En la casa del Obispo Fray Juan de Zumárraga, Juan Diego muestra las rosas que llevaba en su tilma, señal dada por la Virgen. «Desplegó su tilma, donde llevaba las flores. Y así, al tiempo que se esparcieron las diferentes flores preciosas, en ese mismo instante... apareció de improviso en la humilde tilma la venerada imagen de la siempre Virgen María, Madre de Dios, tal como ahora tenemos la dicha de venerarla en lo que es su hogar predilecto, su templo del Tepeyac».

PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

The Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is inscribed with the following prayer, requesting the intercession of the Blessed Mother under her title as the Patroness of Latin America:

Dearest Lady of Guadalupe, fruitful Mother of Holiness, teach me your ways of gentleness and strength. Hear my prayer offered with deepfelt confidence to beg this favor....

O Mary, conceived without sin, I come to your throne of grace to share the fervent devotion of your faithful Mexican children who call to you under the glorious Aztec title of “Guadalupe” the virgin who crushed the serpent.

Queen of Martyrs, whose Immaculate heart was pierced by seven wounds of grief, help me to walk valiantly amid the sharp thorns thrown across my pathway.

Queen of Apostles aid me to win souls for the Sacred Heart of my Savior. I plead this through the merits of your merciful Son,

Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

[The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception](#)



**¡MISAS DOMINICALES!
EN ESPAÑOL EN KINDE!**

**Sunday Mass in Spanish
in KINDE, Michigan**

DONDE: La Iglesia de Santa Maria de Czestochowa

DIRECCIÓN: 1709 Moeller Road

Kinde, Michigan

CUANDO: Cada segundo domingo del mes

EL PROXIMO: 8 de diciembre, 2025

HORA: A las 7:00 PM

Con Padre Craig Carolan
¡TODOS BIENVENIDOS!

This is a new location for Fr. Craig's Misa en español.
Other parishes continue to celebrate Mass in Spanish
according to their regular schedules.

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATIONS
2025 SCHEDULE**

All Celebrations at St. Francis of Assisi, 3680 S. Washington Road, Saginaw

Tuesday, December 9th

Feast of San Juan Diego

Children's Danza - Dance of Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe

Rosary at 5:15 p.m. – Mass at 6:00 p.m.

Celebrant: Fr. Jose Cabrera

Social to follow

Thursday, December 11th

Rosary at 5:15 p.m. – Mass at 6:00 p.m.

Celebrant: Fr. Alberto Vargas

Las Mañanitas

Serenade to Our Lady of Guadalupe - Mariachi's

Social to follow

Wednesday, December 10th

Rosary at 5:15 a.m. – Mass at 6:00 p.m.

Celebrant: Fr. Alberto Vargas

Social to follow

Friday, December 12th

Feast Day Our Lady Guadalupe

Rosary at 5:15 p.m. – Mass at 6:00 p.m.

Celebrant: Fr. Alberto Vargas

Social to follow



**St. Brigid of Kildare Parish of Midland
207 Ashman St, Midland, MI 48640
2024 Schedule**

Santa Misa en honor

a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

Friday, December 12, 2023 5:30 PM

There will be a Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Brigid's on Dec. 12th at 5:30 pm followed by a reception and presentation on Our Lady of Guadalupe and a talent show.

**Ave Maria Parish of Lexington
2025 Schedule**

Bilingual Mass followed by refreshments

Misa en honor a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

Friday, December 12, 2025 6:00 PM

Croswell Lions Club Hall

17 Wells St., Croswell, MI 48422



ST JOSEPH PARISH

910 N. SIXTH AVENUE, SAGINAW, MI 48601

DEC 4-12, 2025

Rosary each night at 5:30 p.m., Mass each night at 6:30 p.m.

Worship music provided by La Rondalla de San José.

Stop by after Mass at our Hall for a social hour. Entertainment all week by Louie Garcia.

Thursday December 4th

Rosary & MC: Cathy Soto & Theresa Rocha
St. Joseph Damas de Guadalupe
Celebrant: **Fr. Nicholas Coffaro**
Peregrinos: St Joseph Damas de Guadalupe
Host: Isadoras

Friday December 5th

Rosary & MC: Rosalinda Soza
St Joseph Dama de Guadalupe
Celebrant: **Fr. Andy Booms**
Peregrinos: St. Joseph Club & Office
Host: La Mision Rudy & Veronica Vela

Saturday December 6th

Rosary & MC: Becky Grai & Lisa Torrez
St Joseph Damas de Guadalupe
Celebrant: **Fr. Stephen Blaxton**
Peregrinos: Cursillistas
Host: Maria Uribe, President
St Joseph Damas de Guadalupe
Lupe Uribe & Family in memory of the
Antonio Sandoval & Uribe Family

Sunday December 7th Pearl Harbor Day

Rosary & MC: Mike & Janie Guzman
St Joseph Dama de Guadalupe
Celebrant: **Fr. Christian Tabares**
Peregrinos: All Veterans & American GI Forum
Host: American G I Form

Monday December 8th

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Rosary & MC: Oscar & Anne Gonzales
St. Joseph Damas de Guadalupe
Celebrant: **Fr. Jose Maria Cabrera**
Peregrinos: St Joseph Damas de Guadalupe
Host: Gayton Family in memory of
Manuela & Tim Anaya
and Lalo & Christina Gayton

Tuesday December 9th

Rosary & MC: Bruce & Liz Isotalo
Celebrant: **Fr. Alberto Vargas**
Peregrinos: St. Joseph Youth Club
Host: K ?Onda & Salcedo family
in honor of Jesse Salcedo

Wednesday December 10th

Rosary & MC: Margaret Olvera, Spiritual Leader
St. Joseph Dama de Guadalupe
Celebrant: **Fr. Marc Hopp**
Peregrinos: Musicians
Host: Melissa Gonzales-Spitz in memory
of the Gonzales and Sanchez family
St. Joseph Damas de Guadalupe

Thursday December 11th Mañanitas

Rosary & MC: Luisa Gutierrez
Celebrant: **Fr. Frank Voris**
Peregrinos: Senior Citizens
Host: Escareno & Buendia Family
in memory of Luara Buendia,
Mariano Escareno &
Rafeal Campos

Friday December 12th –

Feast day of our Lady of Guadalupe
Crowning of Mary: (Angel Tello)
Rosary: Rosie Heredia
St. Joseph Dama de Guadalupe
Celebrant: **Fr. Richard John**
Peregrinos: St. Joseph Damas de Guadalupe
Host: St. Joseph Damas de Guadalupe
Celebration dinner after Mass.





NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE December 4 – 12, 2025.

All events will take place at St. Boniface Church,
510 N. Lincoln, Bay City MI, 48708.
(except the Mass on Saturday, December 6th at our St. James Church.)
All are welcome!

- Thursday, December 4th** - Celebrant: Fr. Alberto Vargas.
Spanish Rosary at 6:00 p.m. and Spanish/Bilingual Mass at 6:30 p.m.
Chocolate and sweet bread after Mass at Cherry Hall.
- Friday, December 5th** - Celebrant: Fr. Christian Tabares.
Spanish Rosary at 6:00 p.m. and Spanish/Bilingual Mass at 6:30 p.m.
Chocolate and sweet bread after Mass at Cherry Hall.
- Saturday, December 6th - Vigil for the 2nd Sunday of Advent** - Celebrant: Fr. Jose Cabrera.
St. James Church, 710 Columbus Ave., Bay City, MI 48708.
4:00 p.m. Spanish/English Confessions - Adoration chapel.
4:30 p.m. English Rosary – St. James Church
5:00 p.m. English Mass – St. James Church
Chocolate and sweet bread after Mass at Langley Hall.
- Sunday, December 7th - 2nd Sunday of Advent.**
Celebrant: Fr. Jose Cabrera and Deacon Larry Gayton, preaching.
Spanish Rosary at 12:00 noon and Spanish/Bilingual Mass at 12:30pm
Social after Mass at Cherry Hall.
- Monday, December 8th** - Celebrant: Fr. Dale Orlik.
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Faith formation children will join us for Mass
English Rosary at 6:00 p.m. and English Mass at 6:30 p.m.
Chocolate and sweet bread after Mass at Cherry Hall.
- Tuesday, December 9th** - Celebrant: Fr. Craig Carolan.
Spanish Rosary at 6:00 p.m. and Spanish/Bilingual Mass at 6:30 p.m.
Chocolate and sweet bread after Mass at Cherry Hall.
- Wednesday, December 10th** - Celebrant: Fr. Suman Kondaveeti. Concelebrant: Fr. Jose Cabrera.
Spanish Rosary at 6:00 p.m. and Spanish/Bilingual Mass at 6:30 p.m.
Chocolate and sweet bread after Mass at Cherry Hall.
- Thursday, December 11th** - Celebrant: Fr. Nate Harburg. Concelebrant: Fr. Jose Cabrera.
Spanish Rosary at 6:00 p.m. and Spanish/Bilingual Mass at 6:30 p.m.
Festive Meal after Mass at Cherry Hall
8:30 pm Mañanitas to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Church. Mariachi Band serenades Our Lady.
- Friday, December 12th** - Celebrant: Fr. Andrew Booms. Concelebrant: Fr. Jose Cabrera.
Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Spanish Rosary at 6:00 p.m. and Spanish/Bilingual Mass at 6:30 p.m.
Pot-luck Social after Mass in the hall. Please, bring a dish to pass.



ALL ARE WELCOME!

Annunciation of the Lord Parish of Port Austin
Novena Mass, and Fiesta in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Kinde, Michigan

Misa y Fiesta En Honor de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

December 12, 2024 7:00 PM Viernes/Friday

La Iglesia de Santa Maria de Czestochowa
1709 Moeller Road
Kinde, Michigan

Después de la misa habrá una convivencia en el
Salón de la Iglesia. Trae un plato para pasar.



Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish
1503 Kosciuszko Avenue, Bay City, MI

Each year as the Church celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, we are reminded that in God we are all brothers and sisters and children of our Blessed Mother, Mary. The appearance of Our Lady in Mexico almost 500 years ago was not an isolated event intended only for the Natives, the Mexicans or the Mexican-Americans but her appearance was for all of us. Our Blessed Mother came to give birth to a renewed Christianity in the Americas. She came to help us evangelize society. Our Blessed Mother stands as a symbol of becoming free human beings. May this celebration of our Lady bring us all closer to being brothers and sisters in Christ and to fill our hearts with love, peace and hope.

In honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish will have on display a beautiful painting of Our Lady of Guadalupe at our parish. We extend a warm welcome to you and your families to our all our daily and Weekend Masses and especially during the Novena and at the following Masses:

Saturday December 6th at 4:15 pm
Sunday December 7th at 9:00 am and 11:30 am
Friday December 12th at 7:00 am
Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Saturday
December 6, 2025
4:15 p.m.
St. Stanislaus Church
1503 Kosciuszko Ave.
Bay City, MI 48708

Sunday
December 7, 2025
9:00 and 11:30 a.m.
St. Stanislaus Church
1503 Kosciuszko Ave.
Bay City, MI 48708

Friday
December 12, 2025
7:00 a.m.
St. Stanislaus Church
1503 Kosciuszko Ave.
Bay City, MI 48708

THE CABRINI PLEDGE

“Migrants and refugees remind the Church of her pilgrim dimension, perpetually journeying towards her final homeland, sustained by a hope that is a theological virtue.”

—Pope Leo XIV, Message for the 111th World Day of Migrants and Refugees

The history of the U.S. Catholic Church, like the history of the United States itself, is very much intertwined with the phenomenon of migration. The first American citizen to be canonized a saint, Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, was the embodiment of this. An immigrant from Italy, she adopted this country as her own. While often facing discrimination and seemingly impossible odds, she never succumbed to hopelessness. With relentless faith, she accompanied her fellow immigrants and others living on the margins of society with a great missionary zeal.

But Mother Cabrini’s challenges, and the challenges of those she served, are not unique among the generations of Catholics and immigrants in general who have come to this land. This is not just a matter of history. It is a present reality in the life of our Church and nation.

As Catholics, we are called to recognize the face of Christ in each person we encounter, especially the poor and vulnerable. Jesus tells us in his own words: “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me” (Matthew 25:35). The Gospel and the social teaching of the Church continually affirm the equal dignity of every person, irrespective of race, nationality, or immigration status.

The Cabrini Pledge is both a reminder of our immigrant heritage and a call to deeper engagement with our faith in response to current events. At a time when our culture is dominated by deep political divisions and reasonable disagreements about immigration policy, progress can feel impossible. But by witnessing to the God-given dignity of every person, including the migrants and refugees in our midst, we pave the way for an approach rooted in mercy, justice, and the common good. And together, like Mother Cabrini, we can be keepers of hope.

An Invitation to be Keepers of Hope

I PLEDGE:

- **To affirm, in word and deed, the inherent dignity of every person,** regardless of immigration status or country of origin, seeing each as a child of God before all else.
- **To engage with Scripture and the Church’s social teaching,** reflecting on the role of migration in salvation history, the history of the United States, and the history of my own family.
- **To listen and learn about the circumstances facing migrants and refugees,** including those in my community, with an open heart and mind.
- **To seek opportunities for encounter,** so as to grow in deeper understanding and communion that leads to an authentic solidarity with those in need.
- **To consider what it means to be a good neighbor** and how I am called to reflect the love and hope of Christ to others.
- **To encourage civic dialogue that places the human person and the sanctity of families at the center of policymaking,** especially toward the end of meaningful immigration reform.
- **To join with Pope Leo in praying for all migrants and refugees** as fellow travelers on the journey to our true homeland.

[The Cabrini Pledge: An Invitation to be Keepers of Hope](#)



Catholic Diocese of **SAGINAW**

Office of Multicultural Ministry

Diacono Librado Gayton, Director (989) 797-6604 lgayton@diosag.org
 Maria Coss, Mission Coordinator (989) 797-6646 mcoss@diosag.org