



+CARLOS CARDINAL AGUIAR RETES

BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND THE HOLY SEE
ARCHBISHOP OF MEXICO

Prot. 555/2020

Mexico City, December 8th, 2020
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Pope Francis offers Plenary Indulgence to those who celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at home.

To my brother bishops, priests, religious and all the People of God who are faithful devotees of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Dear brothers and sisters:

Last Thursday, December 3rd, the liturgical feast of Saint Francis Xavier, I sent a letter to His Holiness Pope Francis on behalf of all the People of God who have a special devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

In this letter, I explained that with 2020 being one of the most difficult years in history due to the pandemic and other evils, we expected many devotees to make a pilgrimage to the Shrine of our Lady here in Mexico City but also to other Guadalupe Shrines throughout the world despite the risk of contagion from COVID-19. I shared that millions of people were likely come to Tepeyac Hill in Mexico and to other Guadalupe Shrines throughout world seeking the consolation of our Blessed Mother, Our Lady of Guadalupe.

I also shared with him the difficult but necessary decision to close the National Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, from December 10 to 13, and the need to have our celebrations at home participating through mass media.

Considering the serious consequences, a pilgrimage could have due to the pandemic, I asked His Holiness for the grace to grant a Plenary Indulgence to the faithful who celebrate this important solemnity at their homes, which will encourage us to stay home and avoid crowds in the Basilica of Guadalupe or any other Guadalupe pilgrimage site.

This Sunday, December 6, from the main altar of the Basilica of Guadalupe, I made public that the Holy Father had seen fit to give a positive response to my request. Today it fills me with great joy to be able to communicate to you that this Plenary Indulgence will be granted on December 11th and 12th under the following conditions.

-Prepare an altar or place of prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe in your home.



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-Participate through the media at one of the masses offered at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City (00:00 hours or 12:00hrs on December 12) actively participating in the Holy Eucharist as you would in person, that is, with devotion and with exclusive attention to the Eucharist. You can access the masses via <https://www.youtube.com/user/BasilicadeGuadalupe>

-And comply with the usual conditions to benefit from indulgences: 1) Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father. 2) Be in a state of grace after having confessed. 3) Attend full Mass. 4) Receive Communion. The last three conditions can be fulfilled when public health guidance allow.

I wish that all our pilgrim People, who from the bottom of their wounded hearts seek the comfort, protection and tenderness from Our Blessed Mother, take advantage of this grace Pope Francis has granted us and that is extended to the faithful departed. Rather than going to her house, let Our Lady visit us in our homes this year. Let us open our doors to her and lift our hearts to her so that she may bless us and cover us with her mantle.

May Our Lord Jesus Christ and His Blessed Mother, Holy Mary of Guadalupe, continue to accompany us and bless all People of God in this moment of pain throughout the world. We are not alone, she walks with us, she is our Mother!

+ Carlos Cardinal Aguiar Retes

**ARCHBISHOP OF MEXICO
PRIMATE OF MEXICO**

By mandate of His Eminence, I attest

Reverend Father Alan Téllez Aguilar
Chancellor