

# Our Lady of Tepeyac

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In memory of my wife Juanita Rodriguez 12-29-1932 – 05-16-2015

We discussed marriage when we were 12; married at 21 and had a wonderful, wonderful 61 years together.

## Preface

I first learned of the inaccurate Mexican name Guadalupe on December 12, 1984 when Padre Jose de la Luz Silva, from Coatzintla Veracruz, Mexico came to Chicago and celebrated the mass in honor of Our Lady of Tepeyac (I try not to refer to her as Guadalupe) at St. Agnes church in Brighton Park, Chicago. In his Homely he spoke almost vehemently about the incorrect use of the name Guadalupe.

He explained about how Juan Bernardino's words were misinterpreted and that in his parish, which is mostly indigenous, they use Santa Maria Tequantlaxopeuh, (crush the serpent of stone). However his words were forgotten here, I included, and the name Guadalupe continued to be used.

Years later I decided to investigate but it was hard trying to find information through the church because the local clergy does not know the story. Going to libraries was difficult because I did not know what to look for.

Then Padre Silva came on one of his several visits to raise funds to build a priest retirement home in his parish. My wife Juanita was the driving force in raising \$66,000.00 for the home. It took nearly 10 years but she did it. The home would have cost at least \$500,000.00 in the U.S.A. Padre Silva had pro bono architecture services, much donated materials and used all indigenous labor. I then began my investigation more vigorously.

In 2004 my wife and I celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary there and we vacationed there; staying in the church which was on top of the highest hill. We do not care to go to the tourist cities. We liked staying in the small town with the friendly people; many were indigenous. They performed little known indigenous dances for us

By then I had been persuaded to purchase a computer because it would help me in my activities.

That is when my investigations became easier. I found so much on the internet albeit some is inaccurate.

I found the book The Wonder of Guadalupe by Francis Johnston and most of the information here is quoted from his book. It led me to other internet sites and those sites to others. However I had to validate some of the information for authenticity with corroborating bibliographies.

I have been working on this paper since before 2006. I have not completed it because I keep finding more information such as the shrine in the Philippines and the location of the 1570 Santo Stefano d'Aveto painting that shows what Mary actually looked like on Juan Diego's tilma before the image was tampered with.

**And the 1560 replica, owned by Pope Pius IV, that must look exactly like the Santo Stefano de Avato image; perhaps someone can do research on it.**

**And the article that tells of Mary's image actually appearing horizontally on Juan Diego's ayate blanket :**

<http://www.holymary.info/thewaytheimageappeared.html> "La Virgen se pinto horizontalmente....,"

However I have disseminated it unfinished so that others might find time to search deeper and more accurately than I have. And I am open to qualified corrections and additions. Please let me know what you find.

I do not wish to disabuse. I am informing of what I have found since Padre Silva first informed me of his knowledge on the subject in 1984 and I leave the conclusion to each individual.

Henry A. Roa 12-29-2006

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**SANTA MARIA DE GUADALUPE (Spain)**

**ORIGINAL LADY OF TEPEYAC (Mexico)**



**The true Santa Maria de Guadalupe in the town of Guadalupe in Province of Caceres in Estremadura, Spain**

The Spanish Guadalupe is a wood carving said to have been created by St. Luke. Other accounts place its origin at about the 6th century. I could not find supporting information either way and I have not found what her name was at that time. It is dressed in rich brocade cloaks. Other than her dark skin it is not at all like the Tepeyac image in Mexico City. The Mary of Cáceres statue (as stated I could not find what she was named at that time), carries the Child Jesus in her left arm, holds a royal crystal scepter in her right and wears a gold crown on her head.

This site tells some of the history of the wooden statue of Santa Maria de Guadalupe of Spain :

<http://www.diomedes.com/guadpresentacion.htm> The first draft of this paper showed a 1 1/2 page translation that was inaccurate and confusing so I deleted it and wrote what I felt the site was saying. Please inform me of your view.

It states that according to ancient codices, the first owner of the wooden statue, was St. Luke, in the first century of the Christian era. When he died, in Acaya (Asia Minor) the statue was buried with him. In the fourth century his body, and the statue, were moved to Constantinople and then to Rome by Cardinal Gregory later Pope Gregory. Eventually Isadore, brother of the Pope, transferred the statue to Seville as a gift to St. Leander. It was enshrined in the main church and venerated there until the Muslim (Moorish) invasion in the year 711.

In 714 some clerics fleeing from the Muslim danger took the statue to Extremadura and hid it in a cave along the shore of a river in the Villuercas mountain range. [http://www.hotelazar.com/entorno9\\_eng.html](http://www.hotelazar.com/entorno9_eng.html). Thus, for six centuries, the cult of the statue was lost until in 1326 Mary appeared to a cow shepherd named Gil Cordero. Mary tells Gil that she is the mother of God and to tell the clergy to come to see how she resurrected his cow, where to find her statue and to build a church to house it. On the way he reached a house where a child had died; Gil invoked the Virgin and the child was resurrected. This convinced the clergy of Gil's story and they went and found the statue. A TV show showed that the child was Gil's and Mary told Gil that the statue was buried at the spot where the dead cow lay but I believe the account in the former site above.

During the Muslim occupation the river was given the name Guadalupe, the Islamic term for River of the Wolf, because its shores were infested by wolves. Thus the name Guadalupe is not even a Spanish word. It literally means "Wolf River" (Islamic: Guada = River; Lupe = Wolf) or (Arabic) (Wadī + Lupum) وادي (River of the wolf).

[http://etymonline.com/index.php?allowed\\_in\\_frame=0&search=Guadalupe&searchmode=none](http://etymonline.com/index.php?allowed_in_frame=0&search=Guadalupe&searchmode=none) Many words we think are Spanish are actually Arabic because the Moors occupied Spain for over 600 years so the language was greatly influenced.

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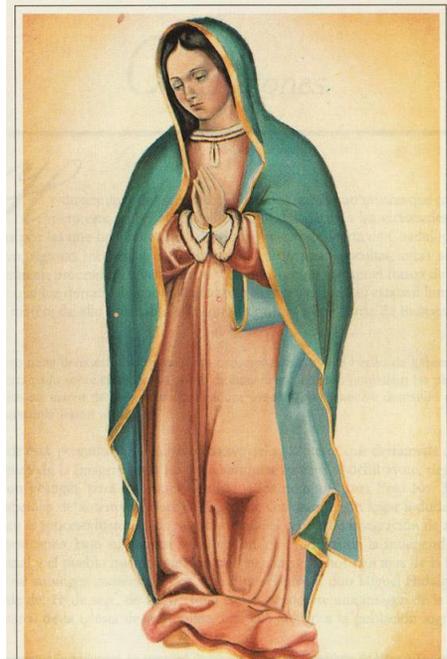


FIGURA No. 2. Excelente pintura lograda con fundamento en el análisis al infrarrojo de la imagen original de Santa María de Guadalupe. Así es nuestra madre, sin retoques ni añadidos alguno. Image of Guadalupe Research Projct (NASA).

**1570 painting of true Tepeyac image before additions and changes were made to it. It is in Santo Stefano d'Aveto, Italy.**

The statue acquired the Guadalupe name when King Alfonso XI (1311-1350) of Castile erected the Royal Monastery of Guadalupe to house the statue and it can be viewed there in the Franciscan Friary Santa Maria de Guadalupe. It was there that Queen Isabel authorized Christopher Columbus to set out on his voyage to discover a sea route to India. He prayed to Mary for a safe and successful voyage. Other explorers also visited the monastery and carried a replica of the Guadalupe statue with them on their journeys. Hernan Cortez was one of them.

<http://womenofgraceblog.com/?p=808> . The shrine is as famous to Spaniards as the Tepeyac shrine is to Mexicans.

Visit : <http://www.solt3.org/guadalupespain.htm>



**Guadalupe** (Arabic Wadī + Lupum) وادي (River of the wolf)

This is from the Online Etymology Dictionary listed within Guadalcanal ;

[http://etymonline.com/index.php?allowed\\_in\\_frame=0&search=Guadalupe&searchmode=none](http://etymonline.com/index.php?allowed_in_frame=0&search=Guadalupe&searchmode=none)

**Guadalupe literally means Wolf River.**



**Province of Cáceres**