

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I wanted to tell you more details about the visit of the Queen of Heaven who is coming to our parishes. Our Lady's beautiful image that she left on St. Juan Diego's tilma will be arriving on Friday, August 13th at St. Sylvester's at 6:30 p.m. We will greet her with songs and a procession involving as many people as possible. It is not every day that such a dignitary visits us, and this dignitary is the Queen of Heaven and earth!! After the image is brought into the church we will celebrate Mass and following the Mass we will pray the holy rosary. Following the rosary I will give a talk on the apparition of Our lady of Guadalupe which occurred in December of 1531 in present day Mexico.

Our Lady's image will remain with us and will be revered in our churches and homes until it leaves us for Caldwell on September 3rd. Those who wish to have the image in their homes need to let Becky Steven know so that she can schedule the visit. She and Tom will bring the image to your house at an hour that is convenient for you. When the image is in your house there is a booklet with various prayers that can be prayed to honor the Mother of God. Many miracles have occurred in the homes of the faithful who receive her with love and who devoutly pray before the image. The image is an exact replica of the one in Mexico and is known as the pilgrim image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. It has travelled to many homes throughout our country.

I am enclosing with this letter a sign-up sheet for Saturday, August 14th and Sunday, August 15th. On those dates this beautiful and miraculous image will remain in the Church of St. Sylvester for the veneration of the faithful. On Saturday, August 14th, the Vigil of the Assumption the image will be present for the 8:30 a.m. Mass and will remain through the afternoon and even during the 5:00 p.m. Mass. The sign-up sheet will allow visitors to remain for half an hour to pray silently before the image throughout the day on Saturday and Sunday. After the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, August 14th Judy Hutchinson from Barnesville who has organized the visit will give a talk on Our Lady of Guadalupe for all those who wish to listen.

On Sunday, the Feast of the Assumption the veneration will continue with half-hour slots so that someone is with our Lady all day from after the 8:30 a.m. Mass until 7:00 p.m. when we will have a Eucharistic Holy Hour. Our Lady always draws us into the Heart of her Divine Son Who is truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I hope everyone will be present to honor Our Lord and His holy Mother at the 7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour.

Our Lady will be visiting various homes and when she arrives in the home those who live there and their invited guests will have the opportunity to pray and ask the Queen of Heaven and Earth for whatever favors they desire. Perhaps there is someone who has fallen away from the Catholic faith, or perhaps someone is sick and suffering, or perhaps there is another intention that those who live in the home wish to present to the powerful Virgin of Guadalupe. She is truly Our Mother and Our Queen and she dispenses all of the graces of her Divine Son. Have confidence in her powerful intercession. If you are not on the list ask Becky Steven to put you on it so that your home and family can be blessed by her visit.

On Saturday, August 21st after the morning 8:30 a.m. Mass the Holy Cross Sisters from Carrollton, Ohio will be visiting us. We will have a pot-luck breakfast after the Mass and then the sisters will talk about Our Lady and the Holy Angels. Their special apostolate is spreading devotion about the work of the holy angels. They are great apostles of the work of the holy angels. I hope everyone will participate and