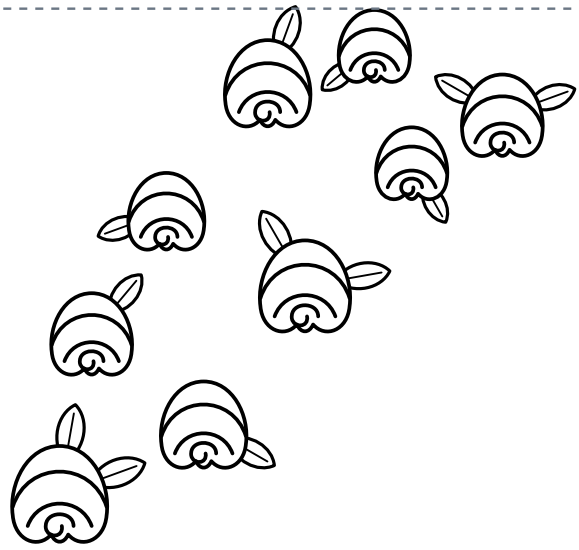
2 fold

Draw more roses here.



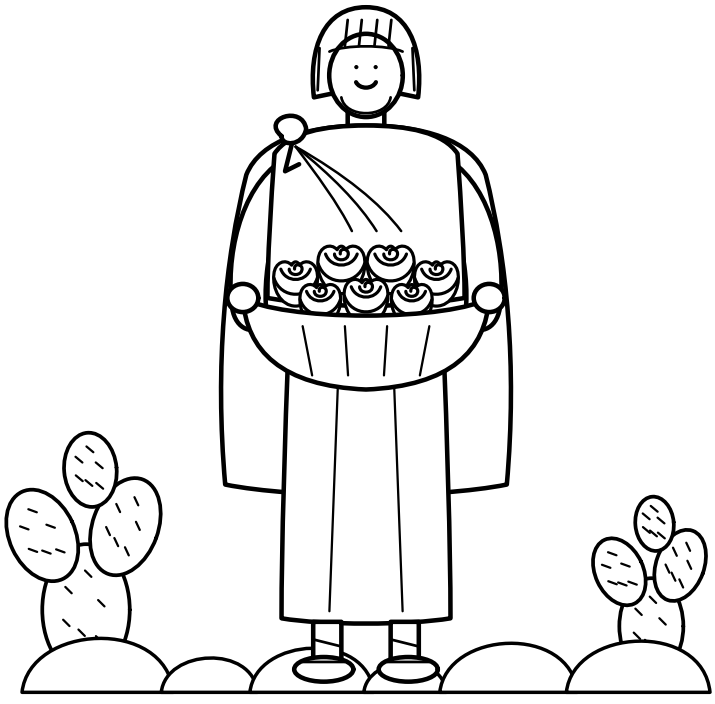
Roses in winter!

Out they tumbled, onto the bishop's floor.

1. fold back

Juan Diego's Tilma

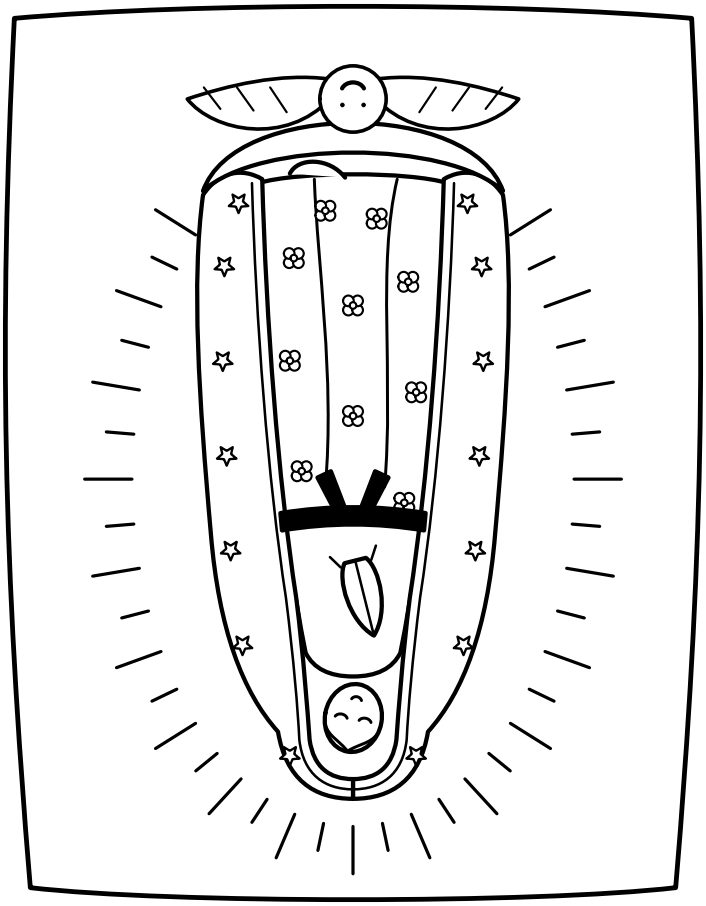
He carried roses to the bishop in his cloak.



Open it, just like Juan Diego did!

1. fold back

Our Lady of Guadalupe



A Little Prayer

Dear God, thank you for loving little ones like us. When something feels too big for us, help us to say yes and try, just like Saint Juan Diego did. And thank you for giving us Mary, our mother in heaven, who is always close to us. Amen.

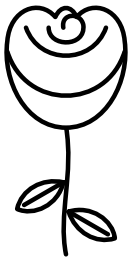
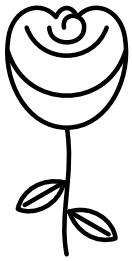
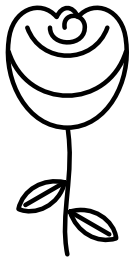
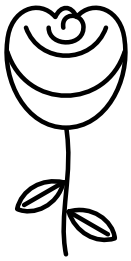
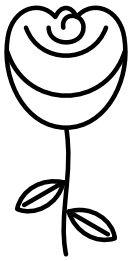
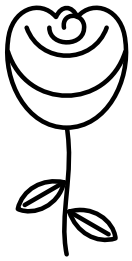
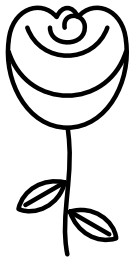
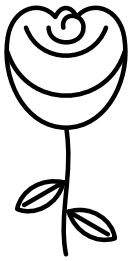
Saint Juan Diego, pray for us.
Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us.

Made by: _____

From Juan Diego and the Miracle of Roses
by Joseph Glazier. littlesaintsbighearts.com

A Rose for Every Yes

Each rose is a yes that pleases Our Lady. When you have said yes and tried, color the rose.
The last two are for your own yeses.
On December 12, give your roses to Our Lady, just as Juan Diego carried his roses for her.

 I was kind to someone at home.	 I shared.	 I said sorry.	 I helped at home without being asked.
 I listened to the grown-ups at home.	 I said my prayers.	 My own yes: _____	 My own yes: _____

Cut out a card to keep by your bed.

☆ Hail Mary ☆

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Tell Our Lady about your day.

What Our Lady said to Juan Diego

"Do not be afraid.
Am I not here,
I who am your mother?"



Say it when you feel worried.

From Juan Diego and the Miracle of Roses by Joseph Glazier. Free to copy for your class or family.

Juan Diego's tilma: leader's guide

A fold-up card, a page of roses and a prayer for children aged 4 to 9, for Saint Juan Diego's feast day (December 9), the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12), or any day in Advent.

You'll need

For each child: page 1 (the tilma card), printed on one side only, and page 2 if you're using the roses or the cards. Crayons, and scissors for page 2. No glue.

Tell his story

Juan Diego was born in 1474 in the Valley of Mexico, a farmer and mat-maker whose name in his own language meant "Talking Eagle." He was baptized as a grown man. As the story has been handed down, one December morning in 1531 Our Lady appeared to him on a rocky hill and asked him to tell the bishop to build her a church there. The bishop wasn't sure, and asked for a sign. Juan Diego begged her to send someone more important, but she told him she had chosen him. Then she sent him to the top of the hill, where roses were blooming in winter. He carried them to the bishop in his tilma, his cloak, and when he opened it, there was a picture of Our Lady on the cloth. The tilma is still in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. In 2002 the Church declared him a saint.

A plan for one session (40 minutes)

- **Story (10 minutes).** Read the book or tell the story. Ask: how did Juan Diego feel when he said "I am only a little nobody"? What did Our Lady say back?
- **Color (15 minutes).** Coloring is easiest while the page is flat. The two pictures on the top half are upside down on purpose: they turn the right way up when the card is folded. Her mantle is blue-green with gold stars, her dress rose-colored. Older children can draw more roses in the box under the roses, and write their name on the "Made by" line under the prayer.
- **Fold (5 minutes).** Fold together, step by step, holding up your own card (see the folding tips).
- **Open it (5 minutes).** In pairs, one child tells the story and opens the tilma at the right moment; then swap.
- **Pray (5 minutes).** Pray the prayer on the back of the card together, then a Hail Mary.

Folding tips

1. Lay page 1 face up and fold the top half **back**, behind, along the line across the middle. You should now see the roses and Our Lady. **2.** Fold it in half like a book, left side over right, so Juan Diego is on the front. Press the folds flat. Little ones will need a hand with the first fold; it helps to fold one at the front of the room as they watch. Printed on both sides, the card won't work: print page 1 on its own.

A rose for every yes

Use page 2 from December 9 to 12, or right through Advent. Each time a child says yes and tries something good that feels hard (saying sorry, tidying up, helping at home), they color a rose. Gather them by a picture of Our Lady on December 12. Six of the roses already carry a yes that pleases Our Lady (being kind at home, sharing, saying sorry, helping without being asked, listening to the grown-ups at home, saying prayers), so no one is stuck for an idea; read them aloud for children who can't read yet. The last two are for each child's own yeses. Every rose counts, and no child needs to say what theirs was for.

Four days with Our Lady

In the traditional account, everything happened between December 9 and 12: he met Our Lady and went to the bishop (the 9th), went back again (the 10th), cared for his sick uncle (the 11th), and carried the roses (the 12th). Many families in your community may celebrate December 12 with songs, roses and processions; invite any who'd like to share how they keep the day.

More ideas for both feasts, and the book *Juan Diego and the Miracle of Roses*, are at littlesaintsbighearts.com/saint-juan-diego-feast-day

Free to copy for your class, program or family. Please don't sell it.