



AMERICAN NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

PROCLAMATION AT MASS

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
dear holy people of God gathered under the maternal protection of Our Lady of Guadalupe:

In light of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and in the midst of the horrors of the current injustices and the shameful immigration policies now affecting our Church community, I wish to extend my heartfelt greetings to you. As we honor Our Lady of Guadalupe—Patroness of all the Americas—we turn our hearts to her maternal protection and her unwavering solidarity with the poor, the vulnerable, and all who suffer. To every member of our community, especially those living in fear, uncertainty, or discrimination, I offer my pastoral concern, my prayers, and my steadfast commitment to stand with you in this difficult hour.

On this blessed feast day, I extend to you my Apostolic Blessings and my warmest and most heartfelt greetings. Today we look to the Virgin of Tepeyac, ever present among her people, interceding for us, protecting us, and guiding all who seek justice, dignity, and peace.

As your pastor, I must speak with you from the depths of my heart. Our communities are suffering under unjust and arbitrary policies, and the harsh and often dehumanizing actions carried out by ICE. These actions have created fear, instability, and profound pain within many of our families. None of us remains untouched by these dark practices that obscure the face of mercy and stand in contradiction to the Gospel we proclaim.

Just as our ancestors in faith endured persecution and violence from the powerful and yet remained steadfast in hope, we too find ourselves in a time of trial. But your courage, your fidelity, and your unwavering witness strengthen my own faith. You refuse to allow anything or anyone to take away what is essential: your dignity, your faith, and your identity as beloved children of God. This, dear people of God, is a shining testimony to the whole Church.

Today I unite my prayers with yours, imploring the Lord for a swift end to all forms of discrimination, racism, and abuse of power. May this nation once a beacon promising peace, safety, and the possibility of a flourishing life turn again toward justice and compassion.

May Our Lady of Guadalupe wrap you in her tilma of love, sustain you in hope, and lead us all along the path of peace and justice.

Remain strong and courageous. Know that you are held in my heart and in my prayers, and that the boundless grace of God accompanies you always.

With my Apostolic Blessing,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George R. Lucey FCM".

Most Rev. George R. Lucey, FCM
Presiding Bishop