

**Silver Rose Prayer Service**  
**March 25, 2021**

The Our Lady of the Hill Beaumont Knights of Columbus is hosting a very special event on Thursday, March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation of Mary.

First, let us provide some history. In December 1531, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared several times to a Mexican peasant called Juan Diego. She instructed Juan Diego to report to the local bishop and request that a church be built in her honor in that place. Juan Diego did as he was asked, but the bishop asked for a sign that would confirm that she was truly Our Lady. Juan Diego was instructed to gather some roses, which were miraculously blooming in winter. She arranged those roses in Juan Diego's tilma (cloak) before he returned to the bishop. When Juan spilled the roses out in front of the bishop, an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe had been imprinted on his tilma. As a result of this apparition, millions of people converted to Christianity.

For sixty years now, to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe and to commemorate this miracle of the roses, the Knights of Columbus in Monterrey, Mexico have organized a journey that involves a silver rose travelling from eight different starting points in North America, over a nine-month period, with each of the roses arriving at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Monterrey, Mexico on December 12 – the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Five of these routes begin in Canada, one of them originating in Alberta. From our province, the silver rose travels south through the States and into Mexico with visits in various Catholic parishes along the way. We are blessed to have the silver rose visit us in St. Vital Parish on March 25. Accompanying the rose, which is fashioned out of silver – a precious metal of Mexico, is a picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe that was blessed by St. John Paul II when he was pope. A couple of other relics will also be present: a thread from Juan Diego's tilma and a soil sample from the place where the apparition took place.

The forty-five minute prayer service has three parts:

- the Holy Rosary,
- a Liturgy of the Word, and
- an Act of Consecration to Mary

It will take place in the church at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited; however, we are limited to a maximum of 75 people. You can register online to attend the Silver Rose prayer service. Simply go to the parish website (<https://www.saintvitalparish.com/>) and reserve a space for the 7 p.m. prayer service on March 25.