



SAINT ANTHONY

Our Mission: May Christ's grace renew us to exercise His gifts. (see Rom 12:4-6)

Reverend Joseph Onyango Oiyee, I.M.C.
Reverend Martin Frias-Guardado
Deacon Bernard Schwartze

326 South 3rd St.
 Sterling, Colorado 80751
 (970)522-6422

For Sacramental Emergencies,
 please call (970)522-6422, press 1.

Church Email: parish@saintanthonyssterling.org
 Church Website: www.saintanthonyssterling.org

Holy Mass

Saturday Vigil5:00 p.m.
 Sunday.....7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.
 Domingo (en Español).....12:00 p.m.
 Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri.....12:00 p.m.
 Tue.....5:30 p.m.
 Saturday.....8:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday..... 3:30 p.m.
 and 30 minutes before scheduled Masses

First Friday—Eucharistic Exposition



SACRED HEART

Physical Address: 621 Logan St., Peetz, CO

Eucharistic Celebrations:

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday8:00 a.m.
 2nd and 4th Sunday.....10:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday7:30 a.m.



SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

Physical Address: 111 S. 5th St., Iliff, CO

Eucharistic Celebrations:

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday.....10:00 a.m.
 2nd and 4th Sunday8:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

2nd and 4th Sunday7:30 a.m.



December 14, 2025 Third Sunday of Lent



Our Lady of Guadalupe; Empress of America; From the North Pole to the South Pole

Three apparitions of the Virgin Mary are officially recognized by the Universal Church:

1. Apparition of the Virgin of *Guadalupe*, December 12, 1531, in Mexico; 2. Apparition of the Virgin of *Lourdes*, February 11, 1858, in France; 3. Apparition of the Virgin of *Fatima*, May 13, 1917, in Portugal. In this article I will focus on the apparition of the Virgin of Guadalupe on December 12, 1531. I will briefly discuss 3 important aspects of this event; Brief history, purpose of the apparition, and brief explanation of the ayate (tilma).

History: The Virgin Mary appeared in Mexico on December 12, 1531, in a historical context of conquest. The Spaniards have arrived in America, a new continent, and have advanced in their discovery of the new world inland, from Vera Cruz to Tenochtitlan, capital of the Mexica empire. Together with the desire to conquer new lands for the Kingdom of Spain, the Catholic Church also undertakes a new mission of evangelization; missionaries are interested in winning souls for the Kingdom of God. The mission of evangelization in the new continent is terribly damaged by the brutal inhuman acts against the inhabitants of these lands. The Missionaries preach justice, equality, love of God; the natives are mistreated and enslaved by the conquistadors; This situation gives rise to rebellions and wars. In this historical context, the Virgin Mary appears to appease wars and reconcile the conquerors with the natives. **Purpose of the apparition:** The purpose of the apparition of the Virgin of Guadalupe is to proclaim the gospel; that is, to proclaim Jesus, her Son, who is love and mercy and who wants only the good of all the peoples of the earth. For this mission of evangelization, she appears to Juan Diego and asks him to be her messenger before the ecclesiastical authority in order to carry out this important mission of evangelization. **The ayate (tilma):** *The ayate is a codex written in Nahuatl.* The codex is a story written using drawn figures that contain a specific meaning. There are two important figures (drawings) that express Mary's purpose in her apparition, the *Nahui Ollin*, the four-petaled flower on her dress at the height of her belly; and *the cross* on the brooch of her dress at the height of her neck. *The Nahui Ollin flower* in the virgin's dress is read by the Mexica as the symbol that represents the presence of God, fullness, the center of space and time; that is, the Virgin of Guadalupe is the Mother of God, Mary of Nazareth, Mother of Jesus. *The cross on the brooch* of the Virgin's dress is read by the Mexica as the symbol of the new Christian faith preached by the missionaries. In short, Mary of Guadalupe is the Mother of the Christian God preached by missionaries. There is much more to write about the ayate, but that will be another time. Thank you.

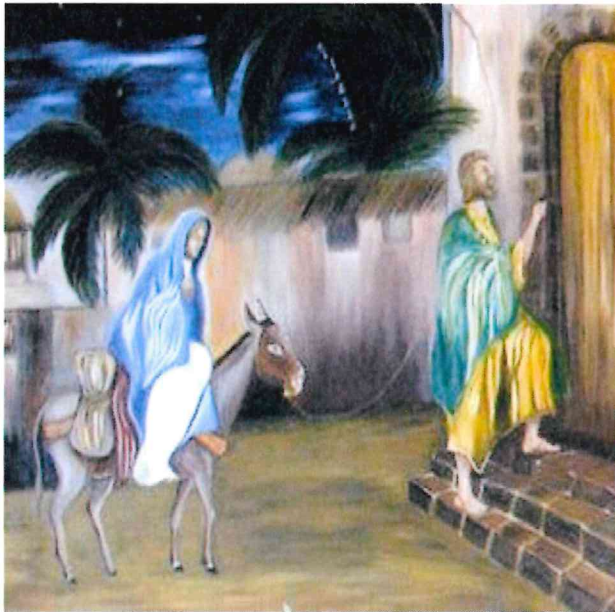
Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe; Emperatriz de América; desde el polo norte hasta el polo sur

Tres apariciones de la Virgen María son reconocidas oficialmente por la Iglesia Universal:

1. Aparición de la Virgen de *Guadalupe*, 12 de diciembre de 1531, en México; 2. Aparición de la Virgen de *Lourdes*, 11 de febrero de 1858, en Francia; 3. Aparición de la Virgen de *Fátima*, 13 de mayo de 1917, en Portugal. En este artículo me enfocaré en la aparición de la Virgen de Guadalupe el 12 de diciembre de 1531. Tratare, brevemente, 3 aspectos importantes de este acontecimiento; breve historia, propósito de la aparición y breve explicación del ayate (tilma).

Historia: La Virgen María se aparece en México el 12 de diciembre de 1531 en un contexto histórico de conquista. Los españoles han llegado a América, un nuevo continente, y han avanzado en su descubrimiento del nuevo mundo tierra adentro, desde Vera Cruz hasta Tenochtitlan, capital del imperio Mexica. Juntamente con el afán de conquistar nuevas tierras para el Reino de España, también la Iglesia católica emprende una nueva misión de evangelización; los misioneros están interesados en conquistar almas para el Reino de Dios. La misión de evangelización en el nuevo continente es terriblemente dañada por los brutales actos inhumanos en contra de los habitantes de estas tierras. Los Misioneros predicán justicia, igualdad, amor de Dios; los nativos son maltratados y esclavizados por los conquistadores; esta situación da lugar a rebeliones y guerras. En este contexto histórico aparece la Virgen María para apaciguar las guerras y reconciliar a los conquistadores con los nativos. **Propósito de la aparición:** El propósito de la aparición de la Virgen de Guadalupe es proclamar el evangelio; es decir, proclamar a Jesús, su hijo, que es amor y misericordia y que solo quiere el bien de todos los pueblos de la tierra. Para esta misión de evangelización se aparece a Juan Diego y le pide que sea su mensajero ante la autoridad eclesiástica para poder llevar a cabo esta importante misión de evangelización. **El ayate (tilms):** *El ayate es un código escrito en Náhuatl.* El código es una historia escrita usando figuras dibujadas que encierran un significado específico. Hay dos figuras (dibujos) importantes que expresan el propósito de María en su aparición, el *Nahui Ollin*, la flor de cuatro pétalos en su vestido a la altura de su vientre; y *la cruz* en el broche de su vestido a la altura de su cuello. *La flor de Nahui Ollin* en el vestido de la virgen es leído por los Mexicas como el símbolo que representa la presencia de Dios, la plenitud, el centro del espacio y del tiempo; es decir, La virgen de Guadalupe es la Madre de Dios, María de Nazaret, Madre de Jesús. *La cruz en el broche* del vestido de la Virgen es leída por los Mexicas como el símbolo de la nueva fe en el dios cristiano que predicán los misioneros. En resumen, María de Guadalupe es la Madre del Dios cristiano que predicán los misioneros. Hay mucho más que escribir sobre el ayate, pero eso será en otra ocasión. Gracias. Fr. Martin Frías

Bulletin announcement **MUST** be submitted by noon **Wednesday** for that weekend's bulletin. Email: parish@saintanthonyssterling.org



Las Posadas
St. Anthony of Padua
Catholic Church
Sterling, CO

Parroquia de
San Antonio de Padua
Sterling, CO

Come and join us to celebrate Las Posadas
Ven a celebrar con nosotros Las Posadas

¿Qué son las posadas?

Las Posadas es un novenario (una oración devocional por 9 días). Por lo general, se celebra cada año entre el 16 y el 24 de diciembre. *Las Posadas* deriva de la palabra española posada (mesón u hotel) *que*, en este caso, se refiere a la posada de la historia de la Natividad.

What are las posadas?

Las Posadas is a novenario (an extended devotional prayer). It is typically celebrated each year between December 16 and December 24. *Las Posadas* derives from the Spanish word *posada* (*lodging*, or *accommodation*) which, in this case, refers to the inn from the Nativity story.

PROGRAM - PROGRAMA

December 20

6:00 pm – Cafeteria

There will be the posada prayer and traditional song, food, music and breaking of pinatas.

Habrà la oración de la posada y el canto tradicional, comida, música y piñatas.



All are welcome! – ¡Todos son Bienvenidos!

*Saint Anthony's
Religious Education Department
Presents*



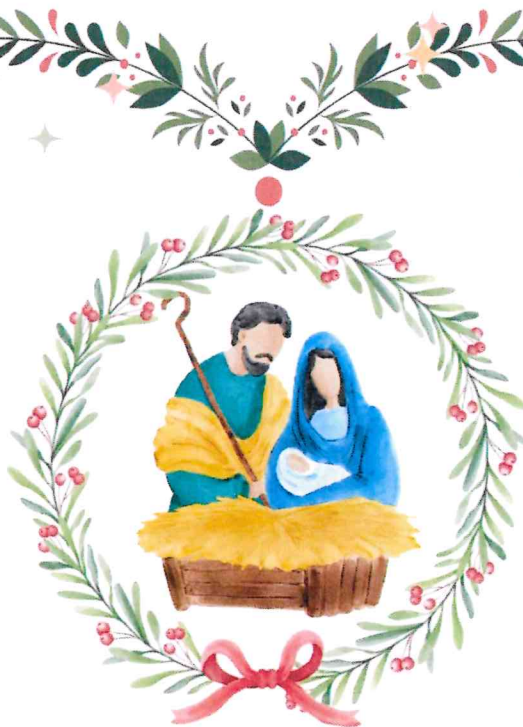
*A Dinner Theater:
The First Christmas*

*Wednesday,
December 17,
2025*

at

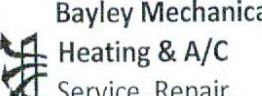
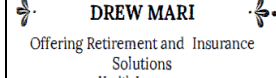
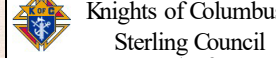
5:30pm

*In the Parish
Center Cafeteria*



Dinner:

*Dinner Salad
Roast Beef
Mashed Potatoes
Corn, Green Beans
Dinner Roll
Dessert*

 Lorenzo APOTHECARY 970-522-0828 David Lorenzo RPH Professional Pharmacy - Compounding Pharmacy 306 Main Street, Sterling, CO 80751	CHANEY-REAGER FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY 522-2111	PLATTE RIVER TIRES INC. SCOTT BITTLER 313 E CHESTNUT ST. / HY6 STERLING CO. 80751 (970) 521 - 6500 SCOTT_BITTLER@HOTMAIL.COM PLATTERIVERTIRES.COM	Devonshire Acres Since 1979 Rehab. Therapy/Skilled Nrsng Assist. Living/Aparments 970-522-4888	STERLING VACUUM Sewing Machines & Vacuums Sales & Service (970) 522-9696 Broadway Plaza Shopping Center
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HERZOG AUTOMOTIVE Your Complete Automotive Care Center 415 S. 10th Ave. Sterling, CO 522-0957	 Dan Sutter / Ty Baseggio 970-522-0414	 Bayley Mechanical Heating & A/C Service, Repair, Replace, Install 522-0471	Remember Sacred Heart Parish in your will	Remember St. Catherine Parish in your will
Sterling MEDCARE Home Health, Inc. The Art and Heart of Caring 614 S. 10th Ave. Sterling, CO 80751 Locally Owned Michelle Cox, Admin. 522-6807	We repair all Makes and Models of Trailers  COLT TRAILER SERVICE LLC 515 East Chestnut (970) 522-4830 (970) 522-2899 fax SUPPLIES REPAIR colttrailer@gmail.com P.O. Box 529, Sterling, CO TOM SHELTON (PARTS) TIM CARLETON (SERVICE MGR.)	 423 N. Third St., Sterling, CO 970-522-3625 OPEN 5:15 AM - 8 PM	Reliable Service. Competitive Rates HUSS Mowing Service David Huss (970)520-3522	 DREW MARI Offering Retirement and Insurance Solutions Health Insurance Permanent Life, Term Life & Annuities ANDREW.MARI@FFIG.COM 970-571-1800
 Joe McBride Cell (970) 580-0285 Office (970) 522-9727 www.areawiderealtyonline.com joe@areawiderealtyonline.com		CARPET COMFORT CENTER™ Residential & Commercial All Types of Flooring Sandie Kerr Owner Serta Mattress Sets (970) 522-0373 100 Broadway Suite 9 FAX: 522-4632 Sterling, CO 80751 7:30-5:00 or by appt. M-S	 Knights of Columbus Sterling Council No. 1559 Gr. Knight: Robert Schell Fin. Secretary: Dennis Boren Meeting Nights 2nd & 4th Thurs Rosary 7:00pm Meeting 7:30pm Knights of Columbus Hall	SCHLENZ BUILDERS, INC 1026 N Division Ave. 522-4535
 231 Broadway St. Sterling CO (970)522-5563	B & J Plumbing & Heating 236 North Second St. Sterling, CO 970-522-3828	Remember St. Anthony Parish in your will	Please name The Catholic Foundation in your will for the benefit of our parishes.	Northeast Plains Home Health Care, LLC Rose & Mark McDonald, owners 522-3045
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