



Despite the cold and windy Sunday afternoon, several members of St. Patrick's Catholic Church participated in the annual procession honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe. The celebration recalls the appearance in 1531 of the Virgin of Guadalupe to Juan Diego on the top of the Tepayac Hill near what today is considered Mexico City. At left, Abigail Almanza depicts Our Lady of Guadalupe as the procession moves through the Imperial streets en route to the church where a noon Mass was said. Below, several local girls march in unison as Guadalupe Matachines, also called the soldiers of the Virgin, dressed in elaborate Aztec-inspired costumes. Fr. Bernard Lorenz led the group in praying the rosary during the procession. After the Mass, a gathering was held in the parish hall where the Matachines danced again. A re-enactment of Our Lady of Guadalupe's appearance to Juan Diego was also held along with a potluck meal. (Republican photos)

