



**By Jan Schultz**

### ***The Imperial Republican***

Celebrating the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe brought out a big crowd Sunday as the Hispanic community remembered a beloved story from church history.

Despite the cold temperatures, Sunday's celebration started with a procession from St. Patrick parish hall around the block to the church where a 1 p.m. Mass was celebrated.

Afterwards, families gathered at the parish hall, where children re-enacted the story of the Blessed Virgin Mary's appearance to Juan Diego in Mexico City in 1531.

According to tradition, Juan Diego, a simple indigenous peasant, saw a vision of a young woman on Dec. 9, 1531, while he was on the hill of Tepeyac near Mexico City, Mexico.



He told the local bishop, who asked for some proof. Three days later, according to legend, the image of Mary appeared miraculously on his cloak when he was showing it to the bishop. Today the cloak is displayed in the Basilica of Guadalupe nearby one of the most visited Catholic shrines in the world.

Following the re-enactment and dancing, a meal was served in the hall.

Other events this week include a 6:20 p.m. Mass for children on Wednesday and morning prayer in Spanish on Thursday at 8:30 a.m.

Dec. 9 marked the feast day of St. Juan Diego and Dec. 12 is the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe.