## One Life, One Rose

# Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Run

**Canada – United States - Mexico**

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Worthy Grand Knight,

Once again New Mexico has been asked to pass the Silver Rose to Texas, I have been appointed by our Worthy State Deputy to oversee this beautiful program. The Silver Rose was started in 1960 by the Columbian Squires in North America to show our love and devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe and the Cause for Life.

I have included a packet with the information that you need to make this program a success. In addition to the packet information, I am asked to give the following notices;

- It should be noted that this is a Council Function and therefore the transferring of the Silver Rose between councils will be handled by the Grand Knights (or their designated delegate).
- Color Corps participation is restricted to escorting the Rose in the transferring between councils and to escort detail during prayer service (if permitted by pastor). Any participating Color Corps must have the approval of the Master.
- Council members who are also 4th degree are permitted to run the Rose as COUNCIL MEMBERS
- Each participating Council will receive the Rose at 12 noon the day they are to have the Rose and it is the responsibility of the Host Council to get the Rose to the next Council by 12 noon of the following day.
- The Rose is to be kept in a secure location overnight (adoration chapel, GK home, etc.) any question regarding location, contact the State Silver Rose Run Chairman
- That the State Silver Rose Run Chairman must be contacted once the Rose has been transferred to the next Council
- Failure to willingly comply with these request will result in forfeiture of the Rose in the future

It should be remembered that this is a special honor that New Mexico be given the Rose once again. Not every council is able to participate in this program, so I ask that if there is a council near you who is not hosting the Rose, please invite them in the name of the spirit of fraternity and brotherly love. If you have questions or comments you may contact me at anytime.

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Miguel Grijalva VI
New Mexico State Council
State Silver Rose Run Chairman

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## The Story Behind the Running of the Silver Rose

Our Lady of Guadalupe has done so much for her people and country that an assembly of young men called the Squires associated with the Knights of Columbus wanted to give something back to her.

The group headed by Brother Miguel Martinez Estrada, Grand Knight Andreas Saucedo and Fray Margil De Jesus of Knights of Columbus Council 2312 in Monterrey, Mexico came up with the idea of running of a rose to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Monterrey. The small group was so enthused that they wanted to invite other squires to participate from two other countries on the North American Continent. They called Squires from Laredo, Texas to London, Ontario, Canada.

London, Ontario brothers asked to start the relay running of the Rose from there through the United States and finishing up in Mexico City.

The first Rose was blessed by Bishop John C. Cody in London. It was then flown to New York where it was received by Grand Knight Joseph Thomasen, who in turn took it to Supreme Knight Luke E. Hart. Mr. Hart then took the Rose to Dallas, Texas and delivered it to district officers of the state of Texas. Brother Knight Jack Collerin received the Rose and sent it to Laredo, Texas where the Rose was received by Squires from Monterrey, Mexico at the International Bridge in Laredo.

The Squires then ran the Rose from the International Bridge to Monterrey. The Rose was run by several Squires through Sabinas Hidalgo N.L. Mexico to Cienega de Flores and on to the Basilica in Monterrey, Mexico on December 12, 1960.

The First Rose was a natural rose, and after a year had decomposed. The Squires were so full of inspiration they decided to make yet another relay run in 1961, but due to the condition of the Rose it was not able to be used again. After contacting Grand Knight Arthur Mount at Council 1134, Reverend Edward Gatfield and Bishop John C. Cody decided to make a bronze rose and sent it to Our Lady in Monterrey, Mexico.

When Fray Antonio de Jesus Sacedon and the Squires at Circle 660 in Monterrey heard of the bronze rose, they decided to call upon Brother Miguel Martinez Montoya (owner of Joyeria Rosine) in Monterrey to make them a similar rose. The idea was then to make a silver rose as this is one of Mexico's precious metals. The jeweler saw a beautiful bed of roses in a garden owned by Mrs. Shirla Ostwowk. He asked if he could have a rose as a model for the making of the "Silver Rose." She first refused, stating that she worked very hard to make her garden beautiful and her roses perfect. However, after talking to Mr. Montoya, she saw something in his eyes and how he spoke about the roses. She asked him to explain about his interest in the rose in more detail. Mr. Montoya explained what had happened to the original rose in 1960 and what Canada was doing for Our Lady in Monterrey. Once she heard about the making of the "Silver Rose" she gladly gave him the rose and the stem to which it was attached.

Mr. Montoya, knowing that the rose would eventually wilt, took a series of photographs and made some sketches. Since then Mr. Montoya has made all of the "Silver Roses" from 1961 to 1997.

The rose bush from which the rose was removed was called "Rose of Peace." The first "Silver Rose" was blessed by Bishop Alfonso Espino Silva. This rose was then sent on to New Haven, Connecticut, to William L. Piedmont, Director of Fraternal Services at the Supreme Council Office. The Bronze Rose was blessed by Bishop Cody. It was received by Supreme Knight Luke E. Hart. Archbishop Francis J. Spellman of New York so admired both roses he kept them for a special mass. Both roses were then flown to Dallas, Texas.

Texas State Deputy Jack Collerin, State Secretary Ed Gunter and Grand Knight Scott Grant of Fort Worth sent the roses on to Laredo. Laredo Council 2304 received the roses and turned them over to brother Knights from at mid bridge of the International Bridge in Laredo. Brothers' Louis G. Alanis received the "Silver Rose" and Brother Enrique Garcia received the Bronze Rose. Again the roses were taken to Sabinas Hidago and Cienega de Flores and on to Monterrey.

Each of the roses are kept at the Basilica in Monterrey, one for each year the "Silver Rose" has been run from Laredo to Monterrey.

This tradition symbolizes unity and especially the international brotherhood that has been jointly nurtured by two cities from two countries. In 1997 during a Fourth Degree Exemplification in Kingsville, Texas, a "Silver Rose" (which was made a year before, especially for the council and assembly of Laredo) was present at the exemplification. A representative from Monterrey along with the keeper of the rose from Laredo (Sir Knight Alfredo McCabe) was also present during this exemplification.

After seeing the reception the rose received, it was decided to have another rose made by the jewelers in Monterrey. This special one would belong to all

assemblies, councils and Squires circles encompassing the fourth district of Texas of the Guadalupe Province. That rose was made of solid silver with special emphasis on its design.

There are two large roses representing the two dioceses of the fourth district of Texas, a smaller rose between them indicating life and future growth. The stems of the roses circle each other indicating unity and at their base are twelve additional small roses representing the twelve Disciples. The base is made of marble from the mountains of Mexico, silver from its mines and labor from its people. Together with the help from many in the most southern region of Texas and the northern region of Mexico, a tradition is alive and growing.

In recent years the rose has been run from London, Ontario, Canada through 10 states in the United States and then to Monterrey, Mexico crossing the International Bridge. During this year, there will be three roses traveling simultaneously starting in London and then traveling on the west coast, central United States and the east coast. All three roses will meet at the same time in Texas to travel over the International Bridge to be handed over to our brother knights from Monterrey.

**One Life, One Rose**

# Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Run

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## Program History

The Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Program began in 1960 as a project of the Columbian Squires of North America to honor the Blessed Virgin under her title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas. The program has continued since then as a project of Squires Circles, councils and Fourth Degree assemblies in several jurisdictions. In 2001 Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson expanded the program by beginning the "Running of the Rose" from the 119th Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council in Toronto. "The 'Running of the Rose' is a perfect program for the Knights of Columbus," said Supreme Knight Anderson. "Through it we honor not only Our Lady of Guadalupe and express the unity of the Order, but we also reaffirm the Order's dedication to the sanctity of human life. It is to the Blessed Mother that we turn in prayer as we work to end the Culture of Death that grips our society. As we think in terms of 'One Life, One Rose,' it is most appropriate that we turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses."

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# Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Run

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## Organizing the Silver Rose Program

To organize the Silver Rose Run through your jurisdiction, the event chairman and his committee must:

- Make arrangements to receive the Silver Rose from the preceding jurisdiction. This should include a prayer service and/or Mass in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. On hand to receive the rose should be the state deputy or his designated state officer and the Master or his designee. The Vice Supreme Master of the province receiving the rose should also be present if possible together with the grand knight, the faithful navigator, chief squire and civic officials in the community receiving the Rose.

- Establish a route that will carry the Silver Rose through the jurisdiction within the specified time frame. (In many cases actually running the Rose may be impractical or impossible. It is acceptable to have it driven from point to point if necessary.)

- Arrange for an assembly, council or a Squires circle to serve as a stopping point each evening and to arrange an Our Lady of Guadalupe prayer service.

- Arrange for an appropriate number of runners. The word “runner” is used loosely. Participants may walk. Additionally, “runners” need not be Knights. They could be Squires, family members, friends or anyone interested in promoting the cause.

- Alert all appropriate law enforcement agencies along the route to get permission for the event if needed and to request a police escort car for the route.

- Arrange for “procession vehicles,” including a drop-off van, a pickup van and a safety car for the entire route.

- Make sure to provide for instant communication along entire route using CB radio or cellular phones.

- Make the state PR Chairman fully aware of all details as early as possible so that he can issue media alerts to the appropriate newspapers, radio stations and TV stations along the route. Ask him to arrange for photography and/or video coverage along the route.

**One Life, One Rose**

# Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Run

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## Procedure

The runner carries the rose throughout his leg of the pilgrimage. When it is time to hand-off the rose, the next runner falls in beside the previous runner, receives the rose, in the manner of a relay runner at a track meet, and continues the pilgrimage. The previous runner goes to the side of the road and waits for the pickup van to stop for him.

If it is not possible to run the rose through portions of the jurisdiction other arrangements should be made.

At the end of the day, the procession stops at a predetermined council home or church; the Silver Rose prayer service is conducted. The next morning the pilgrimage resumes toward the next stopping point.

When the rose enters a new jurisdiction, the procession again stops at a predetermined council home or church. The Silver Rose prayer service is repeated and the rose is transferred from the state deputy of the jurisdiction that has just completed the pilgrimage to the state deputy of the receiving jurisdiction and the pilgrimage continues as before. If the state deputy of either jurisdiction is unable to participate he should designate a state officer or representative to perform the duty.

**One Life, One Rose**

# Our Lady of the Silver Rose

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## Safety of Runners

All runners should be equipped with appropriate safety vests/signs so that they are clearly visible to drivers on the road. The Silver Rose "procession" should include:

- An "escort" police vehicle to lead the runner at a distance of approximately 150 feet.
- A "safety car" with warning flashers on to follow the runner but coming no closer than 50 feet to him. An "emergency runner" to ride in the "safety car" to take over in case of a problem.
- A "drop van" carrying fresh runners to precede the runner at a distance of roughly one mile to check the route for dangerous objects or hazardous conditions. When it is time to change runners, the "drop van" should let out a new runner and wait until the "escort police vehicle" is in sight before proceeding. When the "drop van" is empty it should move to the rear of the procession to become the "pick up van."
- A "pick up van" with warning flashers on at all times brings up the rear of the procession. When the van is full it should move to the head of the procession to become the "drop van."

**At least one vehicle must carry emergency first aid materials as well as someone trained to use them, preferably an emergency medical technician or a nurse trained in CPR. Water and other necessities should also be carried.**

It is suggested that only one runner be on the road at a time except for the transfer of the rose.

Several pre-determined rest areas should be planned. Each area should have adequate water, electrolyte replacement solutions (i.e. Gatorade), energy bars, fruits (no bananas), light foods and restroom facilities. Local councils should be encouraged to host or sponsor the rest areas.

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## Sample Media Alert

(*This sample media alert announces the Silver Rose Program. Have your State Public Relations Chairman send it to all local newspapers – daily and weekly – along the route of the Silver Rose in your jurisdiction. Send it to all local television and radio stations that cover the area as well. Be sure it is the hands of the various media outlets at least one week prior to the scheduled time for the rose to be in the area.*)

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**For Immediate Release**

For more information contact:

(Insert name)
(Telephone number – day and night)
(E-mail address)

# Knights of Columbus Honors Our Lady of Guadalupe

**(INSERT CITY, STATE – date of alert)** – The Knights of Columbus of (*insert jurisdiction*) will participate in a North American effort paying special tribute to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas through the Silver Rose Program. This program involves running a Silver Rose from Ontario through the United States to Monterrey, Mexico.

The program will begin in Ontario and concludes in Mexico on Dec. 12, 2010, the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Rose will journey through (*insert jurisdiction*) between (*insert dates*) beginning in (*insert name of town*) and ending in (*insert name of town*).

The route will take the Silver Rose along (*insert road numbers*) with scheduled overnight stops in (*insert names of towns*). At each stop a special prayer service honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe will be celebrated.

"Through the Silver Rose Program the Knights of (*insert jurisdiction*) show our support for the Church and its bishops and priests as we pray for the continued strength to do so in these troubled times. The Silver Rose also symbolizes our commitment to restoring respect for the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. As we think in terms of 'One Life, One Rose,' it is most appropriate that we turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses," said (*insert full name*), state deputy, chief executive of the Knights of Columbus in (*insert jurisdiction*).

**CHAIRMEN FORM**

**One Life, One Rose**

# Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose Run

**Canada – United States - Mexico**

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Worthy State Deputy:

Please complete this form and return it immediately to Stephen Hinckley, Department of Fraternal Services, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510. Telephone: 203-752-4247
Fax: 203-752-4108 – E-mail: stephen.hinckley@kofc.org

**Jurisdiction:**

**Event Chairman:** **Day phone number:**

**Evening phone number:** **Fax:**

**E-mail**

**Please note once this form is received, packets will be sent out to the chairman to help them organize the Silver Rose through your jurisdiction.**