

Why Our Lady of Guadalupe is Celebrated Across the US

The feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe is celebrated on December 12.

If you see a colorful procession in your city or town on Tuesday, it may have to do with a venerated "lady" whose presence is ubiquitous in many Latino communities across the U.S.

The feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, also known as the Virgin of Guadalupe, is celebrated on December 12. For Mexicans and Mexican-Americans as well as other Latinos, Our Lady of Guadalupe is a powerful symbol of devotion, identity, and patriotism. Her image inspires artists, activists, feminists and the faithful.

Yet while Our Lady of Guadalupe is revered, recognized, and commercialized throughout Latin America, many Americans are likely unaware of the origins and impact of her iconic status. But that may be changing.

Last Saturday morning in New York City, a group of volunteers from Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church at St. Bernard's were undeterred as snow drifted down and the temperature dropped to 33 degrees. They arranged flowers, flags, and banners, and lined up behind vehicles bearing large images of Mexico's patron saint, Our Lady of Guadalupe.

After a cry of "Listos?" (Ready?) the procession wound its way through Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood, the marchers reciting *novenas*, or prayers, singing songs, and drawing a mixture of curious and confused looks.

"I think it's some kind of mariachi thing," one onlooker murmured to his companion. The procession was in fact a prelude to the Dec. 12th celebration, which will see Latino communities, from big cities like Los Angeles and Houston to smaller ones like Mason City, Iowa, honoring her legacy.

"In Christianity, for us, Our Lady signifies a lot," said Father Juan Antonio Gutierrez of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in El Paso, Texas. "She is the one who supports us, helps us, and protects us." At his church, there will be special masses, a serenata (serenade), matachines (dancers), a procession, and the singing of the traditional song *Las Mañanitas*, in celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

"She has been part of Mexican life for almost 500 years, and that's why both believers and non-believers respect her image," said Gutierrez. "Our ancestors are represented through her; she represents us."

Our Lady of Guadalupe is an inextricable part of Mexican and Mexican American culture. Octavio Paz, the winner of the 1990 Nobel Prize for literature, once opined that "After two centuries of experiment and failure, the Mexican people only believe in the Virgin of Guadalupe and the national lottery." Perhaps writer Ana Castillo best sums up the ubiquity and importance of Our Lady of Guadalupe. "Anywhere you have more than one Mexican, whether in Toledo, Ohio or Toluca, Mexico, you will probably have a Virgin of Guadalupe sighting – because of the need and desire for her presence."

Source: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/do-you-know-about-our-lady-guadalupe-here-s-why-n828391>



December 2019 Calendar

*AIDS Awareness Month
Universal Human Rights Month*

- 1-7 – Handwashing Awareness Week (US)
- 1 – World AIDS Day
- 8 – Bodhi Day (Buddhism)
- 10 – International Animal Rights Day
- 12 – Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Christianity)
- 21 – Yule – Litha (Wicca/Pagan)
- 23-30 – Hanukkah (Judaism)
- 25 – Christmas (Christianity)
- 26 – Zarathosht Diso (Zoroastrian)
- 26-Jan. 1 – Kwanzaa (International)
- 31 – New Year's Eve (International)

Note-taking in Consecutive Interpreting: too much/too little; how and what to note-take

Source: [https://smartidiom.pt/en/note-taking-in-consecutive-interpreting-too-much-too-little-how-and-what-to-note-take/?ct=\(EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_12_12_2019\)&mc_cid=01afe9bf79&mc_eid=ebece451c0](https://smartidiom.pt/en/note-taking-in-consecutive-interpreting-too-much-too-little-how-and-what-to-note-take/?ct=(EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_12_12_2019)&mc_cid=01afe9bf79&mc_eid=ebece451c0)

(Continued from the previous issue)

WHAT YOU SHOULD JOT DOWN

Always take notes of:

- **The main ideas:** secondary ideas will be remembered during the mental interpreting process and rendition;
- **Opinions and points of view:** they are always perceptible and the interpreter might not be able to transpose them to his/her interpretation during rendition;
- **Numbers:** they are very important for the speech, are the same in every language and are easy and quick to note down (as opposed to dates that are more difficult to understand);
- **Proper names:** because you don't have to translate them. For proper names difficult to understand, the interpreter should jot them down as they sound. Also take note of **geographical names, names of companies and organisations, abbreviations and acronyms.**
- **Technical terms:** they are less frequent and may sound uncanny to the interpreter;
- **Mnemonics:** memory aids to help the interpreter jog his/her memory during rendition;
- **Connectors:** they connect the memory and what the speaker has said. They are important because they show the sequencing of ideas and also opposing ideas;
- **What happened and when (verb tenses):** because they situate the speech in time;
- **The sentences said by the speaker that serve as introduction and conclusion,** as they help to understand the speech;
- **Keywords:** they are important not for their linguistic meaning, rather for what they mean in the interpreter's mind (the meaning they acquire for the speaker).

HOW TO TAKE NOTES

It all depends on the purpose of the speech to be interpreted: an **informative speech** requires full note-taking, especially when it is about particularly unusual facts; however, if the event is unusual, one word may be enough. A **descriptive speech** also needs full note-taking, but based on detailed aspects that perfectly describe what is meant to be conveyed. An **argumentative speech** is based on much less information, especially connectors and some keywords.

Notes should be taken in the language into which the interpretation will be made (**target language**), because it allows the interpreter to dissociate the two languages. The interpreter will, therefore, be less likely to use a literal translation in the heat of the speech.

If the interpreter doesn't remember a word in the target language when taking notes – and to avoid being stuck on that word and getting lost in the speaker's speech – he/she should note down the term in the **source language** and continue to take notes. This will save lots of time until the right word comes to his/her mind.

Some interpreters have developed a perfect system of **symbols** to help them later on. Abbreviations, on the other hand, can be very useful when we're dealing with names of countries (*DE* for Germany, *PT* for Portugal), units of measurement (*km* for kilometre or *m* for meter) or chemical elements (*O* for oxygen, *Pu* for plutonium), among others.

WRITING TOO MUCH/TOO LITTLE

The interpreter should jot down as little as possible, as quickly as possible to avoid getting stuck on words. The aim is to deliver a fluent and accurate speech, yet based on the information he/she jotted down.

In short, the work of interpreters is complicated by the immediacy of each moment and the brevity of each sentence. There is no perfect method, rather proven good practices that may be a good starting point for all those who wish to embrace this art.