



NORTHRIDGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dozens Brave Winter Weather for Northridge Prep Guadalupe Fest

NILES— After decades of celebrating the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with big local crowds, committee members at Northridge Prep were worried that the forecasted “blizzard” and four inches of snow would dampen spirits and keep people away from the festivities of Sunday December 12. With the food prepared, the Knights of Columbus assembled for a procession and even a secondary altar setup in the Main Gym, the scheduled start time came and went with only a few families in attendance.

About fifteen minutes later, more families began to arrive. Those present began to breathe a sigh of relief when parents and children began arriving in earnest to celebrate the popular Catholic feast commemorating the day when Mary appeared to Saint Juan Diego in 1531, prompting the conversion of approximately 9 million indigenous. Ten, twenty, thirty people stomped snow from their boots on their way into the Atrium. When the crowd reached sixty, the celebration began and the procession from the Northridge Chapel to its Main Gym was followed by attendees holding flowers to be placed at the foot of the altar.

After singing hymns to honor Mary and reciting the Rosary, the jubilant crowd filled the Middle School Wing with tables and food while an authentic Mariachi band played traditional Mexican music. The evening was a success, with much thanks to Kevin Clemens, Lupe Gomez and the rest of the Guadalupe Fest Committee.

**Northridge Preparatory School is an independent college preparatory school for young men in grades 6–12 in Niles, Illinois. A Top Ten School in Chicago [Chicago Sun-Times], Northridge was also named a Top 96 School in America [US News & World Report].*

To learn more about Northridge Preparatory School or to schedule a preview day for your son, contact the Marketing & Communications Coordinator, Vu Nguyen at marketing@northridgeprep.org.

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Mariano Gomez '13 and John Sander '11 serve benediction during a Eucharistic Procession at Northridge Prep's Guadalupe Fest.