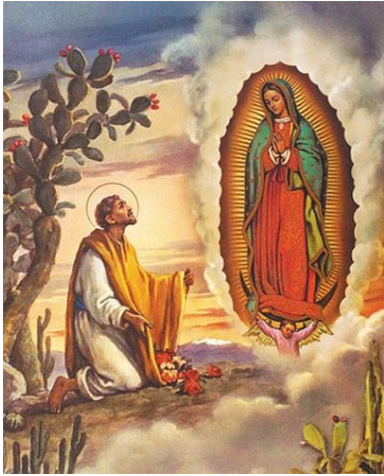


***Fellowship of Catholic Christian Women®  
and the 10 Characteristics of the  
New Evangelization of Our Lady of Guadalupe***

**Our Lady of Guadalupe** was declared the patroness of the Americas in 1979, in a prayer by



**Pope John Paul II.** He frequently spoke of the need in the Church for a new evangelization: new in its fervor, expression, and methods. In his various homilies and addresses, the Holy Father stressed the importance of all men and women in carrying out the mission of the new evangelization but, at times, he would stop to focus on the ***important role of women in this mission.***

*“How can we forget the important role played by women: their work in the family, in schools, in political, social and cultural life, and especially their teaching of Christian doctrine? Indeed, it is necessary to recognize and it is a title of honor that some Churches owe their origins to the activity of lay men and women missionaries.”*  
(Pope John Paul II, Redemptoris Missio, #71).

In February 1996, **FCCW Foundress Patricia Scileppi** (✠ 2009) attended **Fr. Virgilio Elizondo’s** (✠ 2016) presentation of the *New Evangelization of Our Lady of Guadalupe* at the *Los Angeles Religious Education Congress*. The list of characteristics he identified in the story of *Our Lady of Guadalupe* were the same elements of the women’s ministry which began in her home on January 29, 1996 in Riverside, CA: **Fellowship of Catholic Christian Women® (FCCW).** **Fr. Elizondo** said of **Pope John Paul II:**

*“He has called forth a new evangelization of the entire church ~ that evangelization is not just for the missions, for the non-believers, for those who don't go to church, but for all of us... But he says a new evangelization must be new in vigor, in expression, and method. Here is where we begin to see Our Lady as a model for the new evangelization.”*

The **FCCW** ministry seeks to fulfill the call to evangelization through gathering women in the Spirit to grow closer to Christ Jesus.

The ***10 Characteristics of the New Evangelization of Our Lady of Guadalupe*** are the underpinnings used by the **FCCW** ministry to carry out its mission.

Each characteristic has significance in all ministry activities, just as the characteristics have meaning in the story of *Our Lady of Guadalupe and Juan Diego*.

As part of the commissioning requirements for **FCCW** fellowship groups, facilitators must commit to the model of the *New Evangelization of Our Lady of Guadalupe*.

***Our Lady of Guadalupe*** is the patroness for the **FCCW** ministry.

1. *Music ~ the Language of God*
2. *Called by name*
3. *Send People in Trust*
4. *Reaffirming*
5. *Building the Church ~ the Temple*
6. *Prophetic role ~ Love, compassion and mercy*
7. *God is in charge ~ Challenging earthly authorities*
8. *New alternatives ~ Be not afraid*
9. *Imagery*
10. *Beauty ~ Inner beauty of God’s image ~Flowers*