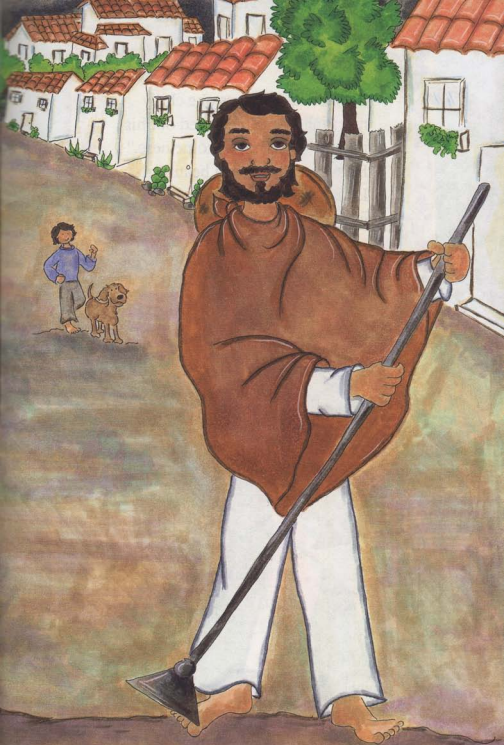
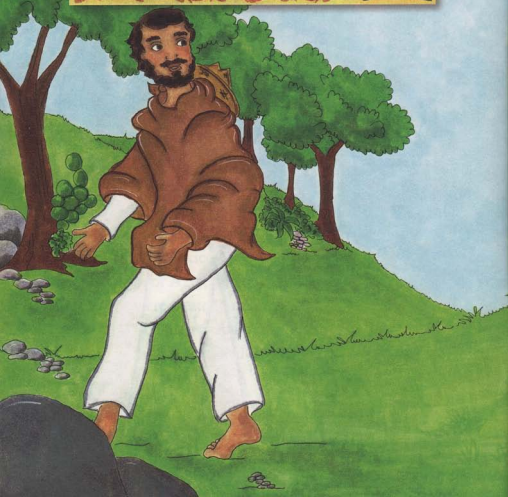


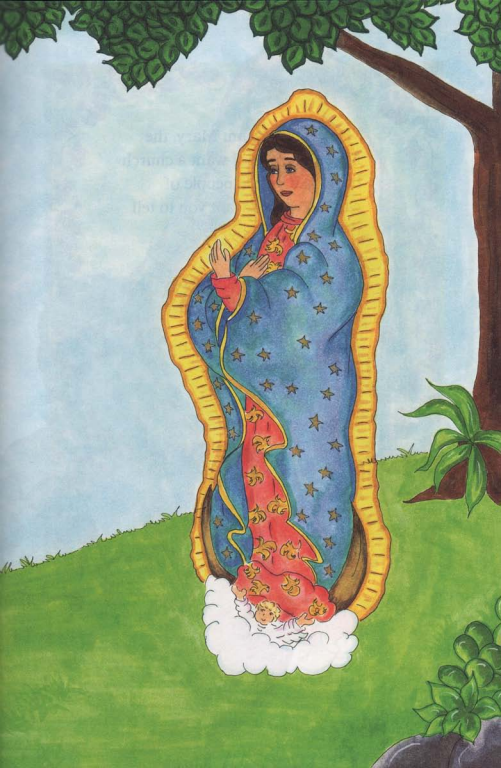


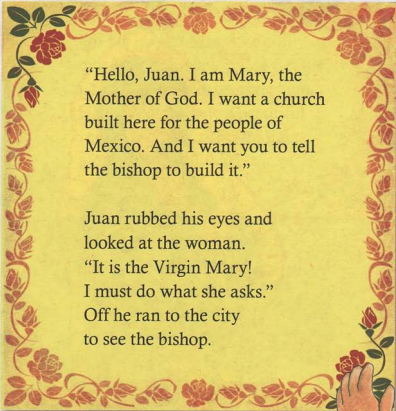
Juan Diego was born near present-day Mexico City, Mexico. He was a poor Aztec Indian. The Aztec Indians were treated unkindly by their rulers. But Juan found peace in the Catholic faith. Juan liked to pray and go to Mass.



On his way to Mass one chilly morning, someone called out his name. "Juan, please come here." He turned and saw a beautiful Indian woman. A bright light glowed all around her.








“Hello, Juan. I am Mary, the  
Mother of God. I want a church  
built here for the people of  
Mexico. And I want you to tell  
the bishop to build it.”

Juan rubbed his eyes and  
looked at the woman.

“It is the Virgin Mary!  
I must do what she asks.”  
Off he ran to the city  
to see the bishop.









“I saw Mary. She spoke to me.  
She wants you to build a church on  
Tepeyac Hill. She wants the church  
built for all the people of Mexico.”  
The bishop didn’t know what to do.  
“I will have to think about this,”  
he said. “Come back later.”

