

Shield



Designed with the help of the 2011 8th Grade class of Our Lady of Sorrows School in McAllen, the shield features four quadrants, each depicting an important aspect of our school. The upper left quadrant pays tribute to St. Juan Diego, our patron. His devotion to the Eucharist and humble, courageous faith in the face of poverty and injustice are our inspiration. The roses around the chalice symbolize those that fell from Juan Diego's tilma with the imprint of the Virgin Mary—reminding us that we go to Jesus through Mary, our Blessed Mother. The upper right quadrant features a depiction of the St. Peter Oblate Novitiate—the first institution of learning established on La Lomita. The Oblates of Mary Immaculate have spread the Catholic faith throughout the Rio Grande Valley for more than 150 years. In the lower left quadrant is the lamp of knowledge over an open book. These symbols of education and enlightenment are constant reminders of the purpose of Juan Diego Academy as an institution of learning. The lamp is lit—challenging us to be light to others in a world so often filled by the darkness of ignorance and indifference. Finally, the lower right quadrant features our school monogram and the initials of the virtues that form our school motto.

The shield is green and white: our school colors. Chosen by the 8th Grade class of Immaculate Conception School in Rio Grande City, these colors symbolize the life and lushness of the Rio Grande Valley (green), and Mary, who plays such an important role in the faith life of the people of the Americas (white).

School Motto: Justice + Devotion + Action

These virtues, inspired by the 2011 8th Grade class of St. Joseph Catholic School in Edinburg, signify what a Juan Diego Academy Education is all about. We are a community of learners that is passionate for justice and right relationship with all of God's creation. We, like St. Juan Diego, are devoted to Mary, Mother of God and our Mother—who points the way to her son, Jesus. And we are a community of action: living out our baptismal calling to serve others, especially those most in need. Justice, devotion, and action are our motto, as well as our way of being at Juan Diego Academy.

The Lion



Our lion was originally designed in the early 1970s by Judy Klepfer as the school mascot of Cardinal Stritch High School in Keokuk, Iowa (the school once attended by Juan Diego Academy President Sr. Marcella Ewers who was also a Principal there). Mark Salinas, a 2011 student intern at Juan Diego Academy, gave “Diego” a facelift from the original design to take on its present form. The idea for lions came as the result of input from Catholic school 8th graders in the Upper Valley. From four finalists, an online voting process selected the lion as Juan Diego Academy's mascot.

Lions live and travel as a pride—a community. We seek to instill a sense of community and school pride in our students as they journey together at Juan Diego Academy.

Alma Mater

Humble servant, noble saint
Hail thee, Juan Diego.
Guide our school that bears your name,
Hail thee, JDA!

Proudly join the chorus:
Service, love, devotion.
May our hearts forever sing,
Hail thee, JDA!

Make us one community
Hail thee, Juan Diego.
Brothers, sisters, family
Hail thee, JDA!

Proudly join the chorus:
Service, love, devotion.
May our hearts forever sing,
Hail thee, JDA!