

**ST. TIMOTHY'S CHURCH
PARISH NEWS**

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EPIPHANY OF THE LORD YEAR B

02-03 January 2021

Parish Priest / Administrator: Fr. Tony Kerin
Secretaries: Millicent, Tues: 9-4pm,
Fri: 1- 5pm
Corrie, Wed-Thurs: 9 - 3pm

EPIPHANY



Have you ever thought what could possibly have possessed the very wise men to leave their homes and undertake a long, hard desert journey?

What was so special about this new "king of the Jews"? Everyone knew that Israel was under Roman occupation. Any Jewish king would be a mere puppet of the emperor. Why would news of a powerless king in a faraway land be so attractive? Perhaps the Holy Spirit was moving them, touching a sense of longing and hope and compelling them to investigate. These wise men, astrologers and interpreters of dreams, clearly believed that they were being led to someone extraordinary.

What must have happened when they arrived where Joseph, Mary and the child were staying? Did they simply present their gifts and then hurry back to the East? I would imagine they stayed for a little while asking Joseph and Mary lots of questions, trying to find out what all these signs were about.

And Mary and Joseph had plenty of extraordinary happenings to tell them about - angels visiting, dreams, Scriptures foretelling their arrival. Even their gifts had been foretold. These men must have been thrilled to know that the longing in their hearts could be fulfilled in this little child! Mary and Joseph evangelized these wise men from the East.

Every one of us longs for a sense of meaning and purpose. All around us people are starving for answers, and the Holy Spirit may want to direct them to us, just as he directed the wise men to Mary and Joseph and the child. Like Joseph and Mary, all we have to do is share with them the ways that God has moved in us, the ways that God has shown us divine love. The Holy Spirit will take care of the rest.

As we begin 2021 and celebrate the coming of the wise men to the home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, let us reflect on the gifts we have received from our loving God - gifts far more valuable than gold, frankincense and myrrh. Then we will be well prepared for whoever may show up at our door this year.

INTRODUCTION:

They offered Him gifts. What precious gifts can we offer Jesus today? We may not have gold, frankincense and myrrh but we have our love, fidelity and time. We can give these to Jesus by giving them to those in need.

PENITENTIAL RITE:

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and prince of peace.	Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary.	Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you are word made and splendour of the Father.	Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 60: 1-6*

Arise, shine out, **Jerusalem**, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of **Midian** and **Ephah**; everyone in **Sheba** will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**
2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. **(R.)**
3. The kings of **Tarshish** and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of **Sheba** and **Seba** shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. **(R.)**
4. For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**

SECOND READING: *Eph 3: 2-3, 5-6*

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL *Matthew 2:1-12*

"We have come from the east to worship the King."

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Mario Cardenti, Lester Hickman,
Victoria Saverimuttu, William Flood,
Cely Treyes, Shane Coney, Paul Borg,
David Jenner, Rudy Beatty, Kay Hincks,
Mary Frances Smith, Noel Jones,
Liam Hynan, Eileen McCoy,
Stefano Defina.