



Feast of The Epiphany

Keeping Faith on Our Journey

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First Reading: [Isaiah 60:1-6](#)

Second Reading: [Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6](#)

Psalm: [Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13.](#)

Gospel: [Matthew 2:1-12](#)

Today's readings are for the feast of the Epiphany. The word Epiphany means manifestation. Jesus manifested himself to the wise men.

When I was a child, my family celebrated Little Christmas, twelve days after Christmas, which was the Epiphany. My mother's birthday was January 7th. We kept our Christmas tree up until the Epiphany. This is when the three astrologers or wise men came from Persia looking for the King of the Jews or Messiah. They followed the star to Bethlehem.

It was a long and arduous journey on camels. They had faith and perseverance and kept traveling. They brought gifts for the newborn king to worship him.

When they arrived in Jerusalem, King Herod summoned them to let him know where the child was. After leaving Herod, they were overjoyed to see the bright star again. They followed it all the way to a manger in Bethlehem. They offered Jesus, the Messiah, gifts of gold, incense, and myrrh.

The wise men recognized Jesus because they had faith. Faith needs to be supported throughout life. Prayer helps. "Let my prayer rise as incense before Thee." We need God's grace on our journey.

What gifts do we have to give Jesus? Mainly ourselves, our hearts.