

THE EPIPHANY

The Epiphany is a feast that celebrates in a special way Jesus' coming to the world for all people and all nations. We read about this event in the Gospel of Matthew. The Epiphany is when the Three Kings from the East arrived in Bethlehem with their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar.)

Let us pray: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Jesus be in my mind, Jesus be on my lips, and Jesus be in my heart.

Leader: When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem saying "Where is the newborn King of the Jews? We saw His star at its rising and have come to do him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he asked of them where the Messiah was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written.

After their audience with the king, the magi set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising lead the way for them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with his mother, Mary. They laid face down and worshiped in reverence.

Then they opened their treasures and offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

Response: O Come Let us Adore Him

Leader: Loving God, we praise and thank you for sending your Son Jesus to show us your love. Help us return that love with acts of kindness. Let us share Your Love with compassion and care. Bless us with the courage to tell everyone we meet of Your great Love. We ask this in Your Son's Holy name. Amen.