

Annunciation Parish - Scripture Study 12/29/20

—Greeting and Opening Prayer

Any thoughts or questions from scripture passages you have read?

- EVENTS OF THE EPIPHANY: Magi, Baptism of Jesus, Wedding at Cana
- Other faith questions?

READINGS:

Is 60:1-6

Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (Lord, every nation on earth will adore you)

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Mt 2:1-12

GOSPEL:

- Magi - What are Magi? What is the significance of coming from the East?
- They deduce a king is born - their ways, unenlightened by scripture lead them - God communicates in other ways.
- We know who Herod would be troubled - why would the people be troubled?
- Herod needs to consult priests and scribes (info in scripture unknown to Magi, and Herod)
- He sends the Magi on a spy mission, lies to them - they weren't wise enough to deduce that?
- The Star leads them to the very spot. They are untroubled by the humble birth ... weird?
 - Faith in the guidance they have received is so complete. How's our faith when God leads us?
- The gifts are significant: Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh. A common package deal, yet each is significant for this specific King, and who he is, and his mission.

FIRST READING:

- Rise, greet the light that has come - we must move towards it!
- Darkness covers the earth ... we might say that now too.
- Jerusalem (the heavenly Jerusalem) is the rallying point for all to gather towards with its King on the throne - the light that guides to this place of rest.
- YOU shall be radiant upon seeing the light (joined to Body of Christ), our reception of the light perhaps changes us.
- All typical forms of death that people would expect at that time are referenced. With this (riches of the seas and of wealth all the nations) there is nothing wanting. Where is it to be found ... to the place where people from the east bring Gold and Frankincense!

SECOND READING:

- The mystery was made known to Paul - just like the Epiphany (in all its three parts) discloses a special wisdom and knowledge.
- It was not made down in the past - the time of revelation is now. Jesus IS the final revelation.
- The apostles and prophets now have this knowledge.
- Gentiles are also coheirs - MEMBERS OF THE SAME BODY, the one born in the stable
- Also being copartners in the promise *IN* Jesus Christ. What does that mean?

—Closing Prayer