

Do You See What I See?

Today's Gospel answers this question quite definitively: No! Not everyone saw the guiding star in the sky. Not even those who, presumably, knew the prophecy found in the reading from Isaiah. That ancient prophet announced to the people of Jerusalem: "Your light has come" (Isaiah 60:1). In fact, he promised them they would be so embraced by that light, they themselves would shine brightly with its radiance. But when the time came, not everyone saw it. Or, having seen it, they did not recognize it.

The people of Jesus' time were not ignorant of these prophecies. They knew what they meant and to whom they referred. Consequently, when the stargazers who saw the light inquired about it, those to whom they inquired knew where to send them. So what was the problem? Why were those men in Jerusalem not excited about the star? Very simply, a new king meant a rival king, and those who had power weren't eager to relinquish it.

We know that not everyone in Israel rejected Jesus. Shepherds had already thrilled at this birth. Someone in Bethlehem had opened his home to this child and his parents. Now we add to them the stargazers from another country. It seems the invitation to come to him is extended to all: political and religious leaders, the unsophisticated and marginalized, the established homeowner, the foreigners in their midst. They are all asked: "Did you see what I saw? What do you think of him?"

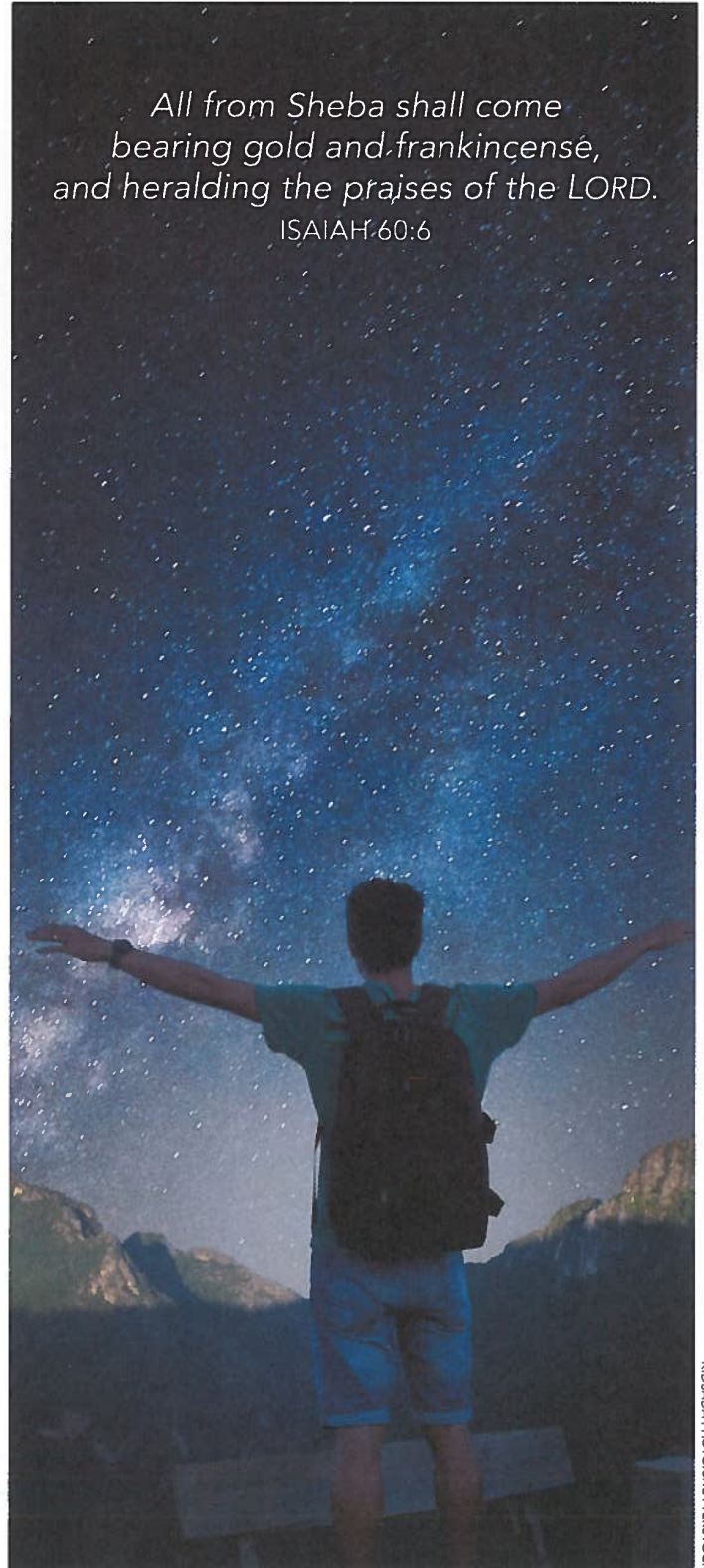
Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ✦ *How open are you to new thinking?*
- ✦ *God's invitation is offered to all. Is there any group of people you might have marginalized?*

*All from Sheba shall come
bearing gold and frankincense,
and heralding the praises of the LORD.*

ISAIAH 60:6



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**St. Martin of Tours
Catholic Community
at Fort Belvoir, Virginia**

Mass Schedule

Monday – Thursday, 1205 at Fairfax Chapel

Saturday, 1700 at Belvoir Chapel

Sunday, 0930 at Belvoir Chapel

1100 at Fairfax Chapel

Pre-Registration is required for weekend Masses.

The link to register is:

**[https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?
i=583972&k=076941007C55](https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=583972&k=076941007C55)**

**The Sunday 0930 Mass is live-streamed
and can be viewed from this link:**

<https://www.facebook.com/FortBelvoirRSO/>

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday – 1600-1645 at Belvoir Chapel
or by appointment. Contact Fr. Lindsay directly
to schedule.

For More Information

CH(MAJ) Michael P. Lindsay, Catholic Chaplain

571-266.2086

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Office located at: Religious Support Annex, Bldg 221,
10011 Middleton Rd, Ft Belvoir, near post office.

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Office located at: Religious Education Center, next to
Belvoir Chapel, 5950 12th Street, Fort Belvoir

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Office located at: Religious Support Annex, Bldg 221,
10011 Middleton Rd, Ft Belvoir, near post office.



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new program by going to:

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Sunday 0930 Mass is live-streamed at:

<https://www.facebook.com/FortBelvoirRSO/>

Website:

www.FortBelvoirCatholicCommunity.com

Facebook Page:

Fort Belvoir St. Martin of Tours Catholic Community

Homily Notes

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

3 JANUARY 2021

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the Lord shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses. (Isaiah 60:1-6)

“As Isaiah prophesied: *the people of the Gentiles, who sat in darkness, have seen a great light, and for those who dwelt in the region of the shadow of death a light has dawned.*” “Again, *the Lord has made known his salvation; in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice.*” “This came to be fulfilled, as we know, from the time when the star beckoned the three wise men out of their distant country and led them to recognize and adore the King of heaven and earth. The obedience of the star calls us to imitate its humble service: to be servants, as best we can, of the grace that invites all men to find Christ.

Dear friends, you must have the same zeal to be of help to one another; then, in the kingdom of God, to which faith and good works are the way, you will shine as children of the light: through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with God the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.” (St. Leo the Great, Catholic Liturgy of the Hours)

May we follow the examples of the Star and Blessed Mary through openness to allowing the light, hope and saving grace of God to shine in our lives. As servants of Christ and the light of his grace, may our selfless service of the Gospel help dispel the darkness of sin in our families, communities and world. Christmas Blessings and Happy New Year!

Fr. Mike

New Missals and Calendars Coming Soon!

Many of you are wondering when or if we will be distributing new *Breaking Bread Missals* and St. Martin of Tours Catholic Calendars.

Rest assured that they have been ordered and we are expecting them anytime.

Please look for a Catholic Community email soon for details on when and how they will be handed out.



THANK YOU!

We are incredibly fortunate to have such a dedicated group of ministry volunteers.

A special and heartfelt thank you to all of you who assisted us with our holiday and weekend services.

God Bless You All!

Dear Padre,

A friend who is a fundamentalist insists Epiphany happened exactly as it says in the Bible. I say there's no way it could have. Who is right?

Catholics believe each book of the Bible needs to be appreciated according to the principles of its own literary genre. We don't look to the Gospels for modern critical history or unbiased biographical/reportorial fact-telling.

The four Gospels were written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Each Gospel writer uses human skill to craft a true story, presenting the saving mystery of our Lord's life, death, and resurrection so that readers may come to know Christ, share his life, and be saved.

Every story in the Gospels is shaped to communicate saving truth, but not every story is told as a direct "just the facts, ma'am" report of sequential events. So there is a saving sense in which, yes, the Epiphany happened exactly as it says in Matthew 2:1-12. And there is a more literal sense in which, no, the Epiphany probably did not happen exactly as it's recounted.

What is most certain is the Gospel's saving message of the birth of our true king, the light to all nations, before whom we offer homage and who, when we encounter him, will change our lives and send us home in a new path.

Fr. Matthew Allman, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



ADORATION OF THE MAGI BY BARTOLOMÉ ESTEBAN MURILLO/WIKIPEDIA

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

As we begin the New Year, may we discover anew that faith demands worship....For worship involves making an exodus from the greatest form of bondage: slavery to oneself. Worship means putting the Lord at the center, not ourselves.

EPIPHANY HOMILY, JANUARY 6, 2020



Calendar

Monday

JANUARY 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,
Religious

1 Jn 3:22—4:6

Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday

JANUARY 5

St. John Neumann,
Bishop

1 Jn 4:7-10

Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday

JANUARY 6

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:11-18

Mk 6:45-52

Thursday

JANUARY 7

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 4:19—5:4

Lk 4:14-22a

Friday

JANUARY 8

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:5-13

Lk 5:12-16

Saturday

JANUARY 9

Christmas Weekday

1 Jn 5:14-21

Jn 3:22-30

Sunday

JANUARY 10

Baptism of the Lord

Is 55:1-11

1 Jn 5:1-9

Mk 1:7-11