

# The Feast of the Epiphany

## Word of the Week: Matthew 2:1-12

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King Herod, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw this star when it rose and have come to worship him".

When King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem in Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.'

After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him. Then opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.



## What Is Epiphany?



Epiphany signifies the revelation of Jesus as the Son of God. It celebrates the visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus, symbolising his manifestation to the world.

## Reflection

From the Word this week we can learn many important lessons about faith, obedience and true worship. The Magi seek Jesus with determination having travelled a long distance guided only by a star because they believed that Jesus was worth the journey. We can also learn about humility from the event – the Magi are well educated men, yet they bow down to the child Jesus. This shows that recognizing Jesus as King requires humility.

The passage also teaches us about obedience to God over human power. King Herod tried to use the wise men for his own selfish and harmful plans, but they listened to God's warning in a dream and chose a different path home. This reminds us that we must follow God's guidance, even when it means going against pressure or fear.

They came with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The gift of gold represents that Jesus is the King of Kings, frankincense represents that people would worship and praise Jesus, and myrrh represents that Jesus would endure persecution resulting in his death. These gifts show the importance of giving our best to God. True worship is not just about words, but about offering our time, talents, and hearts to Him with joy.

## Prayers for the Week

Lord God,  
Like the wise men, help me to seek You with a sincere heart. Give me the desire to know You more, even when the journey feels long or difficult. Guide me closer to You each day. Teach me to trust even when I do not fully understand the path ahead.

Amen

Lord God,  
Like the wise men who listened to Your warning, help me to recognise Your guidance in my life. Give me discernment to know what is right and the strength to act on it.

Amen.

Lord God,  
As the wise men were guided by a star, guide me in the decisions I face each day. Help me recognise Your direction and follow it faithfully. When I feel unsure or lost, remind me that You are always leading me closer to You.

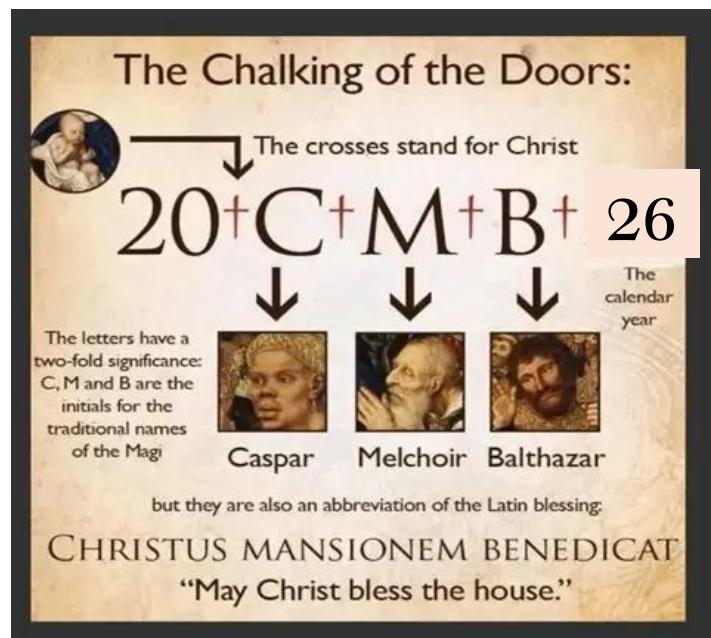
Amen.

Lord God,  
Just as the wise men rejoiced when they found Jesus, fill my heart with joy when I come into Your presence. Help me to worship You not out of routine, but with genuine happiness and gratitude. May my life reflect the joy of knowing You.

Amen.

## Actions for the Week

- Start each morning with a short prayer asking God to guide your day.
- Take time to listen to your friends without feeling the need to talk about yourself all the time.
- Recognise the value of each person you meet.
- Be humble in your actions.
- Stop and pray to God when you face a tough decision.
- Be kind to someone who may be struggling.
- Stand up for what is right – even when it is hard.
- Volunteer to do something that is out of the ordinary for you in school this week.
- Encourage a friend when they need it.



[Chalk Blessing: What It Means and How To Do It](#)



May your faith journey  
find its guiding light  
*this Epiphany*

