

Having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod,
they departed for their country by another way.
MATTHEW 2:12

ROMANA BASHKIN/WASHUTTERSTOCK

A Christ for Every Nation

"Go back where you came from!" What if the Magi heard this when they came to the house where the Child was, and they heeded that deriding message? The "signs of the times" that they read told them a king had been born. They might not have known exactly where to look, but they knew what they were looking for, and they recognized that king when they found him. These righteous men were not Israelites, yet God revealed this great mystery to them. Furthermore, there is no indication that they eventually became Israelites. Rather, "they departed for their country" (Matthew 2:12). God really does not play favorites.

Then how are we to understand the claim of being God's Chosen People, whether ancient Israelites or the Christian community? What's the point of being chosen if you are not the favorite? While acknowledging God's special love for his Chosen People, both Isaiah and Paul answer this question.

The prophet claims that "nations will walk by your light, kings by the radiance of your dawning" (Isaiah 60:3), and Paul says "the stewardship of God's grace... was given to me for your benefit" (Ephesians 3:2). In other words, some have been chosen by God to bring the light of God's love to others.

The feast of the Epiphany celebrates two important realities—the revelation of God to all people and the responsibility to reveal that astounding mystery to others. The Magi personify both realities. They were men of another faith tradition to whom God revealed the mystery of the Incarnation, and they returned home and probably proclaimed to others the wonder of that mystery.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ How respectful are you of the religious quests of others?
- ★ In what ways might your life shine the light of God's love on others?

Assumption of Our Lady



www.ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com

January 05, 2020

Epiphany of the Lord– Year A

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 10:30 am

Weekday Masses

Mon. Tues. & Wed .12:10 pm

Thurs. & Fri. 5:30 pm

Reconciliation time: Saturday from 4:15 to 4:45pm; Sunday, 9:45-10:15am or by appointment. Please contact Fr. Innocent for any other sacraments or funerals

Fr. Innocent Ukaegbu: 867-875-2545

father@ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com

Hay River, NT



& St. Anne, Katlodeeche

Sunday Mass 1:30 PM

Date	Readers	Collection	Gift Bearers	Eucharistic Ministers	Coffee & Snacks
Jan.05	Sancie Gostick Doris Caudron	Tony Whittle Andrew Cassidy	Ramirez Family	Doug Swallow Marie van-Kopp E. Theresa Swallow	TBP
Jan.12	Andrew Cassidy Marie Kopp-van E	Darm Crook Gerry Engen	Liz Buckley and Family	Bea Lepine Tony Whittle Doris Caudron	TBP
Jan.19	Dee dee Lepine Bea Lepine	Doug Swallow Andrew Cassidy	Swallow Family	Susan Bouchard Shirley Gutierrez Marie van-Kopp E.	TBP
Jan.26	Youth-Led Participation Mass	Youth-Led Participation Mass	Youth-Led Participation Mass	Doug Swallow Andrew Cassidy Dee dee Lepine	TBP

The Announcement for Epiphany of the Lord January 5th 2020

----- We are always delighted to welcome each and everyone who has come to worship with us here at Assumption parish. If you’re a new member, please take time to introduce yourself to the pastor and fill out a registration form found at the bulletin board at the entrance of the church..

----- Good News! Fr. Joe Delay has accepted to come and cover the parish while I’m gone for my one month vacation. Fr. Joe will probably be here on the 4th of January and will be around till the 3rd February. He is the vicar general of the diocese but officially retired from active service. He enjoys his ship cruise. We are grateful to have him come.

----- Rosary resumes Tuesdays at 11:45 followed by [Mass at 12:10](#)

----- First Communion classes for January will be this Wednesday, January 8 and January 15. Classes are after school at 3:30.

----- Fr. Innocent Ukaegbu begins his one month vacation on the 3rd of January 2020. Please put Father Innocent in your prayers for a safe trip to Africa and free from every harm. The vacation ends on the 4th February, 2020

----- YOUTH CLUB 2020! For youth ages 7-12, from 6:30pm-8pm, every second Friday in the church basement. It is a faith based program with crafts, games, music and friendship. It’s starting up this month and here are the dates, mark them in your calendar! For more information contact Brigitte @ 306-714-7530 or Diana @ 867-875-2855. [January 17,31; February 14,28; March 6,13; April 3,24; May 8,22.](#)

-----Renewing of Wedding vows for Valentines on Sunday February 16th at the 10:30 mass. For couples who are celebrating their wedding anniversaries years ending with 5 or 0 this year. Please sign up on the sign up sheet or call Brigitte @306-714-7530

----- Communion to the sick and home bound: Do you know of anyone who is sick and/or home bound and would like to be visited and given communion by the church, please let us know.

Rachel’s Corner

“I had no idea, when we made the decision, that it would affect me in the way it has. I thought it was all about her, and it wound up being all about all of us. Rachel’s Vineyard helped me acknowledge my child, and now I carry him in my heart. Now I know I am forgiven, and I have a son.” -Male Testimonial

Did you think you were making the best decision you could at the time? Now do you live days of regret and shame and wish you could turn back the clock? Join us on a Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat. Let them show you the way to release that burden.

rachelsvineyard.nwt@gmail.com--867-872-0026

Like us on Facebook: Rachel’s Vineyard Kelowna

: Weekly Revenue		
	\$2,483.45	collection- Dec.25
	\$3,890.75	Collection-Dec.29
	\$6,374.20	Revenue Total
	\$1,831.00	Expenses Total
	\$4,543.20	
	Expenses are based on 2018 Q1	

Dear Padre,

What do we know about the Three Kings?

Your question reminds us how much human tradition has embellished some of the events described in sacred Scripture. Historically, the name Magi designates members of an ancient Near Eastern priestly caste. In Matthew’s Gospel, they are presented as noble wise men and astrologers.

The number three has long been associated with the Magi. However, the Gospel narratives never mention their number (though they did offer three gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh). Saint Matthew is also silent about their names. However, in the eighth century, Western traditions began calling them Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Other Christian traditions use different names.

Though their gifts indicate they were from South Arabia, it’s doubtful that they represented particular nations or the major racial families. At the very least, the Magi represent the Gentile peoples coming from afar to find the true God in Jesus Christ. This contrasts with King Herod and Israel. Both neglected this manifestation of God’s presence in their midst.

Astrology permeated ancient cultures, so it isn’t strange that astrologers appear in the Bible. The Church responded by “Christianizing” aspects of astrology. For example, the Church deliberately called Christ the “Sun of Justice,” thus replacing the pagan god Sol with one true God. In the fourth century, the Church placed the celebration of Christ’s Nativity on December 25, the birthday of the sun. We emphasize Jesus as the Light of the World and celebrate his feast every week on *Sunday*.

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A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Do we know how to dream, to long for God, ...or do we let ourselves be swept along by life, like dry branches before the wind? The Magi were not content with just getting by, with keeping afloat. They understood that to truly live, we need a lofty goal and we need to keep looking up.

—EPIPHANY HOMILY, JANUARY 6, 2018

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Calendar

Monday
JANUARY 6
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 3:22—4:6
Mt 4:12–17, 23–25

Tuesday
JANUARY 7
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:7–10
Mk 6:34–44

Wednesday
JANUARY 8
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:11–18
Mk 6:45–52

Thursday
JANUARY 9
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:19—5:4
Lk 4:14–22

Friday
JANUARY 10
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:5–13
Lk 5:12–16

Saturday
JANUARY 11
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:14–21
Jn 3:22–30

Sunday
JANUARY 12
Baptism of the Lord
Is 42:1–4, 6–7
Acts 10:34–38
Mt 3:13–17

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

For more than fifty years, Redemptorists have ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity.

For more information and to sign up for our free monthly newsletter, visit: ScrupulousAnonymous.org

