

January 3, 2021

The Epiphany of the Lord (B)

Is 60:1-6

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Mt 2:1-12

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?



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Assumption of Our Lady



www.ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com

January 3, 2021

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. 03 | Please volunteer during mass. | Please volunteer during mass. | postponed | postponed | Postponed |
| Jan. 10 | Please volunteer during mass. | Please volunteer during mass. | postponed | postponed | Postponed |
| Jan. 17 | Please volunteer during mass. | Please volunteer during mass. | postponed | postponed | Postponed |
| Jan. 24 | Please volunteer during mass. | Please volunteer during mass. | postponed | postponed | Postponed |
| Jan. 31 | Please volunteer during mass. | Please volunteer during mass. | postponed | postponed | Postponed |

Big Thank You For Your Extraordinary Support in an Extraordinary Year:

We sincerely thank all our beloved parish-ioners for all your unflinching support to our parish in this extraordinary and tough year. Our parish was able to pull through this tough times; paying the bills and keep-ing the church operational because of your immeasurable financial support. Most people also volunteered their time and energy in various ways, just to make sure that the church is operational. We are su-per grateful to you all and may God abun-dantly bless you:

THANK YOU.
May God Bless Us
All: Fr. Innocent



Message of “A Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year”:

Finally, as we gradually come close to the celebra-tion of this year’s Christmas and new year, I want to, on behalf of myself, Pastor, Sister Maggie and the members of the parish council headed by Eddie Smith, extend my warmest wishes of a joyful Christmas, filled with love and peace And a new year filled with God’s grace to you our beloved parishioners. It has been terribly a tough year with the pandemic but our God has seen us through.



*Please visit our website
for the complete Catholic
Update article*

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Catholic

UPDATE

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SEPTEMBER 2020

Choosing a Vocation

PRIESTLY AND RELIGIOUS LIFE AMID CRISIS

FR. BYRON MILLER, CSSR

Diminishing vocations to the vowed life. Aging religious. Burned-out priests. The clergy sexual abuse crisis. With so many challenges facing leaders in the Church today, why would anyone consider becoming a priest or religious?

A teen prays during a holy hour for high school students at Immaculate Conception Seminary in Huntington, NY.

Weekly Revenue

| | |
|------------|----------------------|
| \$2,514.50 | Collection |
| \$0.00 | Canada Helps Website |
| \$2,514.50 | Revenue Total |
| \$1,831.00 | Expenses Total |
| \$683.50 | |

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



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

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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