



year of prayer: THE FAITH PRAYED

JANUARY: The Epiphany

Reflection:

The feast of the Epiphany celebrates God Manifesting God's self in Christ to all people. The Magi, or 3 Kings, represents us and come with gifts to honor this newborn king. On this feast, we see Jesus as Messiah coming to bring salvation to all people.

Epiphany is Greek for Manifestation (an official visit by a king or queen, a public showing to the people). As God is shown to us through Jesus on this day, so we are to show the presence of God to others by our own lives.

It is said that a single star led the way for the Magi, these travelers from the East. Their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh represent products of the East. Whether these elements of the story are factual or not, the truth they represent is important for each of us: In Jesus, God reveals the plan of salvation for all people.

Each of us is called to follow our star, to search for truth and love in Jesus. We are all on a journey. To everyone we meet we reflect the light of God. We are an epiphany for others so that together we can honor Jesus as our king.

Talking:

1. Discuss how you can be a light to others.
2. How hard it is for people to "follow their star?"
3. How can you follow Jesus as your star?

Doing:

1. Make your monthly Scripture symbol – a star. Place it in the display area of your home.
2. While singing "We Three Kings of Orient Are," process through your home with statues of the Wise Men and place them in your manger scene.
3. Color the 3 Magi (on the back of this page) and place it on your refrigerator.

Praying:

Leader: Arise and shine out, our light has come.

All: Arise and shine out, our light has come.

Leader: The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

All: The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Leader: Shout the praises of the Lord.

All: Shout the praises of the Lord.

(Send us pictures (communication@ctkbelton.org) of how you or your family shared in prayer and we will display it on the bulletin board in the back of church)





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Epiphany – January 8, 2016

Thus it has been written through the prophet Isaiah:

*“And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
since from you shall come a ruler,
who is to shepherd my people Israel.”*

Mt 2:1-12

