Feast of the Epiphany 6th January

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e2xGZLz1-Pl

Our Gospel Value this week is

Courage Our Virtue this week is Fortitude We gather together to love, value and respect each other within our Catholic family, to nurture each individual's talents and skills as Jesus taught us.

Peace be with you and with your Spirit

Jesus Christ light of the world ... shine brightly in our lives

Jesus Christ God's living Word ... speak to us your truth

Jesus Christ God's love revealed ... dwell among us

Away in a manger Away in a manger no crib for a bed The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Our lit candle reminds us that we are in God's presence as we mark ourselves with the sign of the cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit Amen We Say Sorry

You call us to follow you Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

You ask us to love one another Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

You open your arms to all of us Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Today we will hear about some wise men who followed a star and came to visit Jesus.

Let's think a bit about how we follow God in our lives...

God of wonder, help us to have as much faith as the wise men who followed your star to find Jesus. Lead us down the right paths and help us to recognise Jesus in the people that we meet as we travel through life.

Amen.

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, and shine like the sun; The glory of the Lord is shining on you!

Responsorial Psalm

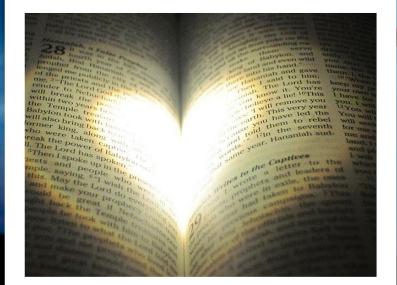
All the nations will bow down before you, O Lord.

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We listen to the word

Gospel according to Matthew 2:1-12 May the words of Jesus be On my mind On my lips and In my heart

The Gospel of the Lord Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

We are still and silent as we reflect on God's word for us in the Gospel.



What do you remember from today's reading?

Some wise men arrive in Jerusalem at the court of King Herod, asking to meet the new baby who will be king of the Jews. Who is the baby that they are looking for?

Was the baby Jesus at the palace with King Herod? Where was he?

How do you think Herod felt when he heard that the wise men were looking for a new king? What did he say to the wise men? Do you think he was telling the truth?

The wise men had travelled a long way to see Jesus. How did they know where they were supposed to go?

The star led them all the way to Bethlehem and there they found Jesus. What did the wise men do when they found the child they had been looking for? The star is very important in this story. Why do you think that is?

The star showed the wise men where to go. It was a sign from God for them to follow.

Have you ever been on a long journey? How did you know which way to go?

Our whole lives are like a journey. We have to choose which way to go and whether we will follow God in all that we do.

Will we do the right thing or the wrong thing?

Will we be kind to others and look after them, or will we only do what is best for US? We do not have a star, or a sat nav, to follow each day, to show us which way that God wants us to go.

We might meet people like Herod who try to lead us to do something that we know is wrong. But God has given us Jesus, to show us how we should try to live our lives. And when we pray, God guides us to do what is right, if we listen.

Can you think of any other ways that God guides us to follow the right path in our journey through life?

In silence, pray for each other - that God will be with all of us.



God guides us and shows the right way to live our lives, and so we pray to God together: We pray for all the leaders in the world: that they may be moved not to think of their own power and wealth but to rule wisely and do what is right for all their people.

We pray for the Church throughout the world: that it may shine like the star, leading people to Jesus, and spread God's message of justice, peace and love.

We pray for those people around the world who are undertaking long journeys, or who are in need of guidance: that they may find their way to a place of safety, welcome and peace.

We pray for our school, parish, our family and friends: that we may always be open to following God in our lives, in both our actions and our words.

Generous God, we give thanks for all that you have given us. Open our hearts to follow you so that all that we do may be guided by your love. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen

How will you follow Jesus this week?

In the week ahead think of ...

things that people in our parish community do to help others, locally and overseas

ways you can help people at home and at school this coming week

ways you can help others around the world

Jesus, I offer my day to you Jesus, I offer my day to you Jesus, I offer my day to you

Let us go in peace Thanks be to God

We three Kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar, Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again, King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I, Incense owns a Deity nigh; Prayer and praising, all men raising, Worship Him, God most high.

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom, Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice; Alleluia, alleluia Earth to heaven replies.

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