



Epiphany

Searching For The King

Introduction

The Magi were almost certainly not kings, and we are not sure if they were rich. But one thing is certain – they were wise. They recognized Christ as the Saviour of the world. Whereas his own people, the Jews, for the most part rejected him. What does Christ mean to me? To what extent is he the 'star' that I follow?

First Reading (Isaiah 60:1-6)

The exiles returned from Babylon to find their beloved Jerusalem in ruins. The prophet cheers them up with a vision of a restored city.

Second Reading (Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6)

Paul reveals the fact that God invites all. Jew and Gentile, to share on an equal footing the salvation won by Christ.

Gospel (Matt 2:1-12)

This relates how three strangers came from a far country to pay homage to the Christ-child while the Jewish leaders rejected him.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray to our heavenly Father who sent us Christ his Son as the star that guides us to our eternal home.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For all Christians: that they may follow Christ unwaveringly, listening to his voice, and responding to his gentle call. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For all human family: that Christ may be the star that will guide us to the Father's house, our eternal home where all our longings will be fulfilled. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.



For those who are still searching: that God will open their eyes to see, their minds to understand, and their hearts to love. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

God has revealed his glory and his love to us: may we meet him face to face when our pilgrimage is ended. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

Communion Reflection

(It is not so much we who are searching for God. It is God who is searching for us, as this lovely psalm says.)

O God, you search me and you know me,

You know my resting and my rising ...

All my ways lie open to you ...

O where can I go from your spirit,

or where can I flee from your face?

If I climb the heavens, you are there,

If I lie in the grave, you are there.

If I take the wings of the dawn,

and dwell at the sea's furthest end,

even there your hand would lead me,

your right hand would hold me fast.

If I say: 'Let the darkness hide me,

and the light around me be night'.

Even darkness is not dark for you,

and the night is as clear as the day.

It was you who created my being,

knit me together in my mother's womb ...

See that I follow not the wrong path,

and led me in the path of life eternal.