

EPIPHANY CAKE

Children will love this cake, and parents will have an opportunity to emphasize the meaning of Epiphany. A cake studded with candy jewels and topped by a golden paper crown can help young children understand that Epiphany recognizes the visit of the Magi, or "Three Kings," as well as the child Jesus, Christ the King.

The person who finds the trinket in the cake gets to wear the paper crown and be king or queen of the feast, and may have the royal privilege of helping to write the Epiphany inscription over the door.

You will need a cake, homemade or bought. Spice cake would be a good choice (or whatever your family likes best).

Carefully make a slit in the cake and insert the trinket: A bean or a washed and dried coin.

Ice the cake with white homemade or canned frosting or with Cool Whip. You may wish to tint the frosting with a little yellow food coloring before icing the cake. Decorate the cake with candy--multicolored gumdrops, jelly beans, chocolate kisses, whatever will please the children and look like "jewels." Add a gold paper crown to the top. You can make one from gold wrapping paper or doilies if you cannot find one for sale at a party store.

CHILDREN'S PROCESSION

Little children find it fun to dress up as the Magi and make a "pilgrimage" that ends at the manger, and there announce the gift of a good deed they have chosen to give the Child Jesus.