



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Cycle C – II Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 60: 1-6; Psalm 71; Ephesians 3, 2-3.5-6; Mathew 2, 1-12

Solemnity of the Epiphany of Our Lord

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: *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.*" Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king, they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

Reflection

The Word Epiphany means revelation. How is the Three Kings visit a revelation? (The Three Kings knew the Jewish scripture that a Savior King would be born, preceded by a star. That is why, when they saw the star, following the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they set out to find the newborn King.) **The Three Kings were not Jewish like Joseph and Mary; they were from foreign lands. What does God reveal to us by this?** (Jesus' message is for the whole world, not just the Jewish people.) **Traveling a long way bearing gifts for a newborn King reveals that a very special King would be born. What must they have thought when they found the baby in a stable?** (God is humble and loves.) **They took gold, incense, and myrrh as gifts. What did this reveal?** (Gold is offered to kings and Jesus is a King; incense is offered up to God and Jesus is God; myrrh was used to bury people and Jesus is human and would suffer and die for us.) **For them, the star was the presence of God. How can we be God's light for others?** Share.



Activity

On the next page write the name of each gift that the Three Kings brought to Jesus in the appropriate boxes below. Then follow the thread to see the meaning of each gift. On the other page make a manger where the Three Kings adored Jesus. Give them a drawing of a gift where they can write what they want to give baby Jesus. If possible, take them to the Blessed Sacrament to adore Jesus.

Prayer

Jesus, you are the light of the world. Sometimes I get lost because I am interested in things that lead me away from you. Teach me to follow your light always so I may lead others to you. Amen.

Song: O Come all Ye Faithful, Lifetree Kids (Ctrl Click) <https://youtu.be/1Yl3Kaxx2gk>

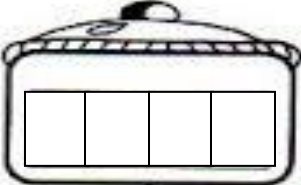
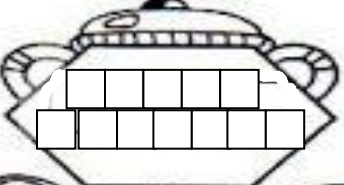
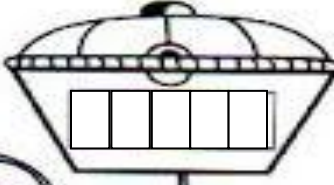
PPT:




SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY, Matthew 2:1-12



Write the name of each gift that the Three Kings brought to Jesus in the appropriate boxes below. Follow the thread to see the meaning of the gift.

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Because they
know that Jesus is
God.

Because they
recognize that
Jesus is human
and will die for all.

Because they
recognize that Jesus
is King.

Solution: 1- incienso (cartel 3)... 2- mirra (cartel 1)... 3- oro (cartel 2)



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

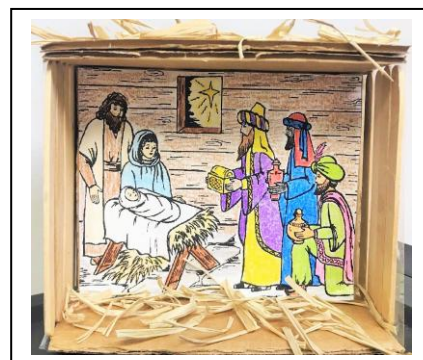


Instructions:

- Cut a piece of cardboard 6"x 8.5".
- Fold 2" from top and bottom to form ceiling and floor.
- Put box tape from ceiling to floor on both sides to form a room.
- Stick popsicle sticks to sticky side of tape (inside) to form walls.
- Color picture.
- Glue to inside.
- Glue explanation behind.
- Glue rafia to roof and floor.

We celebrate the revelation of Jesus as the Son of God to the Wise Men that came from the East to adore Him.

- ❖ The star announced the coming of Jesus.
- ❖ The Wise men were not Jewish like Joseph and Mary. They came from faraway lands to ADORE the newborn King. Jesus' message is for all nations.
- ❖ The Wise Men persevered a long, difficult, tiring journey. Following God implies sacrifice, but God rewards us with joy and eternal life.
- ❖ The Wise Men had faith in God. They believed even though they didn't see or understand. Maybe they thought they would find God in a grand palace; but they adored Him and gave Him gifts in a manger, thereby accepting God's plan.
- ❖ The Wise Men were generous. They gave Him:
 - **gold:** given to kings. Jesus is the king of the world.
 - **incense:** given to God. Jesus is the son of God made man.
 - **myrrh:** used for burials. Jesus is human and would suffer and die for us.
- ❖ What do we offer God? In life we should search for God untiringly and happily offer Him all that we have and are. We should also be stars leading others to Jesus.
- ❖ The Wise Men felt great joy seeing baby Jesus. They knew how to value God's great love for men. (adapted from Catholic.net)



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