



Small Groups

Parish Community of Saint Helen

Sunday, January 7, 2024
Epiphany of the Lord

Opening Song: [What Child is This? ~ Chris Tomlin](#)

Opening Prayer

Lord, let us see your light in our lives
and follow it with great faith;
grant us the humility to follow that light
to unexpected places.
Shine your light on our path as we journey to you.
Amen.

Gospel

Mt 2:1-12

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,

1600 Rahway Ave
Westfield, New Jersey
SaintHelen.org/Small-Groups

*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 Video:

[Msgr. Tom's Sunday Message Link](#)

Discussion Questions

1. In his homily this weekend, Msgr. Tom noted that when the light that is Christ shines on us; we too shine. How can you radiate the light of Christ this week?
2. In today’s Gospel we hear of the journey of the Magi to meet the Christ Child. This journey is one of great faith. The men, who are not Jewish, have studied enough to recognize the star leads them to the coming of the Savior as a newborn baby. It is unlikely that this is what they expected. However, the Magi

1600 Rahway Ave
Westfield, New Jersey
SaintHelen.org/Small-Groups

recognized the King of Kings in this tiny infant. Finally, they disobey a powerful ruler and change their route because of a dream.

- a. What provoked the Magi to begin this journey in the first place?
 - b. Where in your life do you need to trust God as the Magi did?
3. The Magi looked at the star not as a *thing* but as a *sign*.
- a. Can you think of a time that you recognized a sign leading you to God?
 - b. What gifts do you have to offer Christ?

Closing Prayer

Ask for the group intentions ~ *Lord hear our prayer* after each

Glory be to the Father,

and to the Son,

and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning,

is now,

and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen.

Closing Reflection Song

[How Many Kings ~ Downhere](#)