

My dear Little Flower,

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you! Today, our Christmas journey takes us to our celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord.

Epiphany means “manifestation”, and as a church family, we understand and believe that on that holy night, Jesus the Messiah began His manifestation as the Light that shines and rises upon us. Jesus unveils to us his divine mission: the rising of the glory of the Lord among all people - the salvation of all from sin.

First, God’s light penetrated the earth when a miraculous star revealed His birth to the Magi of the East, who, in spite of obstacles in their journey persevered to adore Him and to offer Him gifts. They recognized Baby Jesus as the King of kings. There were a couple more “epiphanies” whereby, in the course of the Lord’s earthly pilgrimage, He manifested as the Light of the world: in His Baptism by John the Baptist, and in the marriage feast at Cana. These three great events, crisscrossing each other to reach the same end, shines as revelation to us today of *that* Divine Mission. And this Mission is given to you and me that we become light for each other and those who are still in darkness.

Here at Little Flower, Jesus continues to reveal Himself to us in so many ways: in our gatherings, when we gather to worship and to partake in the Holy Eucharist; in our sharing of our stories and witnessing of our faith, *in the upcoming WINTER FILM FESTIVAL*, in our ministries and outreach, and in the manner by which we care, love and help each other as God’s children. These coming months and church events will definitely be a season of epiphanies for you and me! As we are invited *to go “by another road”*, let us persevere on our spiritual path - enjoying this Pilgrimage of the Light!

May our journey bring light to another year we have together. Peace and love and health!

Your parish priest,
Fr JC Merino