



PASTORAL LETTER

Dear Little Flower,

This Sunday we celebrate a special feast: The Solemnity of the Epiphany. The Epiphany marks the arrival of visitors, identified as three wise men from the East, to the place where Jesus was born. We do not know much about them, but that they brought gifts - gold, frankincense, and myrrh - signifying Jesus's kingship, and his divinity, and his mission (he came to save us and die for our sins). The word "Epiphany" means manifestation, which focuses on the Incarnation (make-flesh) of the Word of God; the Mystery that God made visible to us in Christ, fully human and fully divine.

For us Christians, there are 12 days to celebrate Christmas, which begins on Christmas Day (first day of Christmas) and culminates on the celebration of the Epiphany (the twelfth day). The song the Twelve Days of Christmas was originally used to catechize (in a fun way) little children about the Catholic Faith.

The point being is that there are so many beautiful ways that we can explain the mystery of what we believe. On this last day of Christmas, the invitation from me to you - today and always - is to journey and come to Him with a simple child-like faith, hearing the Lord say to us: unless you become like little children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. May this New Year together compel us to believe in God (come back home) with simple child-like faith and to journey together closer to Him each day.

Your parish priest,
Fr JC Merino

