



### ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS TODAY

The three wise kings, whom we also call Magi, came to see the Child Jesus. They observed the signs and prophecies and were able to discern the time and place of the birth of Jesus the Messiah.



Read the Gospel and Color



### ON THE WAY TO MASS TODAY

Who did the three wise kings, whom we call Magi, come to see?

### CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The *Epiphany* is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (*magi*) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee.<sup>212</sup>

In the magi, representatives of the neighboring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. The magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations.<sup>213</sup> Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship him as Son of God and Savior of the world only by turning toward the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament.<sup>214</sup>

The Epiphany shows that “the full number of the nations” now takes its “place in the family of the patriarchs,” and acquires *Israelitica dignitas*<sup>215</sup> (are made “worthy of the heritage of Israel”).

### DURING THE WEEK

Let us pay attention to the ways in which God speaks to us, especially through our parents, the Scriptures, in prayer, and through our conscience.

### ON THE WAY TO MASS NEXT SUNDAY

Who is the Lamb of God?