



A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE KIDS OF ST. AMBROSE

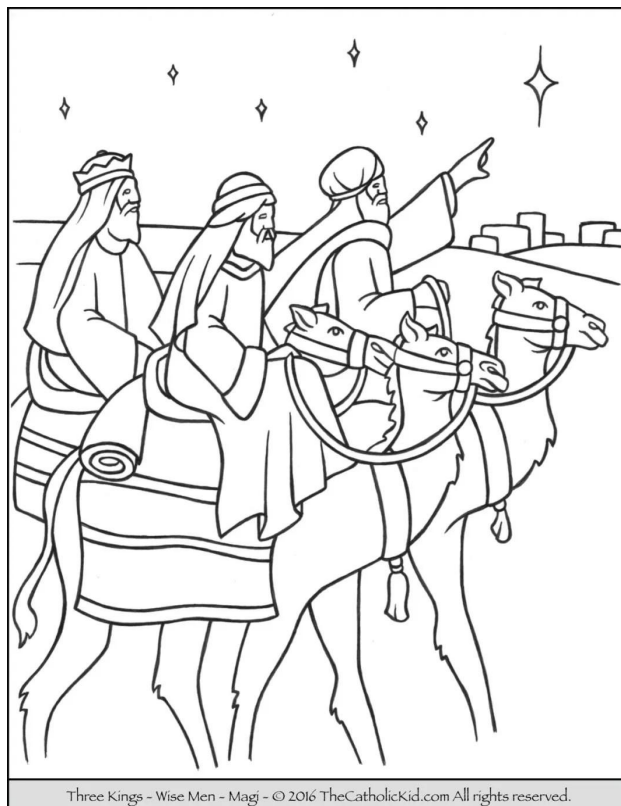
Sunday, January 8, 2023

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

The Solemnity of The Epiphany is celebrated today! Sometimes called Three Kings Day, this is when we celebrate the first time the Lord made himself known to people from other nations. The magi brought Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gold is a symbol of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of Jesus' divinity because it was used in worship. Myrrh, used as a burial ointment, is a symbol of Jesus' humanity, pointing to his passion and death. The prophet Isaiah foretold that all nations would walk by the light of Christ and that visitors from far lands would come to bring Jesus gifts and praise him.

"...the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and co-partners in the promise in Christ Jesus..."

- Saint Paul, Ephesians 3:6



Three Kings - Wise Men - Magi - © 2016 TheCatholicKid.com All rights reserved.

FAMILY TIME

*At the dinner table,
in the car,
we talk about our faith,
wherever we are!*



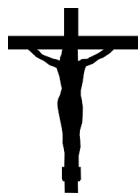
This week's Gospel shows two very different responses to the birth of Christ. Herod is fearful that he will lose power to another king, while the wise men humbly seek Jesus and pay him homage.

LITTLE ONES: Jesus loves every gift we bring him with love. You might not have gold, frankincense, or myrrh, but what could you give him today?

BIGGER ONES: Are there any parts of your life you're afraid to let Jesus into? Are you afraid of not being in control of something? Try to surrender that to Jesus and trust that he'll take care of everything.

FAMILY CHALLENGE: Here's a fun activity for the Epiphany: Parents, cut out a star from paper and/or take Baby Jesus from your nativity and hide the star or baby somewhere in the house. Children, you are the three kings. Sing "We Three Kings" as you search for Baby Jesus or the star in your home. When you reach your destination, pray a special prayer of Thanksgiving that God sent his son to love and save and free you.

Psalm 72: "Lord, every nation on earth will adore you."



T U J E G O V E R N
 F N R U S Y T E N R
 L C U V D O S S A C
 O M L J Z G C E T K
 W O E U H B M A I I
 E O P S O S Q E O N
 R N E T M G E L N G
 H P A I A I L R S T
 X K C C G R P P V X
 W A E E E X R J V E

Judgment	Justice	Nations	King
Govern	Homage	Flower	Rule
Peace	Serve	Moon	Sea

Lord, Bless our Homes!

20 C + M + B 23

Has your family ever used blessed chalk to mark the lintel to your house? You can read about the tradition using the link below. This year's markings are listed above. The "20" represents the millennium and century, the "C," "M," and "B" stand for the three wise men's names: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. The "23" represents the decade and year.

Some people say the three kings' initials stand for *Christus mansionem benedicat* or *Christ bless this house*.



The Baptism of the Lord

This week we also celebrate the **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**. Like the Solemnity of The Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord also reveals Jesus, the Savior of all nations, to the world. This is the beginning of his public ministry. From this time, disciples begin following Jesus' teachings, he chooses his apostles, and he soon begins showing the world the signs and wonders that show the world he is their Savior.

"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:17

