

Father Jim's Weekly Bulletin Article for December 31 2017

The Christmas Season: Next week's Feast of the Epiphany is a milestone in the celebration of the Christmas Season. In fact, some look at the feast as a sort of little Christmas. Gifts are brought by the magi to Jesus. Consider some small gift giving as a reminder that the Christmas Season continues.

Readings for next week: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Reflection: Every life has its defining moments, unique events that seem to separate the past from the future. The birth of Christ is such a moment in the life of the world. Once we looked forward to God's blessing. We listened to God's promises and rejoiced in anticipation of his presence. The waiting is over. The promise is fulfilled. In the promise of this one moment our life is changed. Not only is God with us, but he has proclaimed us his children, his brothers and sisters. We walk with God in a way our ancestors would have never dreamed possible. We look to the future not knowing the miracles Christ will work within us or through us. We know only the moment. God is with us. Rejoice! Our Light has come. He is Emmanuel.

1. Consider ways that Christ has revealed himself through the events of this Christmas Season.

2. Choose a favorite Christmas symbol to hold or sit with. Ponder your future with Christ.

Prayer: Lord God, we rejoice in the splendor of your presence. You have placed your heart in our hands. We are transformed by the touch. May the hands which have touched you be generous as they reach out to touch others. Your presence goes with us, Lord, and with your presence, your blessing.