

St. Michael the Archangel

100 Oak Drive South
Lake Jackson, Texas 77566
979-297-3041
www.smlj.org

Dear Parish Family,

Today we celebrate the Feast of Epiphany. The word epiphany means 'manifestation or revelation'. The Lord Jesus is manifested or revealed to the world waiting for the Messiah. One meaning of this Christmas feast is that His coming into our world is not intended for a group of selected people but for everyone!!! Our Gospel reading today tells us two distinct and opposite models to follow, as they respond to the revelation of the Messiah as shown by the star. Live like the Magi or live like Herod. While both were eager to find the new born king, the Magi brought gifts while Herod brought death. He wanted to kill the baby. The Magi were motivated by generosity, Herod was motivated by fear and hunger for power and control. The Magi were willing to be led by the light of a star, Herod followed nothing but his own dark inner drives. The Magi gave generously, Herod hoarded greedily. The Magi were willing to be changed, Herod remained hard hearted to the end. He spent his life trapped in his own hell. The Magi were given a foretaste of heaven when they saw our Lord Jesus face to face in that manger.

Our Lord Jesus manifests Himself to us each time we celebrate the Holy Eucharist. He comes to us in the Bread and the Wine at Mass. I hope and pray that we will be like the Magi in the Lord's manifestation to us!

Happy Feast of the Epiphany,

Fr. Dwight

P.S. Our Parish Bazaar is less than a month away. Raffle tickets are still being sold and Sponsorships are still being accepted. Live and Silent Auction items are also needed. This weekend after all Masses, please stop by and check out the specific requests needed for the day of the Bazaar. Thank you for helping us make the 2023 Bazaar a Success!