

FAMILIES FORMING DISCIPLES

Lesson 5 – Week 1



Opening Prayer

Come, Spirit of Wisdom, bless us and grant us the grace of conforming our lives fully to God's holy Word, so that we may have compassion for one another, especially those who are poor, lonely, or afraid. Our Father...

(adapted from Catholics For Family Peace)

Ice Breaker

Would you rather...

Eat ice cream or cake?

Have the super strength of Samson or the wisdom of Solomon?

Watch basketball or football?

Watch Jesus heal a blind man or watch Jesus walking on water?

Play baseball or soccer?

Would you rather live at the beach or in the mountains?

Be a shepherd or a magi?

Would you rather be a bodybuilder or a professional golfer?

Name the animals or build the ark?

Go fishing with Peter or be baptized by John the Baptist?

Partner in Faith



Goals

- To introduce families to the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord and the tradition of the Epiphany blessing/chalking the door (Week 1 & 2)
- To reflect on the First Luminous Mystery, the Baptism of the Lord, and on Jesus' mission (Week 3)
- To explore how we answer God's call to live our Baptism

The Solemnity of the Epiphany



What does Epiphany mean?

Have you ever celebrated Epiphany Sunday?

*Have you ever heard of any special ways
families celebrate the Solemnity of Epiphany?
If so, how?*

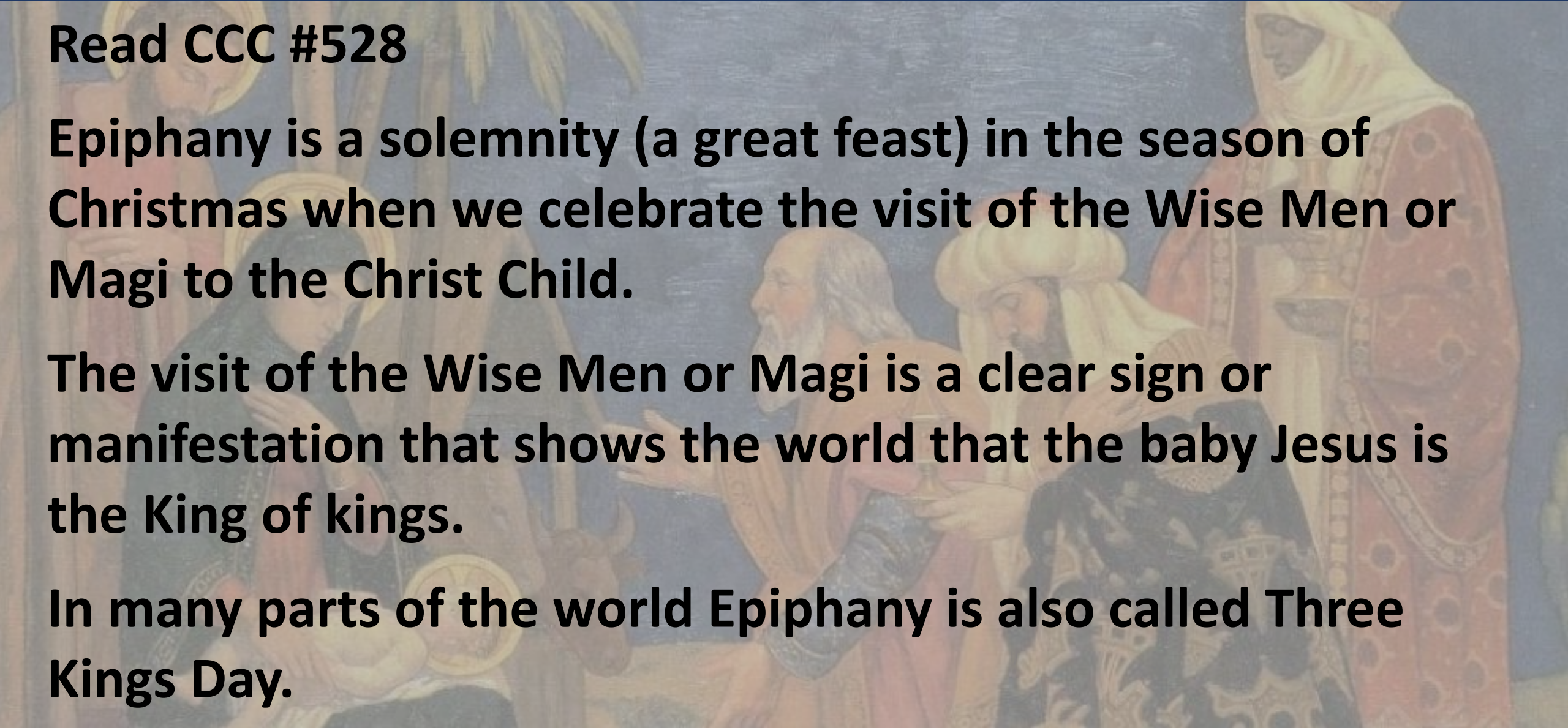
Topic

Read CCC #528

Epiphany is a solemnity (a great feast) in the season of Christmas when we celebrate the visit of the Wise Men or Magi to the Christ Child.

The visit of the Wise Men or Magi is a clear sign or manifestation that shows the world that the baby Jesus is the King of kings.

In many parts of the world Epiphany is also called Three Kings Day.



WHAT IS EPIPHANY?



Ignatian Meditation MT 2:1-12

We use visualization and our imagination during this meditation. It is based on the style of prayer that St. Ignatius of Loyola used in his spiritual exercises. While you listen to the story of the Magi *imagine* that you are present there with them. Think about what you would say or do, and then what the other people in the scene would do in return.

Now find a comfortable place to sit and close your eyes.

Ignatian Meditation MT 2:1-12

Breathe slowly in and out, picturing Jesus sitting with you.

Clear your mind of distractions. Sometimes it helps to silently repeat “Come, Lord Jesus”; “Speak to me, Word of God”; “Speak Lord, I am listening”; or another phrase of your own.

Now we’ll hear from the Gospel According to Matthew.

Mt 2:1-12

Family Conversation

Remember to listen openly with respect and avoid interrupting or correcting one another.

What stood out to you in the story of the Visit of the Magi to the Christ Child?

What questions would you have asked?

How did you feel being part of the story?

At Home Mission

Part 1: Epiphany

Watch the 2 videos on the Mission Activity sheet, about Epiphany and the Chalking of the Door.

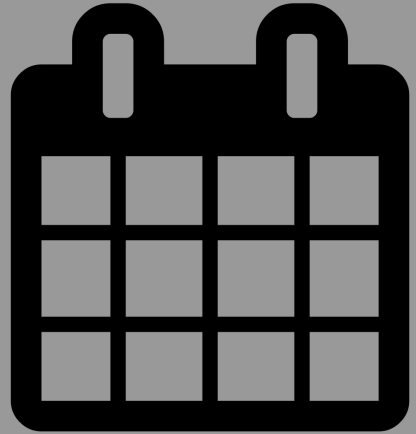
After learning about the Chalking of the Door, use the instructions on the Mission Activity sheet to mark the mantle of your front door with blessed chalk. Take a picture and send it to saspministry@gmail.com to share at class on Jan 21st.

Part 2: Baptism of the Lord

Watch the Baptism video that best fits your family, options are on the Mission Activity Sheet.

Locate Baptism items or sacramentals from each family member's baptism. Candles, stoles (white garment), gifts, pictures, etc. Place items on your home altar. Take a picture and send it to saspministry@gmail.com to share at class on Jan 21st.

Date Reminders



Next meeting date:

Sunday, January 21st

Week 3 of Epiphany and
the Baptism of the Lord

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, may you bless each of the families that have gathered together today. Help us to grow continually closer to you. This we pray in Your Holy Name. Amen.

Mother Seton, Pray for Us!

