

Read Matthew 2:1-12 and Ephesians 3:1-12

Epiphany celebrates four stories about Jesus from the Gospels. First, His birth in Bethlehem. Second, His baptism in the Jordan River. Third, His appearing before the wisemen. Fourth, His transforming water into wine during a wedding in Cana of Galilee.

1. Why do you think these four primordial stories (meaning the earliest and most fundamental stories in the New Testament) are significant and celebrated together during Epiphany?
2. As primordial stories, these four Gospel events are the start of something new. How is each event a new beginning in our history and in our world?
3. Being baptised in Jesus means that whatever is true and real about Jesus is also true and real about us. What are some real-life implications on us with Jesus' birth and baptism? His life, death, resurrection, ascension, and reign?
4. We can respond to the miracle of Epiphany in either two ways. We can be "troubled" and "disturbed" as King Herod and all of Jerusalem did (Matthew 2:3). Or we can "rejoice exceedingly with great joy" as the wisemen did (Matthew 2:10).

In what ways can we be "troubled" by God's coming to us as a human being? In what ways can we reflect "excessive rejoicing" in our lives because of God's coming to us as Jesus Christ?

5. Epiphany celebrates God's revealing His promise of salvation to the whole world when the wisemen saw Jesus. In other words, Epiphany is about God's mission to the world. St. Paul reflected on this in Ephesians 3 and said that he has become a minister of the Gospel to the Gentiles (non-Jews) as he was for the Jews, the original recipients of God's promise.

How can we emulate St. Paul in his missionary ambition to reach people for the Gospel? How can we do that together in our homes, in our neighbourhoods, in our church, in our world?

6. Pray together and for each other that we may worship Christ in the wonder of Epiphany and join in following St. Paul's example of missionary zeal.