

# **TODAY'S READINGS**

## **THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD**

### **FIRST READING**

**Isaiah 60:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>Jerusalem, stand up! Shine! Your new day is dawning. The glory of the LORD shines brightly on you. <sup>2</sup>The earth and its people are covered with darkness, but the glory of the LORD is shining upon you. <sup>3</sup>Nations and kings will come to the light of your dawning day. <sup>4</sup>Open your eyes! Look around! Crowds are coming. Your sons are on their way from distant lands; your daughters are being carried like little children. <sup>5</sup>When you see this, your faces will glow; your hearts will pound and swell with pride. Treasures from across the sea and the wealth of nations will be brought to you. <sup>6</sup>Your country will be covered with caravans of young camels from Midian and Ephah. The people of Sheba will bring gold and spices in praise of me, the LORD.

*"For the Word of the Lord"*  
***"Thanks be to God"***

### **SECOND READING**

**Ephesians 3:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>Christ Jesus made me his prisoner, so I could help you Gentiles. <sup>2</sup>You have surely heard about God's gift of undeserved grace in choosing me to help you. <sup>3</sup>In fact, this letter tells you a little about how God has shown me his mysterious ways. <sup>4</sup>As you read the letter, you will also find out how well I really do understand the mystery about Christ. <sup>5</sup>No one knew about this mystery until God's Spirit told it to his holy apostles and prophets. <sup>6</sup>And the mystery is this: Because of Christ Jesus, the good news has given the Gentiles a share in the promises God gave to the Jews. God has also let the Gentiles be part of the same body. <sup>7</sup>God treated me with kindness. His power worked in me, and it became my job to spread the good news. <sup>8</sup>I am the least important of all God's people. But God was kind and chose me to tell the Gentiles that because of Christ there are blessings that cannot be measured. <sup>9</sup>God, who created everything, wanted me to help everyone understand the mysterious plan

that had always been hidden in his mind. <sup>10</sup>Then God would use the church to show the powers and authorities in the spiritual world that he has many different kinds of wisdom. <sup>11</sup>God did this according to his eternal plan. And he was able to do what he had planned because of all Christ Jesus our Lord had done. <sup>12</sup>Christ now gives us courage and confidence, so we can come to God by faith.

*"For the Word of the Lord"*  
***"Thanks be to God"***

### **GOSPEL**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

***"Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!"***

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus was born in the village of Bethlehem in Judea, Herod was king. During this time some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup>and said, "Where is the child born to be king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard about this, he was worried, and so was everyone else in Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>Herod brought together the chief priests and the teachers of the Law of Moses and asked them, "Where will the Messiah be born?" <sup>5</sup>They told him, "He will be born in Bethlehem, just as the prophet wrote, <sup>6</sup>'Bethlehem in the land of Judea, you are very important among the towns of Judea. From your town will come a leader, who will be like a shepherd for my people Israel.'" <sup>7</sup>Herod secretly called in the wise men and asked them when they had first seen the star. <sup>8</sup>He told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, let me know. I also want to go and worship him." <sup>9</sup>The wise men listened to what the king said and then left. And the star they had seen in the east went on ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>They were thrilled and excited to see the star. <sup>11</sup>When the men went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they knelt down and worshiped him. They took out their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh and gave them to him. <sup>12</sup>Later they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, and they went back home by another road.

***"Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!"***

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2022. The Epiphany of our Lord.**

**Psalm 72.1-7, 10-14**

<sup>1</sup> Give the king your judgement, O God:  
and your righteousness to the son of a king,

**<sup>2</sup> That he may judge your people rightly:  
and the poor of the land with equity.**

<sup>3</sup> Let the mountains be laden with peace because of his righteousness:  
and the hills also with prosperity for his people.

**<sup>4</sup> May he give justice to the poor among the people:  
and rescue the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

<sup>5</sup> May he live while the sun endures:  
and while the moon gives light, throughout all generations.

**<sup>6</sup> May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields:  
and as showers that water the earth.**

<sup>7</sup> In his time shall righteousness flourish:  
and abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.

**<sup>10</sup> The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring tribute:  
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.**

<sup>11</sup> All kings shall fall down before him:  
and all nations do him service.

**<sup>12</sup> He will deliver the needy when they cry:  
and the poor that have no helper.**

<sup>13</sup> He will pity the helpless and the needy:  
and save the lives of the poor.

**<sup>14</sup> He will redeem them from oppression and violence:  
and their blood shall be precious in his sight.**

