

Epiphany

My beloved brothers and sisters, the Magi were truly “wise men” on two levels: They were honored throughout the ancient world as seekers after knowledge; and in the story of the Gospel, they seek the unfolding meaning of the heavenly events they had been observing in the heavens! For them, the heavenly events they saw, were not merely heavenly events. They recognized in them the hand of God and the call of God. The Jewish leadership, who saw the same heavenly events, did not, nor were they even concerned. The despot Herod saw only a threat to his power and reign in the coming of the Magi, because he understood that their arrival was a sign of even greater signs, thus he called in the teachers of law! Neither the Religious Leaders, nor Herod were concerned that the events they themselves had witnessed were the fulfillment of God’s divine promises of the Messiah!

All of them were familiar with the Prophecy of Isaiah, who declared that the Lord would shine upon it, so much so, that the Divine Light shining upon it would attract others by the Divine Light, into the Light of God! Isaiah prophesied that the coming of the Messiah was not just for the people of Israel, but meant to be a bright and shining light for all the nations! So too, you and I are called to be other Christs, and are called to be bright and shining lights on a hill, attracting others to God. In the present darkness of our society, this light is more needed than ever before!

St. Paul too, reminds us that we may not keep this Good News to ourselves; indeed, if we do, like a fruit on a tree or a vine, that is not used, it simply withers and dies, doing no one any good!

Because they were diligent in their seeking the meaning of the light they saw in the distance, they found what they were seeking, and more, beyond their wildest imaginations! They found God in the flesh- that is the meaning of their three gifts. God desires to be found by us. He desires to make Himself known to us. He desires us to come to Him and be made radiant with His Divine light; however, we must desire it for ourselves, and we must be diligent in our quest to find Him,

adore Him and see Him face to face in Jesus! The question is this: how diligent are we in our pursuit of His Divine Self-Revelation?