



### SCRIPTURE of the DAY

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Psalms 71: 1-2, 7-8, 10-13

Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6

Matthew 2: 1-12



As we seek the pastoral pathways of building trust through prayers, dialogue and faith expressed in actions, what can we learn from the readings? Let us reflect on the gospel account of the Magi. Their journey exemplifies the very essence of trust. Taking a courageous leap of faith into the unknown, the Magi use science and astrology to seek something greater than themselves. By following the Star which eventually leads them to the Manger, the Magi exhibit trust in God's guidance. The stark difference in having the glorious sign, and the reality of a lowly Manger do not deter them from bowing down to honour the Infant Christ, and offering him the very gifts Isaiah foretold: gold, frankincense and myrrh. After the encounter at the Manger, the Magi trust a dream, warning them not to return to Herod, but to follow another route.

As we start the year focusing on family, may the Epiphany story offer us some guidance. Strong witnessing of the faith starts in the family, and often comes with challenges as young couples come together to build their lives together. Realities start to sink in after the honeymoon period. Chores, children, finances, educational needs, peer pressure, the list goes on. Yet, the **home is the first school of trust. It is where we learn humility, forgiveness, build trust and lean on each other.** Strong prayer life helps members of the household to stay Christ-centred as they learn to discern the signs God uses to guide them.

For the larger family, the Church, the Magi story shows that God reveals Himself to all peoples. That the family of God is not based on ethnicity, but on a shared response to His Light. It is heartening to know of the dialogues and collaborations the Church has with the different races and communities. Through frequent dialogues, the family of God breaks down barriers of race, religion, and creed.

May the Light that has come continue to guide us in all circumstances. ✝

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"Family is the domestic Church in which we learn to live out the richness of relationships between persons, in their diversity."

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# NEWBEC

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH | The Epiphany of the Lord | 4 January 2026

WALKING TOGETHER TOWARDS A SYNODAL AND PROPHETIC CHURCH

*A People for Missionary Discipleship*

MONTHLY FOCUS: FAMILY: Building Trust

## The Light That Has Come

The prophecy of *the light that has come* echoes a divine initiative. Isaiah's vision of God's light is a beacon for the nations of the world. In the gospel narration, we see the fulfilment of this vision. The child in the Manger in Bethlehem is revealed as the source of the light that has come for all peoples. This is Epiphany, the Solemnity we celebrate today.

