

Monthly First Saturdays of Reparation

January 3rd 2026 - Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus

The Nativity & Visitation of the Magi

Read the Gospel of St. Matthew 2:1-12

- Revised Standard Version, Second Catholic Edition

(The 15 minute Meditation is integral to the full practice of the First Saturdays! It cannot be left out!)



The visit of the Magi

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, Wise Men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, *“Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen this star in the East, and have come to worship him.”* When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the

Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: **‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people Israel.’**”

Then Herod summoned the Wise Men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I may too come and worship him.”

When they had heard the king they went on their way; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly and with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his Mother, and they fell down and worshipped him. Then opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold, frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Meditation thoughts ... By a father of the spiritual family of St. Philip Neri

St Matthew's whole purpose for writing his Gospel is to show that our Lord, right from the beginning, is the lawful Messiah, and the legitimate Saviour of the whole world. This reaches beyond Israel to the Gentiles. The Wise Men from the East, from the land of Persia, following the Shepherds, are the next visitors to the Holy Family. Their regal arrival causes a great commotion for miles around, with Jerusalem being just 7 miles from Bethlehem. As they were part of the nobility, it was only right that King Herod, as the regional king be informed of their arrival. King Herod was enraged that the usual formalities were not followed, and sought to deceive the Wise Men.

Herod's fury and need for power opened up an ever greater divide with God, so much so, that Herod sought His destruction. Wicked men and women do exist, and they seek the downfall of others, and of anything Holy which would lead people into the ways of God.

It would take great humility of heart and faith to accept the coming of the long awaited Messiah and his arrival to Bethlehem. The Magi find themselves converted, and open to the wisdom of eternal mysteries. These Wise Men realised that they needed to protect the new born Messiah, and went against protocol by not informing Herod of his whereabouts. And they wisely returned home by another route.

The visit of these Wise Men makes more profound our understanding that God has come to dwell amongst us. The message is not just for the people of Israel but for all nations, and the curiosity of science brings these three kings to their knees, and to their salvation. Our Lady's Messiah Child changes them, converts them. In their clarity of vision, they go home another way. That way is the way of Christ.

Questions to ponder ... By a sister of the spiritual family of the sisters of Mary Morning Star

1. What or who is the “**Herod**” in my life which tries to keep me away from the Newborn King?
2. What or who is the “**Star**” in my life, right now, which leads me, helps me to find the place where the Child Jesus awaits me?
3. ***They were overwhelmed with joy... They offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*** Have I been overwhelmed with joy this Christmas in welcoming Christ into my life, in finding Him in the Manger?
If not, what prevented me from rejoicing at His coming?
4. As we are prepare to celebrate Christ’s Epiphany, it is not too late to follow the “**Star**” and receive the joy of Christ’s presence in my life.
What gifts could I offer Him in these days?

Please note that you need to be flexible and creative in how you use this Meditation text & Reflective Questions. The full text is helpful to individuals - however - if you are leading it amidst a group, for just 15 minutes, the leader will need to decide how much of it to use. It may be, that just the Scripture and the questions to ponder, be used, interspersed with silence. If you have longer than 15 minutes then divide the meditation up, interspersed with silence. It is important to allow silence to give the Lord the space to speak to each person’s heart. Where possible give each person a printed copy.

Important and consoling words from Our Blessed Lady -

“Don’t lose heart. I will never forsake you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God.”

“If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace.”

Act of Reparation

to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Most Holy Virgin, and Our Mother, we listen with grief to the complaints of your Immaculate Heart, surrounded with the thorns placed therein at every moment, by the blasphemies and ingratitude of ungrateful humanity. We are moved by the ardent desire of loving you as Our Mother and of promising a true devotion to Your Immaculate Heart. We therefore kneel before You to manifest the sorrow we feel for the grievances that people cause You, and to atone by our prayers and sacrifices for the offences with which they return your love. Obtain for them and for us the pardon of so many sins. Hasten the conversion of sinners that they may love Jesus Christ and cease to offend the Lord, already so much offended. Turn your eyes of mercy toward us, that we may love God with all our heart on earth and enjoy Him forever in Heaven. Amen.

Hymn - The First Noel

1. The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay:
in fields where they lay a-keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star,
shining in the east, beyond them far:
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

3. And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from the country far;
to seek for a King was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

4. This star drew nigh to the north-west;
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay.
Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

5. Then entered in those wise men three,
fell reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

Fatima Prayers of Adoration & Reparation

1. O Most Holy Trinity, I adore You. My God, my God, I love You in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

2. O Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell; lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy.

3. My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You; I ask pardon of You for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love You.

4. Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly. I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges, and indifference by which He is offended. And through the infinite merits of His Most Sacred Heart, and of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of poor sinners.

5. O Jesus, this is for love of You, for the conversion of sinners, for the Holy Father, and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. (Jacinta added "the Holy Father").



Wisdom from Venerable Sr. Lucia

“And let us not waver or move away from the Church when we see imperfections in some of her members, because, individually, we are all weak and sinful. But the Church does not cease to be holy for all that: holy in her laws and in the doctrine entrusted to her by God, holy in her Head, Jesus Christ, her divine Founder and Saviour, holy in the divine Spirit which animates and helps her, and in the life of grace generated and nourished by the Sacraments.”

Venerable Sr Lucia said: “War and peace in the world depend on the celebration of this devotion (*the First Saturdays*) and the consecration to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary connected to it. Therefore I wished so much these were spread, and much more because it is the will of our good God and our beloved Heavenly Mother.”

Little Saint Jacinta said the following to Lucia, not long before going to the hospital in Lisbon where she died. Read them, as if these very words are being said to you in this moment!

“God grants us graces through the Immaculate Heart of Mary - When you are to say this, don’t go and hide! Tell everybody that God grants us graces through the Immaculate Heart of Mary; that people are to ask her for them; and that the Heart of Jesus wants the Immaculate Heart of Mary to be venerated at his side. Tell them also to pray to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for peace, since God has entrusted it to her. If only I could put into the hearts of all, the fire that is burning within my own heart, and that makes me love the Hearts of Jesus and Mary so very much.”

Hymn - ALMA REDEMPTORIS MATER

Alma Redemptoris Mater, quae pervia caeli
Porta manes, et stella maris, succurre cadenti,
Surgere qui curat, populo: tu quae genuisti,
Natura mirante, tuum sanctum Genitorem
Virgo prius ac posterius, Gabrielis ab ore
Sumens illud Ave, peccatorum miserere.

ALMA REDEMPTORIS MATER (Loving Mother of our Redeemer)

Mother of Christ, hear thou thy people's cry
Star of the deep and Portal of the sky!
Mother of Him who thee made from nothing made.
Sinking we strive and call to thee for aid:
Oh, by what joy which Gabriel brought to thee,
Thou Virgin first and last, let us thy mercy see.

Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth, and tender Mother of men, in accordance with thy ardent wish made known at Fatima, I consecrate to thy Immaculate Heart myself, my brethren, my country and the whole human race. Reign over us, Most Holy Mother of God, and teach us how to make the Heart of Thy Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ reign and triumph in us even as It has reigned and triumphed in thee.

Reign over us, dearest Mother, that we may be thine in prosperity and in adversity; in joy and in sorrow; in health and in sickness; in life and in death. O most compassionate Heart of Mary, Queen of Virgins, watch over our minds and our hearts and preserve them from the deluge of impurity which thou didst lament so sorrowfully at Fatima. We want to be pure like thee. We want to atone for the many sins committed against Jesus and thee. We want to call down upon our country and the whole world the peace of God in justice and charity. Therefore, we now promise to imitate thy virtues by the practice of a Christian life without regard to human respect. We resolve to receive Holy Communion on the First Saturday of every month and to offer thee five decades of the rosary each day together with our sacrifices in a spirit of reparation and penance. Amen.

Be Still

1. Be still and know that I am God (3)
2. I am the Lord that healeth thee (3)
3. In thee, O Lord, I put my trust (3)

