

Sunday 2 January 2028

The Epiphany (Year C)

First Reading - Micah 4.1-3

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

The time will come

when the mountain
of the temple
of the Lord
will be established
as the greatest
of all mountains,
high above the hills.

People of all nations will say,

'The teaching of the Lord

comes from Mount Zion,
and the word of the Lord

from Jerusalem.

So let us go up

to the mountain of the Lord,

to the house

of the God of Jacob,

to learn there

how to walk

in the right path.'

Then the Lord

will bring justice and peace
to the nations.

They will take their weapons of war,

their swords and their spears,

and they will re-work them

into ploughs
and pruning-hooks.

No longer

will nation

lift up sword

against nation;

neither will they

learn war

any more.

This is the word of the Lord.

Second Reading - Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

By the grace of God,

I have been commissioned
to make known to you
a glorious truth
that was unknown
to former generations.

But now, by the Holy Spirit,

this glorious truth
has been revealed
to God's apostles and prophets:

that people of all nations

are our brothers and sisters
in Christ Jesus -

members of the same body,

and inheritors

of the same promise.

This is the word of the Lord.

Gospel - Matthew 2.1-12

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Matthew.

In the time of King Herod,

after Jesus was born
(in Bethlehem of Judea),

Magi from the East

came to Jerusalem,

saying, 'We are looking for the child
who is born

to be king of the Jews.

For we observed his star, at its rising,
and we have come to pay him homage.'

When King Herod heard this,

he was troubled,
and all Jerusalem with him.

He called together

the chief priests and the scribes,
and enquired of them
where the Messiah
was to be born.

They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea;
for it is written in the prophets:

"You, O Bethlehem,
in the land of Judah,
are not the least
amongst the ruling cities
of Judah; for out of you
will come a leader, who is
to shepherd
my people Israel."

Then Herod called secretly for the Magi,
and learned from them
the exact time
at which the star had appeared.

Then he sent them to Bethlehem,
saying, 'Go and search for the child;
and when you have found him,
bring me word,
so that I may also go
and pay him homage.'

So the Magi set out;

and there, ahead of them,

went the star

which they had seen

at its rising;

until it stopped

over the place

where they would find the child;

at which

they were filled with joy.

On entering the house, they saw the child,
with Mary his mother,
and they knelt down, and paid him homage.

Then, opening their treasure-chests,
they offered him gifts of gold,
frankincense, and myrrh.

And having been warned in a dream
not to return to Herod,
they left for their own country
by another road.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.