#### This week's theme:

6 <sup>th</sup> January	<u>Matthew</u>	Epiphany	The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of	6 <sup>th</sup>
6 <sup>th</sup> January Christmas	Matthew 2:1-12 'Where is the new born king of the Jews? We saw his	Epiphany	The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the Magi visiting Jesus. This is more than a story about wise men bringing gifts. It reveals Jesus is the saviour for all people. The star guiding the Magi symbolises God's light leading all nations to Jesus. This light is different from the power of	6 <sup>m</sup> January – Epiphany Maghi in Sikhism
	star at its rising and have come to do him homage.'		King Herod. Herod is powerful and fearful. Jesus, though a baby, shows a different kind of kingship. He is humble and vulnerable, yet He changes the world.	

Don't forget - there are additional resources for you to use with your form saved on the K Drive in chaplaincy Each form should also have a paper copy of the prayer booklet (there are spare copies in the sacred time resource box in the staff room)

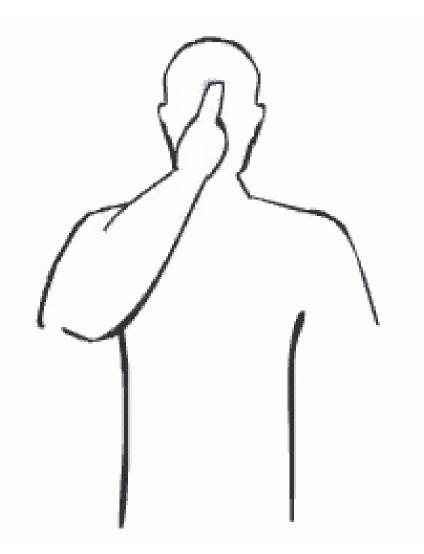
Additional prayer resources for sacred time;

<u>Additional Prayer resources for form Sacred Time\prayer hand.pptx</u> <u>Additional Prayer resources for form Sacred Time\Set prayers for Sacred</u> <u>Time.pptx</u> <u>Additional Prayer resources for form Sacred Time\prayer booklet.docx</u>

The resources and activities in this powerpoint are suggestions, and intended to support, and / or offer a starting point.

They are not prescriptive – please feel free to adapt for your form, or create your own resources as appropriate

## We start each Sacred Time with the sign of the cross.



<u>Sign of the cross:</u> In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

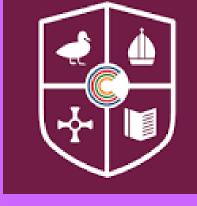
- This prayer is calling to mind God who is the Father, Son and Spirit.
- We reminding ourselves to remember God in our thoughts, in our hearts and in the work we do.
- The actions make a cross to remind us about Jesus.
- The sign of the cross marks that this is a special time.

Let us make the sign of the cross together.

Autumn Term 2- Week 6 Season: Advent week 2 Liturgical Colour: purple

# Sacred Time Theme: Epiphany





#### Day 1

Today is the feast of the Epiphany. It is the day when we celebrate the arrival of the Magi to the stable after following the star. Although we often call them the '3 wise men,' or '3 Kings,' they were actually 'Magi' who were a group of very clever astronomers at the time. We think there were 3 of them because the Bible mentions 3 names (Melchior, Balthazar and Casper).

Day 1

We believe they brought gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh to the baby Jesus. Today, in many countries including Spain, they don't exchange Christmas gifts until today!

What gifts can you bring to our school community?

We pray our school prayer together, asking God to help us to share our gifts of courage, commitment and compassion to

# Live life in all its fullness

John 10:10

School Prayer

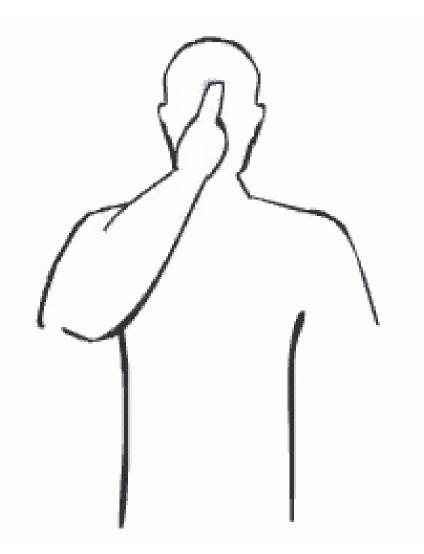
#### Dear God,

We ask for the compassion to care for each other, the commitment to strive for excellence, and the courage to do the right thing. Help us to build a community where everyone can live life to the full.

Amen.

St. Cuthbert, pray for us.

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Let us make the sign of the cross together.

'Epiphany' comes from the Greek word meaning 'to reveal', as it is when the baby Jesus was 'revealed' to the world.

This is why you might hear people say they've had an epiphany, when they've just realised something!



# Theme of the Week - Epiphany Day 2 How do people celebrate Epiphany around the world?



Day 2

- In Spain and Latin America, El Dia de los Reyes is just as important as Christmas Day itself.
- A bit like how you might leave a carrot and mince pie out on Christmas Eve, the night before *El Día de los Reyes*, children leave out drinks for the Three Kings and there are parades and fireworks displays to mark the occasion.





- In Mexico, people celebrate Epiphany by eating a special sweet bread called Rosca de Reyes. The bread is ring-shaped and topped with candied fruit.
- A small plastic figure of baby Jesus is normally hidden inside the the Rosca de Reyes before it's cut, and whoever finds it is thought to have good luck.

#### Day 2

- In the Czech Republic, those who are up for the challenge celebrate Epiphany by swimming in the freezing cold Vltava river in Prague.
- Men also dress up as the Magi, riding on camels through Prague's city centre, as part of the Three Kings Day Parade.





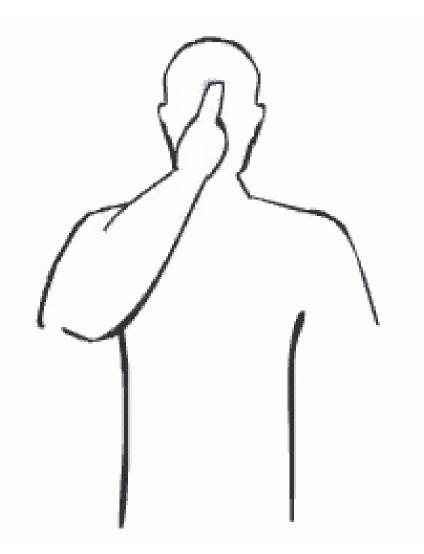
#### Day 2

- Lord God of heaven and earth,
- you revealed your only Son to every nation by the guidance of a star.



- Bless those across the world celebrating the gift of your one and only Son,
- And help others realise the gift you gave freely to the world. Fill us with the light of Christ,
- That our concern for others may reflect your love.
- We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

## We start each Sacred Time with the sign of the cross.



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Let us make the sign of the cross together.

## In sacred time this week we discussed the gifts given by the Magi (wise men)...

Can you remember what they were?



# Theme of the Week - Epiphany Day 3 The action of giving gifts plays a huge part at Christmas.

Whether it is taking part in Secret Santa, exchanging presents with friends/family or even donating gifts to those in need.



## Listen carefully to the following story known as 'The Man & The Birds'

It is a story about a man's own personal epiphany...



https://www.youtube.com /watch?v=hYeNZJPI×EI

## Theme of the Week - Epiphany Day 3 'The Man & The Birds' **Reflection:** Why were the birds afraid of the man? - How did the man get the birds to trust him?

- Who do you think the man symbolises in the story?
- Who do the birds represent?
- What does the warm barn represent?



Day 3

The Incarnation is the Christian belief that God took human form by becoming Jesus. Incarnation literally means 'to take on flesh'.

In the story the man realised he would have to become a bird himself so that the birds would not be afraid of him and to understand him...



Day 3

Through the incarnation of Jesus, humans were able to start repairing their damaged relationship with God. This relationship had been imperfect since Adam and Eve disobeyed God.

Through Jesus' incarnation, it made it possible for humans to have a full relationship with him and go to Heaven (the warm lighted barn!)



Day 3

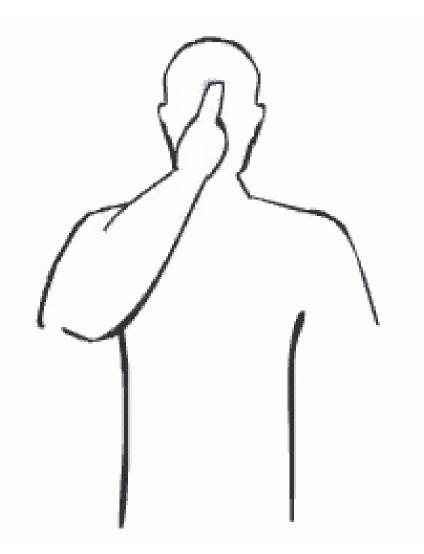
The man realises in his personal epiphany that Jesus himself is considered the greatest gift of Christmas because he came to save people from their sins and offer eternal life.



Jesus is the saviour for all people!

## Theme of the Week - Epiphany Day 3 Lord, we thank You for the incarnation - the Word made flesh, dwelling among us. We stand in awe of Your unfathomable love that would send Your only begotten Son to reconcile us to You. Today, we rejoice in the good news of great joy that is for all people: a Savior is born, who is Christ the Lord! Amen

## We start each Sacred Time with the sign of the cross.



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Let us make the sign of the cross together.

### The star guiding the Magi symbolises God's light leading all nations to Jesus.



#### Day 4

### This light is different from the power of King Herod. Herod is powerful and fearful...

Even though Jesus was just a baby, He shows a different kind of kingship. Jesus is humble and vulnerable, yet He changes the world!



https://www.youtube.com/w atch?v=uAwkpk\_raeQ

## 'Light can emerge from darkness...'



# Theme of the Week - Epiphany Day 4 'Light can emerge from darkness...' The days ahead of us in January are going to get lighter and brighter!

- What are you looking forward to in 2025? Have you made any resolutions?
  - How might you take on the message of light, hope and/or faith from today in your day to day life?

## Theme of the Week - Epiphany Day 4 The light of Christ came into the world to shine in all dark places and sad situations. As we reflect on Jesus the light, we ask his light shine on those in need of hope and wonder. Lord Jesus, You are the Light of the

Lord Jesus, You are the Light of the World! Darkness cannot hide from Your brightness. Amen