

BULLETIN REFLECTION

JAN 03 2021...EPIPHANY...MT. 2, 1-12

EPIPHANY means the revelation of God and this revelation is carried out by way of manifestation or through the appearance of Word becoming flesh whom the 3 magi found as Infant Jesus.

9...After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. 10...They were overjoyed at seeing the star.

The heart of revelation is Jesus Christ, God fully known to mankind. By way of empirical science (a methodic approach of knowledge based on physical evidence perceivable by human senses), we can say that the 3 magi had the first-hand knowledge of God's revelation (empirically). But let me say this already here that this is not the only way to uphold the truth of the so called knowledge because Christ later on would state another approach, that is **Jn. 20, 28**: *Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!"* **29**: *Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."* = **the matter of faith as the other way of knowing-believing the truth**).

What could be the purpose of God revealing Himself to us?

CCC35...Man's faculties make him capable of coming to a knowledge of the existence of a personal God. But for man to be able to enter into real intimacy with him, God willed both to reveal himself to man, and to give him the grace of being able to welcome this revelation in faith. (so) the proofs of God's existence, however, can predispose one to faith and help one to see that faith is not opposed to reason. (**CCC= Catechism of the Catholic Church**)

That is Epiphany...God wants an intimate relationship with mankind. Isn't that amazing? The other thing that amazes me is God initiating this intimacy. So mankind what will you do now? Just like the 3 magi, they set out. But just be ready when you say to yourself I want to experience His manifestation because God is unconventional God...what did the 3 magi see? The Messiah was lying in the manger...in a stable...breath of the animals was His heater. God opted to manifest Himself in that way...in an unconventional way. Would you be frustrated because God did not meet your expectation...that He did not have grand entrance so to speak? Or be simply awed?

We start this new year 2021 by manifesting to our brethren that dignity does not depend on externality...it is within...being born in the stable did not lessen God's divinity. He just manifested to our awareness that He can go to that extent just so to be intimate with us.