

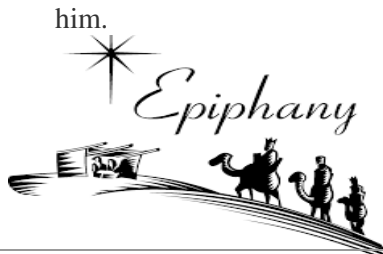
PARISH of KENMARE Fr. Tom Crean, Parish Priest
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Saturday, 6th January 2018 ~ Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord.

Epiphany Celebrates the Arrival of the Three Wise Men

January 6th, is the Feast of the Epiphany.



Epiphany is the traditional end of the Christmas season in the Western Church and is traditionally the day when people put away their Christmas decorations. In the Western Church, December 25th was established as the date of Christ's birth and January 6th as the date on which the Wise Men visited him.



The Deep End = Carrying light:

'Arise, shine our Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you' ISAIAH 60:1

The Epiphany is a feast that celebrates light. In the words of our first reading, it is time to 'Arise, shine out!' Today we hear again the story of the wise men who came to seek the infant king. They followed the light of the star, and found the light of the world. So overcome were the wise men that they knelt to praise Jesus, offering him lavish treasures as well as their love and adoration. Imagine the light they carried with them after that encounter, as they made the journey home to their own country. Their lives were changed forever. And so were ours – the Epiphany marks the

moment when the light of Christ first shone out to all nations.

Think about a person who transformed your life in some way, or a moment or event that changed the direction of your life. 'Epiphany' is sometimes described as a time of sudden realisation; an 'Aha!' moment. Let today be the day when you encounter Jesus, as the wise men did. Let the light of the Nativity and Epiphany guide you as you prepare to return to your work, school or college. Carry the light with you. Like the wise men, return to your everyday life 'by a different way'.

Direendarragh: **Friday** (5th Jan) Mass 6.30pm
Templenoe: **Saturday** (6th Jan) Mass 10.45am.

Holy Cross Church ~ Mass Intentions

Friday 5th (Vigil)	8.00pm	Dr Patrick, Lily & Timmy Mahony. Anniversary
Sat. 6th Jan	9.30am	Patricia Daly, Kenmare & London Month's Mind
Sat. 6th Jan	12 noon	Christina McCarthy, Tulloha 1 st Anniversary

➤ **Kerry Diocesan Collection 'Needs of the Holy Land'** taken up this Saturday evening 6th January and tomorrow Sunday 7th January.

Reflection:

The story of the journey of the Magi: searching for Jesus is an opportunity for us to reflect on our own faith journey. As the Magi were guided by a star on their journey, we also have received guidance along the way.

We can use this day to recall with gratitude what stars we have followed. The people whose example and advice helped us? Who were our companions? What experience changed us and opened us to understanding of our faith? Was there a time when, like the Magi, we found Jesus?

Of course that discovery is never complete – there's always more to learn about Jesus. Perhaps there were times when we lost our sense of direction in life - - - lost sight of the guiding star.

The Magi lost sight of the star, then found it again and were 'filled with delight' as the star led them to Jesus.

Think of the benefits you have experienced from having the Spirit of Jesus as part of your life, and give thanks.

