

Following the Well-lit Path throughout 2019



*We Pray,
We believe in your transforming
presence with us, O Lord.
Help us to be light wherever we
encounter darkness.
Make our relationships and actions
beacons of your light
so that all may know that we are your
disciples.*

*– Lawler, M. (2012). Christ Our Morning Star: The Art
and Inspiration of Sieger Koder, United Kingdom: Pauline
Books and Media*

**Arise, shine, for your light has come, and
the glory of the LORD rises upon you.**

– Isaiah 60:1

The celebration of the magi's visit, the day of Epiphany (6 January) begins the season of light. Through Christ, light has come into this dark world. At the time of the Epiphany the star shone luminously for all to see and in doing so the prophecy was fulfilled, "Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn" (Isaiah 60:3).

The Magi, who followed the light, had great courage and wisdom to continue their journey even though they faced uncertainty and potential danger. The light illuminates our path and by the example of the Magi we too can be courageous and fearless as we journey towards God.

Through Jesus Christ, God calls us to be reflectors of this light. This light will guide us on our path to discipleship and the light we reflect will tell others the good news of Jesus Christ's incarnation and life and death.

The light of Christ rises on us to overcome darkness in our own world. As humans we can struggle to be a light to others, but Pope Francis recommends recharging "a Christian's battery that brings light" through prayer. The Pope elaborated on this point: "You can do so many things, so many works, even works of mercy, you can do many great things for the Church – a Catholic university, a college, a hospital ..." but "if you do not pray" then your works will not bring light.

Pope Francis suggests we, "ask the Lord to help us in this: to always care for the light, and not hide it, but put it into action ... and this gift will continue to be given to you if you share it. It never ends."

We wish you a wonderful 2019 filled with endless light, love and prayer.

References: <http://bit.ly/2AqoVpu>; <http://bit.ly/2Roehtn>;
<http://bit.ly/2SCJINQ>

REFLECTION

- > How will you reflect the light of Christ in 2019, so that all may know the gift of God's love and mercy?