

Epiphany Message 2021

Today as we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany it is worth pausing to see how the story of the Wise Men sheds light on our path and helps us to see our calling more clearly.

First: Epiphany speaks about people who went through thick and thin to discover Christ in a turbulent world.

As I reflect upon the past nine months I have seen this happening time and again in parishes across the Archdeaconry. Pastoral care, creative services on site and on line, care for the most vulnerable and giving which enables us to keep going. Thank-you for keeping going through thick and thin. It has been remarkable

Second: Epiphany speaks of discovering Christ in fragility and hiddenness, as the toddler Jesus as part of an ordinary family in the backwaters of the Roman Empire.

In situations like the one we are facing we often wonder what God is doing. Ultimately only God knows this. However the story of the Epiphany indicates that Christ is to be found in the midst of a turbulent world rather than being outside this world looking in and occasionally jumping in. Epiphany shows us that to redeem the world in a way that loves and respects creation and our freedoms means working inside out rather than outside in; beginning at the bottom rather than taking a top down dominance approach.

Looking ahead we have tough challenges ahead of us as we navigate the turbulence of Covid 19. My prayer for all of you is that you will discover Christ more fully and deeply in this turbulence as you trust and travel towards Christ in our midst.

Thank-you for all you are doing. Keep going and keep trusting.