

January 6, 2016

Dear friends in Christ,

Today is Epiphany. The Christmas season has come to a close. For many, that means simply taking down the tree, putting away decorations, and restoring the house to its "norm". Our schedules also go back to normal, in school, at work and at home. For some, there is relief, no more traveling, visiting, etc.

But...you knew there had to be a but, didn't you? Remember the gospel from the last Sunday of Christmas? Joseph being warned in a dream to take Jesus and Mary from Bethlehem and go to Egypt, for Herod was coming to destroy the child. Seems a strange way to end a season that began with the birth of a child, the birth of hope, doesn't it? But the story is about retaining hope, keeping hope alive, finding a place in our lives and in our world for the hope to take root and grow within us.

As we tell the story of the Wise Men on Epiphany, hope meets the world. It is not just our hope, it is the hope of all people, of all creation. Christmas meets Epiphany as the Wise Men meet the child. Maybe at St John's, this is represented best in the chapel, as the world meets God. What about in each of us? Are we that cradle where God's dream for us and all meets others and hope is known?

May we always live as if we have something to share with the world, for we do. The dream of God for each of us, and all of us, born in the life of Jesus.

In His Love,  
Fr David