



St Barnabas

Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**

HAPPY
NEW YEAR
2021

Monday 4th January 2021

Epiphany





Epiphany: 'a church festival that celebrates the visit of the wise men to Bethlehem to see the baby Jesus'.



The word 'epiphany' comes from a Greek word which means 'making known'; the birth of Jesus was the beginning of God making known who Jesus is and God's plan for the world.



Epiphany: **'a sudden and inspiring revelation'**.



At the time Jesus was born Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews) never mixed. It would have been a hugely surprising revelation that God wanted Gentiles (the wise men) to see Jesus (who was a Jew).



One of the things that the festival of Epiphany reveals is that God doesn't have favourites but welcomes people from any background and any nationality.

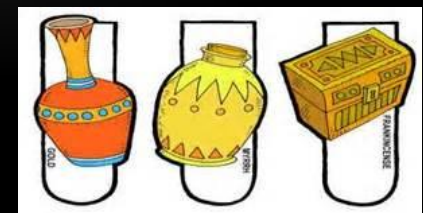
What did the gifts mean?



Gold is a gift fit for a king. It recognised that Jesus was a great king, the king of the world.

Frankincense is a special kind of fragrance that was used by a priest.

Myrrh was a sweet-smelling liquid that was rubbed gently into the skin of someone who had died. It indicated that Jesus' death would be important.





Epiphany Prayer

Dear God,

We thank you that you wanted both rich and poor to see baby Jesus. We thank you for Christmas, and for the holidays you gave us to enjoy with our friends and families.

As we think about Epiphany, we are reminded that every person is important to you. Help us to do the same, to welcome people from all backgrounds and religions.

Please help us to enjoy all the gifts that you have given to us and to share them with others.

Amen.

