

## Liturgical Year: Christmas

*We worship Jesus, who is the newborn King and the Light of the World.*

### Chapter Summary

The Magi modeled justice by offering Jesus, the newborn King, the worship He is due. We follow their example at Christmas when we offer the newborn King our worship. The Church offers three different Masses on Christmas Day to celebrate and remember three different events of Jesus' Nativity. During the Christmas season, the Church also celebrates the Epiphany of the Lord, when Jesus was revealed as the Light of the World. We can welcome Jesus, the Light of the World, into our lives and homes with the Epiphany House Blessing.

### Jesus, Light of the World

Part of the beauty of our Catholic faith is that Christmas does not end after December 25. Instead, we have an entire liturgical season to celebrate the newborn King through worship.

**There are many ways to offer Him worship as a family and to give Him the gift that is greater than gold, frankincense, and myrrh—ourselves.**

- **Visit the various nativity scenes in your diocese.** Make a pilgrimage each day to one of the parishes in your area to pray before their nativity scene. Read aloud the account of Jesus' Nativity in the Gospel of Matthew (see 2:1–12) or Luke (see 2:1–20). Ask for the Blessed Virgin Mary's intercession for a special intention.
- **Like the Magi, visit Jesus to offer Him your worship and adoration.** Try to spend time during the Christmas Octave in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament at your parish. Use that time to offer yourself to Jesus out of love by entrusting your cares and concerns to Him. (If your parish isn't unlocked, see if there is a perpetual adoration chapel you could visit.)
- **Invite your parish priest to come for dinner and to carry out the Epiphany House Blessing with blessed chalk.** If he is unable to come, see if he makes blessed chalk available so you can do it yourself. You can find the blessing on the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops ([www.usccb.org/prayers/blessing-home-and-household-epiphany](http://www.usccb.org/prayers/blessing-home-and-household-epiphany)).



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