

membered it always—always they could turn again, and, with the Epiphany in their eyes, revive the memory of that glad hour when their whole work was transfigured by that light. So cling to those moments which come, and when you know that your work is an offering made to God. Out of the work itself you must bring your gold, your frankincense, and your myrrh. Remember, the joy of finding this is the life which God blesses; this is that over which His sanction hung, the life over which the Star arose, the Star which stood over the young Child. And after all the greatest gift the Wise Men brought that day was, not their tenacity or their courage, but the humility which knelt at the feet of a young Child. To retain that humility of intellect in spite of the height they had attained above their fellows, still to be ready to fling it all down, to have found the mystery of all mysteries in this Blessed Child—that is their glory, that is why we bless their names still, why artists love to picture them, painting over and over again the Wise Men kneeling before the little Child.

Always you are to bring, as they brought, any gift you may possess, to the feet of the Holy Child; every power given you is for the service of children; the Star will appear, and stand over the place where the young Child is, and in that Child you will know that it is He who makes every child the Child of God. The Child Jesus gives His own Childhood to every child you tend, and still He says to you, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my little ones, ye have done it unto Me." When those children are naked of all knowledge, you clothe Christ in them; when the children desire knowledge, it is Christ in them who desires it, it is Christ to Whom you bring the knowledge. When they come to you hungry and empty, and you are able to do something to feed the faculties of their lives, Christ says, "Ye gave Me meat." When they are in prison, in their ignorance through wilfulness and naughtiness, you visit them in that prison, and you set them free; Christ says, "You are visiting Me, you are liberating Me." So when a child is obstinate, tiresome, stupid, the Star will stand for you over that child with all its wilfulness; within that child there is Another hidden, and for the sake of that most Blessed Child you will give your very best. That will be the power of the Epiphany; always there is hope there. When most despairing, beaten, baffled, lo! there is the Star; behold, you have seen it again over the children. You will rejoice exceedingly as you catch sight of it again, and remember the pledge and promise of the Epiphany. While you sorrow for having forgotten and lost Him, you will rejoice in penitence to have found Him in them. You will bring out your gold, your frankincense, all the best service of your life, for the sake of Him Who is the One only Beloved, Christ Jesus our Lord. So remember the Star over the children; so look for God in a work-a-day world; so nourish and cherish hope; so walk in patience and courage along the way. Be