

THE EPIPHANY

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The feast of the Epiphany is called to perpetuate before the Most Blessed Sacrament the adoration of the Magi at the Crib of Bethlehem. They began at Bethlehem what we do at the foot of the Sacred Host. Let us study the characteristic of their adoration, and draw from it our instruction, our share in the faith and love that guided and sustained them.

The adoration of the Magi was a homage of faith, a tribute of love to the Word Incarnate, and such ought to be our Eucharistic adoration. Like wise men, the royal travelers directed their steps toward the capital of Judea. They expected to find all Jerusalem in joy, the people celebrating the great festival, happiness everywhere and signs of heartfelt gladness on all sides, but, oh, their sorrowful surprise! Jerusalem is silent; nothing in or around it reveals the great wonder. Are they deceived? If the great King were born, would He not announce His birth?

So, also, does He even to this day, quietly and secretly repose in our Tabernacle throughout the world, awaiting still those who will come forward and seek His Divine Presence. How frequently may we even now enter one of His houses and find Him without an attendant, without an adorer and, yet, we seem to hear His everlasting plea, "Wouldst Thou not spend an hour with Me?" Let us examine the homage of love which the Magi paid to the Divine Babe, and see what homage our own heart should render the God of the Eucharist.

What was the love of the Magi adorers? It was a perfect love. Now, love manifests itself in three ways and those manifestations are its life.