

King Herod sends the Magi to find Jesus

Joe Sarnicola/Contributing writer

A very special baby had been born in Bethlehem. His parents had named him Jesus. Magi from a far-away land had learned of his birth and had set out to find him. Since they were convinced this child would one day be the king of the Jews, they stopped at the palace of King Herod. They thought it was his son that had been born. The king allowed the Magi to come before him with their questions.

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star rising and have come to do him homage."

Herod had not had any children recently, so he became angry that a boy had been born that might be the next king. He told the Magi he would look into the matter and he would call them back in. Herod then summoned his scribes and priests, asking them where this baby might be.

One of the scribes said, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: 'From you, Bethlehem, shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Now that Herod knew where the baby was, he called back the Magi, so he could speak with them in private. He asked them when they had first seen the star that had led them to Bethlehem. Then he told them, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." The Magi bowed and left King Herod's palace to look for the newborn baby.

As soon as the sun had gone down, the bright star the Magi had been following appeared in front of them once again. They followed the star to Bethlehem and found Jesus sleeping in his mother's arms.

Just as they had bowed to Herod in



Linda Jeanne Rivers/Catholic Courier



reverence for his position as king, the Magi bowed before Jesus, the child who they knew would become a very important man, the king of the Jews. They had brought expensive gifts for Jesus — gold, frankincense and myrrh — and they gave these to his mother. Then they left to visit Herod and to return to their country. However, that night an angel appeared to them in their dreams and warned them not to tell Herod what they had seen, but to return home by a different route.

READ MORE ABOUT IT:

Matthew 2

Q&A

1. Why did the Magi stop to see Herod?
2. What were the three gifts the Magi gave to Jesus?

Bible Trivia

What are the only two books of the New Testament not named after a person or a place? Send answer to: Catholic Courier Bible Trivia, PO Box 24379, Rochester, NY 14624. Please include your name, home address, telephone number, school and grade. All entries must be received by Jan. 8. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted. The winner of the last trivia question, "What do we call the 40 days leading up to Christmas?" is Angela Post, a seventh-grader at St. Francis/St. Stephen School in Geneva, who answered, "Advent."

Continuous since 1950!

The Family Rosary for Peace

on new station,
favorite times.

Holy Family Communications,
Rochester's Catholic radio
station, now is broadcasting
Fr. Cirrincione's famous
Rosary program Monday-
Friday, 7:00 p.m., Saturday-
Sunday, 6:30 p.m., WHIC,
1460 AM. This wonderful
prayer ministry welcomes
and depends on your
kind support.



Puzzle

Using the Gospel of Matthew, circle the word that correctly completes each statement. Chapter numbers have been provided as hints. Answers on page 9.

1. (Emmanuel, Abraham) means "God is with us." [1]
2. John's message was (wake up, repent). [3]
3. Man does not live by (prayer, bread) alone. [4]
4. Jesus healed (Peter's, Jacob's) mother-in-law. [8]
5. Jesus gave his (12, 25) disciples authority. [10]
6. Jesus was betrayed by his friend (Luke, Judas). [26]
7. Jesus said, "Go and make (captives, disciples). [28]

Please accept my gift of \$ _____ for The Family Rosary For Peace.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Family Rosary For Peace

P.O. Box 11007

Rochester, New York 14611