

Title: Epiphany

Rise & Shine, January 3rd

Scripture: **Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23**

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

Commentary from Facilitator Maggie Gough:

The definition of Epiphany

1. a usually sudden manifestation or perception of the **essential** nature or meaning of something
2. an intuitive grasp of reality through something (such as an event) usually simple and striking
3. an illuminating discovery, realization, or disclosure
4. a revealing scene or moment

The Christian season of Epiphany invites us to notice the divine at work in our lives. This period of our lives has been massively disruptive. I wonder, where might we experience Epiphany through what we have lost and what we have found.

In the News

It Used To Be Just A Fence. It Became A Tribute To Things Lost And Found In 2020

It's a regular, old, chain link fence circling a parking lot in a residential community in Maryland.

Except that attached to the fence are seven wooden boxes. They look like elaborate dioramas.

It's all part of an art exhibit called Community Lost and Found — and it asks residents to consider the question: What have you lost, and what have you found in 2020?

One box is decorated with a bird's nest and a pacifier suspended in a translucent globe — representing the baby girl that Megan Abbot and Gary Hall had in May.

Another box, designed by Renee Regan, is filled with pens in the shape of a pie, with a slice missing. A placard next to the box says, "We have said goodbye to an entire segment of our society recently. I wanted a way to grieve, honor, and memorialize them through sculpture."

Andrea Jones is the curator of this outdoor museum, located in the town of Brentwood, just outside of Washington, D.C. She also lives next door to the fence and constructed the wooden boxes. Her day job is as a museum consultant, but a few months ago she decided she wanted to do something that would help her process this year.

Continue reading It Used To Be Just A Fence. It Became A Tribute To Things Lost And Found In 2020 by Samantha Balaban with NPR <https://www.npr.org/2020/12/26/949556139/it-used-to-be-just-a-fence-it-became-a-tribute-to-things-lost-and-found-in-2020>