

(See also 6/7 January and 25 July)

- 1 Two thousand years ago, a visit to a Greek town by government representatives was known as an “epiphany”. It is a Greek word that describes an appearance, manifestation, or revelation of someone important arriving amongst the people.
- 2 The word “Epiphany” has been used for the last two thousand years to describe God coming closer to the people, revealing himself in his Son, Jesus. The Feast of the Epiphany (on the 6th January) celebrates the Wise Men from the East recognising Jesus for who he is, and giving him their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
- 3 In the final verse of the hymn, “In the bleak mid-winter”, we hear the words:
*“What can I give him, poor as I am?
 If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
 if I were a wise man I would do my part,
 yet what I can I give him - give my heart.”*
4. We can focus today on the gift of **GOLD**, knowing that it represents what is special. Special jewellery is made from gold. “*Hearts of Gold*” has been a popular TV programme, celebrating how people with “*hearts of gold*” have helped others.
5. I can think of special people and things in my life that are **GOLD** for me. I can stand with the wise men and offer what I think is “gold” in my life:
 - my talents;
 - happy memories;
 - times when everything has gone well;
 - what I enjoy;
 - my friends;
 - times when someone has encouraged me;
 - what I look forward to.

6 *Let us pray:*

Lord, I give thanks

**for the “gold” in my life:
 for the people who are precious to me,
 for the happy memories I treasure,
 and for all that has been good
 over the years.**

**May all that has been “gold” for me,
 remind me always to appreciate
 all who are part of my life.**

Inspire me, Lord,

**to live in such a way
 that I help to bring out the best
 in others.**

Amen.

This is an excerpt from the page of this date in
'Praying Each Day of the Year'
a 3-volume book
by Nicholas Hutchinson, FSC.

For details:

<http://www.matthew-james.co.uk/>

Could make use of a search engine
to research this topic further.

This material is part of
the prayer and education website
of the De La Salle Brothers
in Great Britain:
www.prayingeachday.org