



Dear friends,

Welcome to Biblical Resources and a very Happy New Year to all who receive these notes.

For the Epiphany, the readings are short and very rich. Matthew is echoing stories from Exodus 1-2 and Numbers 22-24. Many will notice the link with Moses and perhaps fewer will notice the link with Balaam. All the same, it is important (at least to Matthew!!):

Num 24:15 Then he uttered this oracle:

"The oracle of Balaam son of Beor;

...

17 'I see him, but not now;

I behold him, but not close at hand.

A **star** will march forth out of Jacob,
and a **sceptre** will rise out of Israel.

Of course, the message of openness to the Gentiles is apparent to all, given the symbolism of the Magi.

Epiphany C19

Complete notes ([pdf](#))

Gospel notes ([audio](#))

Gospel notes ([portable](#))

Some inspiration

Some music

Bach's cantata for the Epiphany is full of joy, with an inspired choice of biblical reference.

[Music](#)

[Words](#)

A poem

The Magi, by WB Yeats

Now as at all times I can see in the mind's eye,
In their stiff, painted clothes, the pale unsatisfied ones
Appear and disappear in the blue depth of the sky
With all their ancient faces like rain-beaten stones,
And all their helms of silver hovering side by side,
And all their eyes still fixed, hoping to find once more,

Being by Calvary's turbulence unsatisfied,
The uncontrollable mystery on the bestial floor.

Wishing everyone every blessing in 2019

Kieran O'Mahony, OSA

Biblical Resources

*Mission
is possible*

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