

Today's Readings have references to what can be called GUIDING LIGHTS.

In the 1st Reading, Isaiah speaks about a light beginning to shine. The light shines upon those who had been living in fear. We have moments, times and days when we are fearful. We need a light to help us through the fear.

In the 2nd Reading Paul talks about a revelation. The Holy Spirit has revealed to him that he and others are related to Christ. That revelation is true for us. We are sisters and brothers of Christ. We are the beloved daughters and sons of God. These are revelations and lights which daily guide us in our living and loving.

And in the Gospel, Magi follow a star in the sky.....a guiding light which leads them to the Christ Child. Upon finding Jesus, they give Him special gifts. We come today to the Eucharist. This is our great prayer of Thanksgiving. We, too, like the Magi, have found Christ in our lives. We come and give the gift of ourselves and our lives in the bread and wine that become the Body and Blood of Christ.

We've just started a new year. Some of us may have made New Year's resolutions. These can be called guiding lights for us in 2012. These resolutions are actions we want to make a part of our lives. We want them to be for us NEW LIFE. These guiding lights can range from doing more exercise or moving more during the day, to recycling, to making no major purchases until we have slept on the idea for a couple of nights or even a week.

Other Guiding Lights? To express gratitude more often to those around us; to refrain from negative comments as a first step or to be more positive when I speak; to share appreciation to family, friends and neighbors for the blessing they are.

Guiding Lights orient us as we journey through the day. Our desire and hope is that at the end of the day WE have been a Guiding Light to those around us. That we have been the Light of Christ.

My sisters and brothers: God daily blesses our efforts. Continue to shine. Continue to be the stars we are! Continue to be Guiding Lights!