



Letter from the Pastor

Rev. David Wells



JANUARY 1, 2021

Dear St. Martin's Parishioners,

In December, for the first time in 800 years, Jupiter and Saturn coincided in the night sky to form what looked like a super star. This very well may be the "star" that Matthew refers to in his account of the Magi being led to Bethlehem! Astronomers have calculated the occurrence of this same formation of Saturn and Jupiter in the years 7-6 BC, which probably coincides with the birth of Jesus.

In this exceptional year for the whole world that was 2020, what might our Lord be reminding us of by the recurrence of this astronomical event? Maybe it's a reminder, an invitation and an urging for us to rediscover the Christ child as the focal point of history, civilization and divine worship. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI had remarked some years back that the Western world was experiencing an "eclipse of God," meaning that God had disappeared from our vision of reality. Mankind was replacing God and his Christ as the main actors in history, as the foundation of civil life, and as our object of worship (inasmuch as worship has been perverted into therapeutic moralism).

The celebration of the Epiphany points us once again to the Christ child as the "light that enlightens every man," and without whom we fall back into sin and death. The fact is that 2021 doesn't necessarily entail taking a step forward; the progress of humanity, of which we are so fond of talking, depends upon our returning time and again to the source and summit of creation, the Word-made-flesh, Jesus Christ.

May the Holy Family of Nazareth intercede for your families, and our parish family, to always have Christ at the center.

In Christ,
Fr. Dave