



Year A – Epiphany: Giving Back

***{Start with reviewing the previous meeting's challenge or discuss prior to sharing this week's challenge.}**

Let's Begin: Think about how the challenge went for the last session. What went well? What was difficult?

Opening Prayer:

Begin with a brief moment of silence shaking off any and all distractions or difficulties of the day and remembering that God is always with us.

Read: **Mt 2:1-12** - <https://bible.usccb.org/> - 1/8/2023, 1/11/2026, 1/14/2029

After the Reading Conclude with this prayer:

Heavenly Father, You are such an amazing giver. The gift of Your Son is truly beyond comprehension. We ask for the grace to become more aware of all the wonderful gifts You have given us and continue to give us on a daily basis. Allow our hearts to swell in great gratitude and appreciation so that it overflows to others. Through Christ Your Son, Amen.

Reflection or Discussion Question:

1. What do you like the most about the Epiphany?

YouTube Video: Giving back to God this Epiphany, Fr. Mark-Mary (11:20 min) -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y-S63wQYZss>

Reflection or Discussion Questions:

2. In Fr. Mark-Mary's story of the gift of nachos, would you share or ask if another person wants any? Be honest.
3. Do you find that when you share, you want to limit the amount you share and keep some for yourself?
4. Do you have any additional thoughts on how we can identify with his story of the nachos in relation to giving back to God?
5. Have you ever viewed studying the faith as a gift you can give God?
6. Do you have any thoughts on how you can help build up the kingdom of God as a gift to God?
7. When you make time for God, does it ever feel like a sacrifice? Have you found ways to combat this? If it doesn't, do you think/feel it means you're giving enough?
8. Have you found any ways that have incrementally helped you become a better giver?

Session Challenges: {Choose one or both}

- Look at the time and resources that you currently give to God. Prayerfully consider if you would like to do more. If so, take one small step to give more to God as directed.
- Identify some of the gifts God has given you. While looking through your list of gifts, consider if you are being a good steward. Challenge yourself to see if there are ways you could improve by utilizing them more wisely, charitably, and gratefully.

Closing Prayer: (Leaders: We recommended offering time during the closing prayer for participants to offer personal intentions.)

Jesus, You are the giver of all we have. We humbly thank You and ask that You place on our hearts a genuine desire to not hold back our gifts and, in turn, use them to build up Your kingdom. In Your loving name, Jesus Christ. Amen.

{Optional additional Readings} Sunday Reading 1: **Is 60:1-6**; Sunday Reading 2: **Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6**