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Pastor's Column

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Epiphany Quiz Answers

1. How many Wise Men (Magi) visited Joseph, Jesus, and Mary in Bethlehem?

<u>Nobody knows.</u> The tradition that there were three arises from the three gifts that were given to the Holy Family.

2. Which King of Israel wanted to kill the baby who would grow to become the Messiah?

<u>Herod.</u> Caesar Augustus was the chief of the Roman state. Quirinius was the Roman governor of Syria. Flavius Josephus was the Jewish historian who chronicled Herod's reign.

3. Who wrote the text of the Epiphany carol "We Three Kings of Orient Are"?

John Henry Hopkins Jr. The Rev. John H. Hopkins, an Episcopal priest, wrote the text of this hymn in 1857 for a Christmas pageant at the General Theological Seminary in New York City. Phillips Brooks, also an Episcopal priest, wrote the text to "O Little Town of Bethlehem" in 1865. Charles Wesley, the brother of John Wesley, wrote the text to "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" in (about) 1739. Father Josef Mohr wrote the text to "Stille Nacht" ("Silent Night") in 1816.

4. The story of the visit of the Wise Men (Magi) appears in the Gospel according to whom?

Matthew. Mark begins his Gospel with John the Baptist and the baptism of Jesus. Luke jumps from the Nativity to when Jesus was twelve years old. John begins before the creation of the earth and then recounts Jesus' adult ministry.

5. Which of the following is not a kind of Three Kings Cake? Kulitch. La Rosca de Reyes is the Mexican Three Kings Cake. Galette des Rois is the French Three Kings Cake. Dreikonigskuchen is the German Three Kings Cake. Kulitch is a Russian Easter Cake.

6. Whose poem "The Journey of the Magi" begins "A cold coming we had of it, just the worst time of the year for a journey, and such a long journey"?

T.S. Eliot. William Butler Yeats wrote a short poem called "The Magi". O. Henry wrote a short story entitled "The Gift of the Magi". Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote a Christmas poem named "The Three Kings".

- 7. What is the origin and meaning of the word "epiphany"? From the Greek, meaning "to show forth". The Greek components are epi- (meaning "on" or "to") and –phainein (meaning "to show").
- 8. What are/were the three traditional names assigned to the Wise Men (Magi)?

Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Huey, Dewey, and Louie are Donald Duck's nephews. Peter, Paul, and James are all apostles. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were the three young Hebrew men cast into the fiery furnace by King Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 3:1-29).

9. "The Adoration of the Magi" was commissioned in the late 15th century as an altarpiece for the Augustinian monks of San Donato a Scopeto in Florence. It was unfinished and now hangs in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence. Who painted it?

Leonardo da Vinci. Andrea del Verrocchio was Leonardo's master and teacher. Sandro Botticelli painted "The Adoration of the Magi" for Santa Maria Novella in (about) 1476. Fra Angelico and Fra Filippo Lippi collaborated to produce a round (tondo) painting of the "The Adoration of the Magi" in the 1400's.

10. What is myrrh?

The dried sap of an African tree used anciently in embalming ointments and burned at funerals.

For hike