

**Feast of the Epiphany**

**End of Christmas season**

**Wise men had to make a journey.**

**They had a journey to make. So do we.**

**THEY HAD A JOURNEY TO MAKE!**

- 1. Keep your eyes on the prize.**
- 2. Carefully choose whom you will the journey with.**
- 3. Choose what will you take on the journey; what you will leave behind.**

**Going on a journey:**

- Keep your eyes on the prize**
- Our home is in heaven; communion with God**
- My goal for my family: to have me and my family in heaven (It will clarify decisions I make for my children: sacramental preparation and Generations of Faith takes preference over sports and other activities.) Aaron in the book of Deuteronomy: "But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord!"**

**We need to decide whom we will journey and with and whom we will leave behind?**

- **Those who have the same goal. (We have to make the choice on our own, but we do not have to make it alone. Jesus had a community of followers.)**
- **Those who commit themselves to reaching the same goal.**
  - **Weekly attendance**
    - **History of the Church**
    - **Ron's comment about counseling people**
  - **Growth in clarity of where we are going**
  - **We need to set the goal for ourselves (not just for our parents or spouses, or our children)**

**We need to decide what we will take on the trip and what we will leave behind?**

- **Take:**
  - **Bible: the Word of God,**
  - **Lives of the Saints who have already made the journey,**
  - **time for prayer**
- **Leave behind**
  - **Some "electronic gadget time"**

- **Some food and drink and human pleasures which in themselves may be good but are keeping us from making the journey.**

**Yes, if you are going on a journey, remember three things:**

- 1. Keep your eyes on the prize**
- 2. Carefully choose whom you will be traveling with**
- 3. Know well what you need to bring and what you need to leave behind.**

**And, with the three Magi in today's Gospel story, drink deeply of the joy, struggle and anxiety of the journey.**

**Remember the words of St. Augustine: "Our hearts are restless until they rest in you, My God!"**