

'Journeying with the Magi'

(From Hay and Stardust' Ruth Burgess, Wild Life Publication 2005 copyright Ruth Burgess)

They set out to follow a star:

God is found in the moments of wonder that make us stop and ponder the mystery.

What have been your own 'awakening moments' of wonder that have led you deeper into mystery?

The star's light was seen in the darkness:

In their darker moments they trusted that the light was still to be found.

How have you experienced the dark? Where/how did you recognise the light?

They asked questions when they were lost:

Continuing to try to make sense of where they were and where they were being led, they looked for help.

What are the questions you live with?

Who are 'wisdom figures' for you? Who has helped you with your questions?

They travelled together:

We don't know how many of them, but we can imagine the little community that they became as they travelled together, sharing this experience.

Where do you experience community? What does this add to your journeying?

They met King Herod on the way:

For his own reasons of power and control he tried to deceive them. We need to recognise the twisted value systems of our world and not get caught up in them or be misled by them.

In what ways are you most often pulled off course?

They bowed down in adoration:

Falling on their knees they worshipped the King – a moment beyond intellectual understanding, and of recognition. We can imagine that moment of knowing in the deep silence.

Do you cultivate silence in your life so that there can be moments of knowing and of recognition?

They offered their gifts:

To be in the presence demanded a response, an offering – of themselves and of their gifts.

Identify your own gifts. What are you offering of yourself, your time and your material possessions?

In a dream they were shown the truth:

Because of the danger, they were warned to return by a different way.

Revelation can come to us through our dreams. Have you ever experienced this? How else do you experience God's revealing of the way to you?

For prayerful pondering:

Name and give thanks for a moment of wonder.

Resolve to offer your gift this year in a particular way.

Name some aspect of darkness and pray for light

Name a companion on the journey and give thanks for their support.

Lynda Wright

(inspired by Michael Paul Gallagher's book Where is your God?)