

Jan 6/2019 Mt. 2:1-12 & Is. 60: 1-6

www.theark1.com

Connie May © 12/1/18

Drawing with permission by Fr. Robert Beck

Link to [Beck](#) (paywall)

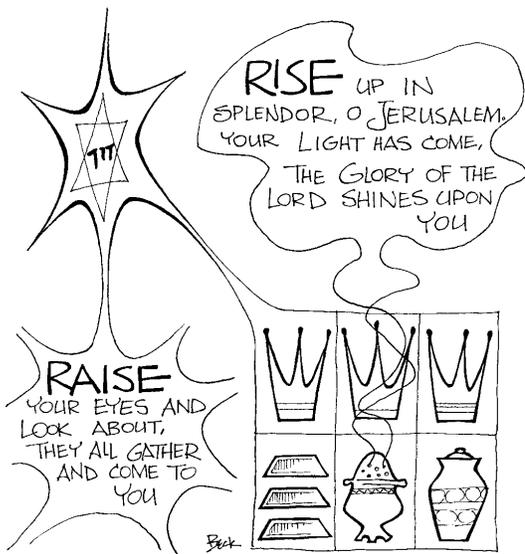
[More Fr. Beck](#) (With permission)

Stone, Naomi. [Divine Light](#)

Rolheiser, Fr. Ron. [King Herod...](#)

[Monastery Sunday Homilies](#)

[You tube link](#)



ENTERING THE SCENE:

Fr. Rolheiser says it best. "This is a rich story with a powerful challenge: What is my own reaction to new life, especially to life that threatens me, that will take away some of my own popularity, sunshine, and adulation? Can I, like the wise men, lay my gifts at the feet of the young and move towards anonymity and eventual death, content that the world is in good hands, even though those hands are not my hands? Or, like Herod, will I feel that life as a threat and I try somehow to kill it, lest its star somehow diminish my own? To bless another person is to give away some of one's own life so that the other might be more resourced for his or her journey, Good parents do that for their children. Good teachers do that for their students, good mentors do that for their protégés, good pastors do that for

their parishioners, good politicians do that for their countries, and good elders do that for the young. They give away some of their own lives to resource the other. The wise men did that for Jesus. How do we react when a young star's rising begins to eclipse our own light?"

Mt. 2:1-12

1 Now, when Jesus was born in **Bethlehem** of **Judaea** in the days of **Herod** the king, behold, there came **wise men** from the east to **Jerusalem**, 2 Saying, Where is he that is born **King of the Jews**? for we have seen his **star** in the **east**, and are come to **worship** him. 3 When **Herod** the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all **Jerusalem** with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he **demand**ed of them where Christ should be born. 5 And they said unto him, In **Bethlehem** of **Judaea**: for thus it is written by the prophet, 6 And thou **Bethlehem**, in the land of **Juda**, art not the least among the princes of **Juda**: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. 7 Then **Herod**, when he had **privily** called the **wise men**, enquired of them **diligently** what time the **star** appeared. 8 And he sent them to **Bethlehem**, and said, Go and search **diligently** for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and **worship** him also. 9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the **star**, which they saw in the **east**, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. 10 When they saw the **star**, they rejoiced with exceeding great **joy**. 11 And when they were come into the **house**, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and **worshipped** him: and when they had opened their **treasures**, they presented unto him gifts; **gold**, and **frankincense**, and **myrrh**. 12 And being **warned** of God in a **dream** that they should not return to **Herod**, they departed into their own country another way.

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Searching means we are looking for someone or something. Who or what am I searching for now?

PRAYER: Lord, we also are scanning the heavens for signs of your coming, when we should be scanning our hearts instead. You chose then, and continue to choose now, to come to us in unassuming and hidden ways. You guide us by faithfully leading us in the right direction if we but listen to your voice. Help us to become wise like those long ago searchers. Then we will have brought the only gift you desire, our hearts. Amen.