

## Epiphany

*As our Lord was pleased to be born  
of the lineage of Kings  
with good reason did he favour  
the three Kings by appearing to them*

This is what happened when he was born  
to Holy Mary in Bethlehem  
and thirteen days after  
He appeared to the three Kings  
as each one of them had the wisdom  
to recognise in his star  
that he was God and King, and so  
from afar they came to behold him,

even from the isles of Saba  
and of Tarsus, from across the sea  
and from Arabia, of mighty hosts  
passing through many lands  
And even though they were far off  
He who has power over all things  
made them arrive at Bethlehem  
in no time at all.

And he showed them by his star  
how he was God, King and man,  
and so each one of them brought  
a gift from their treasures.  
And the star led them  
to the land of the Jews  
where King Herod asked them  
“What is your business here?”

And they replied:  
In the star we saw that a King  
of great majesty will be born here  
Lord over all Jews and their laws.  
Herod replied “Take counsel from me  
for I will give you good advice:  
go there and when you return  
I will go and meet him myself”

They departed at once  
and saw the star proceed  
ahead of them, at great speed  
and they began to follow it,  
but when it arrived at Bethlehem  
it would not go from the place  
until they had gone in to where  
they could behold Lord Jesus Christ

in the arms of his mother, who suffered  
great pain and grief for his sake.  
And they straightway  
presented their gifts to him:  
Gold such as is given to Kings  
frankincense for the divine,  
myrrh with which they anoint  
the dead, to ward off decay.

All this, rather than money  
the three Kings offered to God  
and so He who made the Law  
took them under his protection  
and warned them in dreams  
full five or six times over  
to go back over the sea  
to find safety in Tarsus.