

# Looking Forward



## A New Year of Good News ~ The Year of St Joseph ~

In June 2019 Pope Francis announced that the theme for the next World Youth Day, in Lisbon in 2022, would be “Mary arose and went with haste” to tell news of her miraculous conception of the Son of God. The Christmas story told us of how Joseph came to share in her joy and the joy of all humankind.

In this new year of 2021, let’s think how we can  
**BE JOYFUL!**

The wise men came to visit the child and when they left him they returned to their own countries, and in doing so they represent everyone who searches for Jesus. The story of the Wise Men is of people sharing the joy of having found the Messiah.

**6th January :**  
**Feast of the Epiphany.**  
The Gospel of Matthew tells us that:  
“**The sight of the star filled them with delight.**””



## \* ‘BE JOYFUL’ AND BRING JOY TO OTHERS \*

**Prayer :** God of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, you have given us many signs and prophecies about your Son Jesus Christ’s birth, and they have been fulfilled. Help us to see from the past to the present, the present into the future, that your loving hand guides all things. May your glory remain forever within our reach. Amen.

**What is your New Year Resolution?**  
**How are you going to share the joy of the Gospel?**  
**What will you do for others?**  
→ **“It is in giving that we receive.”**

### **Feast day of St Elizabeth Ann Seton: 4<sup>th</sup> January**

She was the first person born in the Americas to be made a saint.

She wasn’t born a Catholic but, following her conversion to Catholicism on a trip to Rome, she founded a religious congregation which followed the rules of the Sisters of Charity.



Following the death of her husband this became her new life’s new work. She passed on the joy of the Good News : the congregation specialised in running schools for the education of young girls. One of her own daughters was inspired to become a nun.

