

# MagnifiKid!

St. Basil's Episcopal Church  
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## Dear Parents,

As we begin the new year, the Gospels invite us to contemplate the great mystery of our faith, the Incarnation. Jesus is truly God and truly man. On the Epiphany, the Magi come from afar to kneel before the child and offer him royal gifts. At the Lord's baptism, the Father's voice proclaims that Jesus is his "beloved Son." In Cana, Jesus saves the marriage feast by turning water into wine, and in the synagogue in Nazareth, Jesus reveals himself as the Messiah announced by the prophets. All of these events are "epiphanies" of Emmanuel, manifestations to the world that, in Jesus, God is truly with us! Jesus Christ the Son of God has come to share fully in our human nature. He knows us and he knows our needs. On the bottom of pages 2 and 3 of each MagnifiKid!, the "This Week" section suggests practices to help your children grow in virtue. The activities on page 13 provide a great follow up. Let's encourage the children to put these suggestions into practice!

### ● Pray as a family

Many of you have already taken down the Christmas tree, but MagnifiKid! suggests that you leave the Nativity scene up for the entire month. There is an ancient tradition of keeping it up until February 2, when the Church celebrates the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. Since the Sunday Gospels this month reveal and reemphasize the truth of the Incarnation, the Nativity scene is the perfect backdrop for family prayer.



### ● Celebration of the Incarnation

In front of the Nativity scene, one of the parents opens the prayer with:  
*"In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."*  
Your family can then sing a favorite Christmas song. One of the parents can invite the family to pray in the following way:

**January 6<sup>th</sup>**  
*Christ is born for us, alleluia! Come, let us adore him.*

**January 13<sup>th</sup>**  
*In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus hears his Father's voice saying, "You are my beloved Son." Let us worship Jesus, true God and true man.*

**January 20<sup>th</sup>**  
*Let us adore Christ the Lord; he turns water into wine, and wine into his blood for us.*

**January 27<sup>th</sup>**  
*The Word of God is being fulfilled now. Let us welcome and worship the Son of God.*

To each of the invocations above, the family responds with:  
*"Come, let us adore him."*  
The family continues in silence, each member

adoring in his or her own heart. Family members may also show their adoration by bowing their heads or by kneeling. One of the parents continues with:  
*"The Lord Jesus Christ came to live on earth; he came to live among men and women. He is truly our brother, and thanks to him, we dare turn to God, his Father and our Father, to say: Our Father..."*  
One of the parents adds:  
*"God gave his Son Jesus, who became our brother, so that we may fully become children of the Father. May he bless us and keep us. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."*  
One of the parents concludes with:  
*"Mary gave eternal light to the world. As a humble servant, Mary carried the Son of God, the savior of the world. Let us turn to her to say: Hail Mary..."*

