



### **Message From Reclaiming Earth Committee – Jan. 2, 2019**

According to society in this country and others, the holidays are behind us for another year. But what about Epiphany? True, it is not a day of sales similar to other holidays: Yet, we do celebrate the three wise magi who traveled from far and wide, coming together in Bethlehem to give homage to the newborn Christ Child.

This feast day is known by various names in different countries: Three Kings Day, the Twelfth Night, Little Christmas and more. Epiphany this year is on Sunday, January 6. The emphasis of the day can be on the gifts that the magi brought: the gold, frankincense and myrrh OR the emphasis can be on the search for the Christ Child.

If we recognize that Christ is seen in and through creation, we needn't travel far. Gold, frankincense and myrrh were and are taken from the hold of creation.

Denis Edwards writes: "God creates a universe of creatures in order to give God's self to them in love. Self-bestowal is the meaning of the universe. We humans have experienced this self-bestowal in the Christ-event and in the experience of the Spirit in grace, in the word made flesh and the Spirit given in grace, God is revealed as a God of self-bestowing love. Creation is the addressee of divine self-bestowal. This self-bestowal is already at work in our world in God's creative presence to all things. It will reach its culmination only when the whole of created reality is transfigured in the power of the resurrection and taken up into God." *Ecology at the Heart of Faith* (pg. 61)