Professor of hispanic theology & ministry, Carmen Nanko-Fernandez notes that the details in the story of the journey of the magi are like forecasts, or “seeds,” of future events that will come to pass in the life of Jesus. She says:

“The seeds of what is to come are sown throughout this narrative. The query about the “newborn King of the Jews” (2:2) at the beginning of the gospel reappears in the passion narrative inscribed as the charge over the crucified body: “This is Jesus the King of the Jews” (27:37). Frankincense and myrrh were resins used not only in sacred rites but in healing as well as embalming. The revelation to the Magi upon the rising of a star ends on a fearful note with a warning to avoid Herod. The revelation in the last chapter of Matthew to “Mary Magdalene and the other Mary” (28: 1-10) is accompanied by a call to avoid fear and announce the news of the Resurrection. In both instances, the encounter with the revelation of Jesus is met with responses of homage by the Magi (2:11) and the two Marys (28:9).”

Read the full article: https://ctu.edu/2019/01/02/the-epiphany-of-the-lord/

What seeds of future life are offered to me & us as we contemplate the details of the epiphany story this year? How shall I/we sow them?

LISTEN: “Carol of the Epiphany” by John Bell, Iona Community; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZsrQzYCXag

“What Child is This? by NACTV Apostolic Church, Pretoria; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2avPxC5KA