

# Sister's Spin

January 6, 2022

On this 12th day of Christmas, and what used to be the original celebration of the Epiphany, my thoughts turn to the gifts the Magi brought. How useful the gold and frankincense must have been to Mary and Joseph as they traveled and lived in the Egyptian area until Herod died. Surely, the gold helped with their living expenses and the frankincense helped them to remember their service and inheritance as a Jewish Family in a foreign land. But what did they do with the myrrh? It was used for burial purposes so, it made me think that Mary kept it in a special place and wondered what use it would be. When they returned to Nazareth after Herod's death, Mary probably brought it with her and put it in a safe place in the home at Nazareth. When Joseph died, maybe she used some of it to anoint his body as she and Jesus prepared for his burial. As Jesus began his ministry and she listened and heard his predictions of the coming events, did she begin to carry this gift of the Magi with her as she followed Jesus? And then on Calvary, did she understand the meaning and importance of this gift? As she helped prepare her Son's body for burial, the gift of myrrh was all used up and Mary, too, could utter the words, "It is finished". The gifts of the Magi had served their purpose from the cradle to the grave.

God gifts us in many ways too, maybe not with gold, or incense or myrrh, Let us pray that we use our gifts as well as Mary used those of the Magi.

-Sister Marcianne

