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Overwhelmed With Joy

"When they saw the star they were overwhelmed with joy"

Matthew 2:10

The lectionary reading for this past week, January 2 -7 was Matthew 2:1-10. The daily devotional readings from "These Days" were based on this portion of the scripture. Thursday January 5 zeroed in on "they were overwhelmed with joy"

On Thursday evening of January 5, like most other Canadians, I was watching the gold-medal game of the world junior hockey championship at Scotiabank Centre in Halifax.

Watching these 18 - 20 year-olds savouring their overtime win, was pure joy!

They smiled, laughed, hugged, waved at the crowd, hugged again, touched the cup, and touched the gold metal hanging around their respective necks

Like the Magi, "they were overwhelmed with joy"

The Magi had been through a long journey, a visit with Herod, and a request to return with the location of the new-born King.

I'm sure their backs ached, their feet hurt, their provisions were diminished. However the depth of their joy made the trip worthwhile.

Likewise, the hockey players had a long journey . They had experienced bruises, cuts, aching muscles, being chewed out by their coaches for lack of focus and lost opportunities on the ice.

In the end "they were overwhelmed with joy"

Take time to recall when you too were "overwhelmed with joy". Bask in that memory for a while.

Thank God for the easy journeys as well as the hard ones and recognize the joy that comes at the end!

Anne Wilton