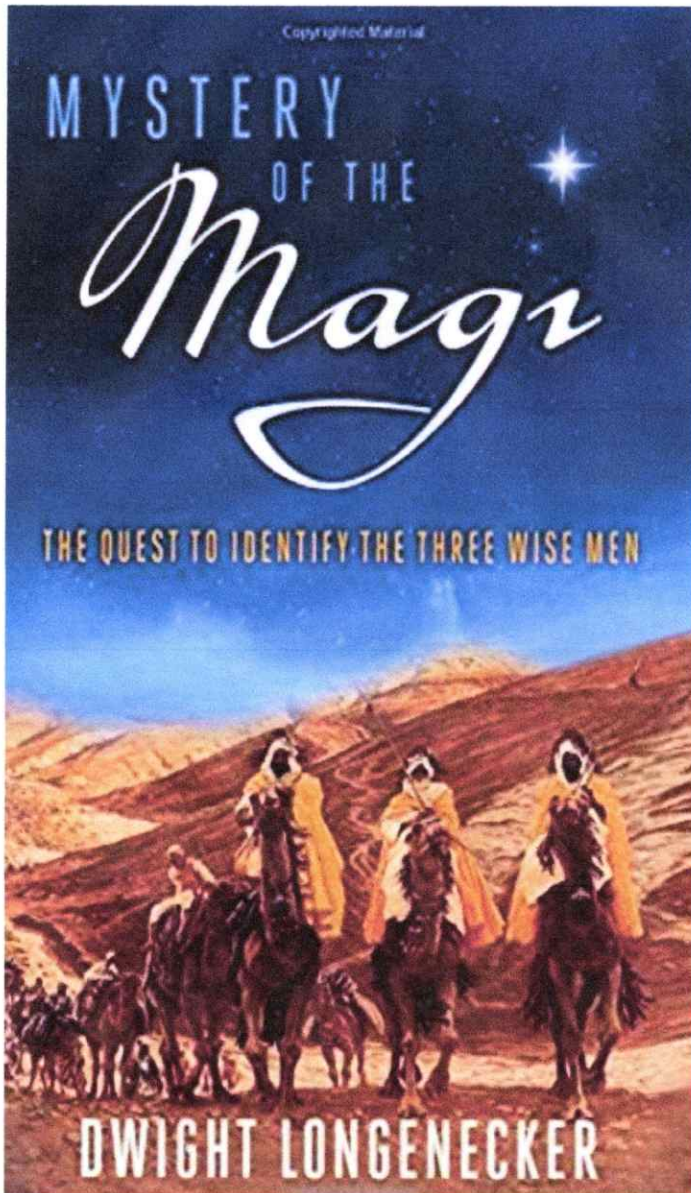


Circle of Sisters Book Club

The Mystery of the Magi

The Quest to Identify the Three Wisemen

by Father Dwight Longenecker



Modern biblical scholars tend to dismiss the Christmas story of the “wise men from the East” as pious legend. Matthew’s gospel offers few details, but imaginative Christians filled out the story early on, giving us the three kings guided by a magical star who join the adoring shepherds in every Christmas crèche.

For many scholars, then, there is no reason to take the gospel story seriously. But are they right? *Are the wise men no more than a poetic fancy?*

In an astonishing feat of detective work, Dwight Longenecker makes a powerful case that the visit of the Magi to Bethlehem really happened. Piecing together the evidence from biblical studies, history, archeology, and astronomy, he goes further, uncovering where they came from, why they came, and what might have happened to them after eluding the murderous King Herod.

In the process, he provides a new and fascinating view of the time and place in which Jesus Christ chose to enter the world.

The visitors whose arrival troubled Herod “and all Jerusalem with him” may not have been the turbaned oriental kings of the Christmas carol, but they were real, and by demonstrating that the wise men were no fairy tale, *Mystery of the Magi* demands a new level of respect for the historical claims of the gospel.

Please join us for the discussion on this book!

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

6:30 p.m. in St. Pius X Conference Room

Contact Deb Scaravilli (541-884-6905; vicdebscaravilli@gmail.com) for more information.