

Feast + Fast + Feria



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This booklet contains excerpts from
The Feast Fast Feria Companion, coming soon.

It is an offering of Feast Fast Feria,
a Barefoot Abbey ministry whose purpose is to aid
families as they grow in holiness and journey to
heaven by living out their Catholic faith each day through
the Liturgical Year.
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A Nine Day Devotion from the Traditional Monastic
Prayers, Scriptures, Chants, & Hymns
in Preparation for Christ's Nativity

www.feastfastferia.com

Genie Shaw

Father or Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

All: And give Him thanks.

Father or Leader: May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

All: Amen.



Sicut locútus est ad patres nostros: Ábraham, et
sémini eius in saecula.

Glória Patri, et Fílio, et Spirítui Sancto,

Sicut erat in princípio, et nunc, et semper, et in
sæcula sæculórum. Amen.

The daily antiphon is then repeated.

CLOSING COLLECT

Father or Leader: O Lord, hear my prayer.

All: And let my cry come to You.

Father or Leader: Let us pray: Hasten, we
beseech You, O Lord; do not delay; grant us the
help of supernatural virtue, so that Your coming
will be a consolation to those who hope in Your
mercy. You who live and reign with God the
Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God world
without end.

All: Amen.

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Magnificat ánima mea Dóminum.

Et exultávit spíritus meus: in Deo salutári meo.

Quia respéxit humilitátem ancíllae suae:

Ecce enim ex hoc beátam me dicent omnes
generatiónes.

Quia fécit mihi mágna qui pótens est: et sánctum
nómen eius.

Et misericórdia eius in progénies et progénies
timéntibus eum.

Fécit poténtiam in bráchio suo: dispérsit supérbos
mente cordis sui.

Depósuit poténtes de sede: et exaltávit húmiles.

Esuriéntes implévit bonis: et dívites dimísit
inánes.

Suscépit Ísrael púerum suum: recordátus
misericórdiae suae.

Meet the Christmas Novena

And His mercy is from generation unto generations, to them that fear Him.

He hath shewed might in His arm: He hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble.

He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He hath sent empty away.

He hath received Israel His servant, being mindful of His mercy:

As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for ever.

Glory be the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forever and ever, Amen.

Or

December 16th, begins the Christmas Novena. This is one of our family's most favorite Advent devotions because it marks the start of Advent's equivalent of Holy Week and is shaped after the daily offices of a monastery! We add the Christmas Novena to our prayers around the Advent Wreath each night.

But before sharing about the history of this devotion, I must first clear up a misconception regarding its identity. Although nothing alike, due to the resemblance of the name, this novena is commonly confused with the St. Andrew's Christmas Novena or Christmas Anticipation Prayer.

A misnomer in and of itself the St. Andrew Christmas Novena is not a true novena in form, scheduling, or recommended length of recitation. It begins on November 30th as opposed to ending the day before it on the 29th as the name would suggest. And, contrary to usual nine day novenas, it runs all month until ending on Christmas Eve. Finally, the St. Andrew Christmas Anticipation Prayer is to be recited 15 times a day versus the expected once daily. So could we please all get on the same page about these prayers' names and their meanings? Pretty please?

Now, since that has been addressed...

In 1721, Fr. Charles Vachetta of Turin, Italy wrote this novena in Latin. Drawing on the Messianic Prophecies of the Old Testament, corresponding New Testament passages, and portions of the Psalms it was penned for the members of his parish and later adopted by religious communities. I'd love to be able to go back in time to bake Fr. Vachetta a pie and say thank you for composing such a glorious Advent devotion. For this oh so busy time of sometimes stressful preparation, the Vincentian Christmas Novena really does have it all. It gracefully traces the history of Redemption from Genesis onwards by blending together biblical readings like in the Jesse Tree, the monastic tradition of the Great O Antiphons and other portions of the Liturgy of the Hours, as well

As seasonal prayers and hymns. It can even include the Latin tradition of Las Posadas by inviting friends and family to your home to pray along or rotating the novena location through the homes of 9 families. Over the years this devotion can grow with a family by using the provided latin prayers instead of the English, and further on the Latin chants. Even though it doesn't start until the third week of Advent, the Christmas Novena is a beloved cornerstone for our family's holiday observances because even in years when we must start the season late or fall behind with other devotions it still leaves us feeling prepared by Christmas Eve.

As is the norm for novenas, the Christmas Novena is prayed for nine days through Christmas Eve. The form of this novena, however, is unique in that it is based on the Divine offices of Lauds, Matins, and Vespers.

Each day includes the:

- Opening responsorial prayer composed of prophecies and the Regem Venturum Dominum from Matins during Advent - almost like a litany.
- The Canticle - composed by Fr. Vachetta and inspired by Isaiah and Psalms. It is a substitute of the 5 psalms typically a part of Vespers.
- One Old and New Testament Reading for each day
- The hymn, En Clara Vox, penned in part by Fr. Vachetta for the tune Creators of the Stars at Night and based on the Lauds hymn by the same name. (Recording below)
- The day's antiphon, which can be prayed, sung, or chanted
- The Magnificat
- The day's antiphon repeated
- A closing collect

We also discussed the Christmas Novena in the 3rd episode of our Liturgical Living LIVE Show here: <http://barefootabbey.com/f3/> And you can find all the music recordings for the En Clara Vox hymn, O Antiphons, and other novena chants at: <http://barefootabbey.com/christmas-novena-resources/>

Ant.
8 G.
C

UM or-tus fú-e-rit sol de cœ-lo, vi-dé-
bi-tis Regem re-gum pro-cedéntem a Patre,
tamquam sponsum de thá-lamo su-o. E u o u a e.

THE MAGNIFICAT

Luke 1:46-55

My soul doth magnify the Lord.

And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

Because He hath regarded the humility of His slave:

For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

Because He that is mighty hath done great things to me; and holy is His name.

Veni veni, Emmanuel
Captivum solve Israel,
Qui gemit in exsilio,
Privatus Dei Filio.

Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel,
Nascetur pro te Israel!

DAY NINTH ANTIPHON

DECEMBER 24th

With the rising of the sun, you will soon see the King of kings and Lord of lords, coming forth from His Father, as the bridegroom, from His bridal chamber.

Cum ortus fuerit sol de Caelo, videbitis Regem regum procedentem a Patre, tanquam sponsum de thalamo suo

Or



Christmas Novena

OPENING RESPONSORIAL

**This responsorial is said all
9 days of the novena.**

Father or Leader: O Lord, open my lips.

All: And my mouth shall proclaim Your praise.

Father or Leader: O God, come to my assistance.

All: O Lord, make haste to help me. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

Father or Leader: Our Lord and King is drawing near, O come, let us adore Him.

All: Our Lord and King is drawing near, O come, let us adore Him.

THE PROPHECIES

Mother or Older Child: Rejoice, O you daughter of Sion and exult fully, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, the Lord and Master comes, and there shall be a brilliant light in that day, and the mountains shall drop down sweetness, and hills flow with milk and honey, for in that day the Great Prophet will come, and He Himself will renew Jerusalem.

All: Our Lord and King is drawing near, O come, let us adore Him.

Mother or Older Child: Behold, the God-man of the house of David will come to sit upon the royal throne, and you will see Him and your heart will rejoice.

All: O come, let us adore Him.

O Emmanuel, Rex et legifer noster,
exspectatio gentium,
et Salvator earum:
veni ad salvandum nos Domine Deus noster.

Or

Ant.
2.
O



Emma-nu-el, Rex et lé-gi-fer noster,
exspectá-ti-o génti-um, et Salvá-tor e-á-rum :
ve-ni ad salvándum nos, Dómi-ne, De-us noster.

Or

O Come O Come Emmanuel

O Come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Or

O Come O Come Emmanuel

O come, King of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid every strife and quarrel cease
And fill the world with heaven's peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Veni, veni, Rex Gentium,
Veni, Redemptor omnium,
Ut salvas tuos famulos
Peccati sibi conscios.

Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel,
Nascetur pro te Israel!

DAY EIGHT ANTIPHON

DECEMBER 23rd

O Emmanuel, our King and our Law-giver,
Longing of the Gentiles, yea, and salvation
thereof, come to save us, O Lord our God!

Mother or Older Child: Behold, the Lord our Protector will come to save us, Israel's holy One, wearing the crown of royalty on His noble brow and He will exercise His rule from sea to shining sea, and from the waters of the river to the ends of the earth.

All: O come, let us adore Him.

Mother or Older Child: Behold, the Lord and King will appear, and He will not deceive; but if He should delay, wait for Him to come; He will surely come and will not tarry.

All: O come, let us adore Him.

Mother or Older Child: The Lord will come down like rain upon the fleece of Gideon; justice will thrive and an abundance of true peace; all the kings of the lands of the earth will adore Him, and every nation will serve Him.

All: O come, let us adore Him.

Mother or Older Child: A Child will be born to us, and He will be called God the almighty; He will sit upon the royal throne of David His father, and He will hold sway, the sign of His power on His

shoulder.

All: O come, let us adore Him.

Mother or Older Child: Bethlehem, city of the Most High God, from you will come forth the King of Israel, and He will proceed forth from His eternity; and He will be greatly praised in the midst of the entire universe; and there will be peace in our land when He will have come.

All: Our Lord and King is drawing near, O come, let us adore Him.

**This responsorial is added to
the end of the others
on Christmas Eve.**

Mother or Older Child: Tomorrow the wickedness of the whole world will be destroyed, and over us will reign the Savior of the world.

All: Our Lord and King is drawing near, O come, let us adore Him.

Mother or Older Child: Near at last is Christ our King.

All: O come, let us adore Him.

DAY SEVEN ANTIPHON

DECEMBER 22nd

O King of the Gentiles, yea, and desire thereof! O Corner-stone, that makest of two one, come to save man, whom Thou hast made out of the dust of the earth!

O Rex Gentium, et desideratus earum,
lapisque angularis, qui facis utraque unum:
veni, et salva hominem,
quem de limo formasti.

Or

Ant.
2.

O Rex génti-um, et de-si-de-rá-tus e-á-
rum, la-písque angu-lá-ris, qui fa-cis útra-que
u-num: ve-ni, et salva hó-mi-nem, quem de limo
formásti.

Ant.
2.

O- ri- ens, splendor lu- cis æ-tér-
næ, et sol justí-ti-æ : ve-ni, et illúmi- na
sedentes in té-nebris, et umbra mortis.

Or

O Come O Come Emmanuel

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadow put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Veni, veni O Oriens,
Solare nos adveniens,
Noctis depelle nebulas,
Dirasque mortis tenebras.

Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel,
Nascetur pro te Israel!

LET THE HEAVENS BE GLAD

This canticle is said all 9 days of the novena & may be recited together or by alternating verses.

All: Blow ye the trumpet in Sion, for the day of the Lord is nigh: behold, He will come to save us, alleluia, alleluia!

All or Alternating: Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice. O all you mountains, praise the Lord.

Let the mountains break forth into gladness, and the hills with justice.

For the Lord shall come and to the poor He shall show mercy.

Drop down dew, you heavens, from above and let the clouds rain the Just One;

Let the earth be opened and bud forth the Savior.

Be mindful of us, O Lord, and visit us in Your salvation.

Show to us, O Lord, Your mercy, and grant us your salvation.

Come, O Lord, in peace visit us that with a perfect heart we may rejoice before You.

Come, O Lord, do not tarry; do away with the offenses of Your people.

Come and show to us Your countenance, O Lord. You sit upon the cherubim.

Father or Leader: Glory to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

All: As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

All: Blow ye the trumpet in Sion, for the day of the Lord is nigh: behold, He will come to save us, alleluia, alleluia!

Veni, Clavis Davidica,
Regna reclude caelica,
Fac iter tutum superum,
Et claude vias inferum.

Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel,
Nascetur pro te Israel!

DAY SIX ANTIPHON

DECEMBER 21st

O Dayspring, Brightness of the everlasting light,
Sun of justice, come to give light to them that sit
in darkness and in the shadow of death!

O Oriens, splendor lucis aeternae, et sol justitiae:
veni, et illumina sedentes in tenebris, et umbra
mortis.

Or

Ant.
2.

O Cla-vis Da-vid, et sceptrum domus
 Isra-ël, qui ápe-ris, et nemo claudit, claudis,
 et ne-mo ápe-rit: ve-ni, et e-duc vinctum de
 domo cárce-ris, sedéntem in té-nebris, et umbra
 mortis.

Or

O Come O Come Emmanuel

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
 And open wide our heav'nly home,
 Make safe the way that leads on high,
 That we no more have cause to sigh.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to thee, O Israel!

DAY ONE READINGS

DECEMBER 16th

Genesis 3:1-15 Douay-Rheims

Now the serpent was more subtle than any of the beasts of the earth which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman: Why hath God commanded you, that you should not eat of every tree of paradise? And the woman answered him, saying: Of the fruit of the trees that are in paradise we do eat: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of paradise, God hath commanded us that we should not eat; and that we should not touch it, lest perhaps we die. And the serpent said to the woman: No, you shall not die the death. For God doth know that in what day soever you shall eat thereof, your eyes shall be opened: and you shall be as Gods, knowing good and evil. And the woman saw that the tree was good to eat, and fair to the eyes, and delightful to behold: and she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave to her husband who did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened: and when they perceived themselves to be naked, they sewed together fig leaves, and made themselves

aprons. And when they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in paradise at the afternoon air, Adam and his wife hid themselves from the face of the Lord God, amidst the trees of paradise. And the Lord God called Adam, and said to him: Where art thou? And he said: I heard thy voice in paradise; and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself. And he said to him: And who hath told thee that thou wast naked, but that thou hast eaten of the tree whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldst not eat? And Adam said: The woman, whom thou gavest me to be my companion, gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the Lord God said to the woman: Why hast thou done this? And she answered: The serpent deceived me, and I did eat. And the Lord God said to the serpent: Because thou hast done this thing, thou art cursed among all cattle, and beasts of the earth: upon thy breast shalt thou go, and earth shalt thou eat all the days of thy life. I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed: she shall crush thy head, and thou shalt lie in wait for her heel.

Veni, O Iesse virgula,
Ex hostis tuos ungula,
De spectu tuos tartari
Educ et antro barathri.

Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel,
Nascetur pro te Israel!

DAY FIVE ANTIPHON

DECEMBER 20th

O Key of David, and Sceptre of the house of Israel, that openeth and no man shutteth, and shutteth and no man openeth, come to liberate the prisoner from the prison, and them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death.

O Clavis David, et sceptrum domus Israel; qui aperis, et nemo claudit; claudis, et nemo aperit: veni, et educ vinctum de domo carceris, sedentem in tenebris, et umbra mortis.

Or

Ant.
2.
O

Ra-dix Jesse, qui stas in signum
popu-ló-rum, super quem conti-nébunt reges os
su-um, quem gentes depre-ca-búntur : ve-ni
ad li-be-rándum nos, jam no-li tardá-re.

Or

O Come O Come Emmanuel

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse's stem,
From ev'ry foe deliver them
That trust Thy mighty power to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Romans 1:18-26 Douay-Rheims

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and injustice of those men that detain the truth of God in injustice: Because that which is known of God is manifest in them. For God hath manifested it unto them. For the invisible things of him, from the creation of the world, are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made; his eternal power also, and divinity: so that they are inexcusable. Because that, when they knew God, they have not glorified him as God, or given thanks; but became vain in their thoughts, and their foolish heart was darkened. For professing themselves to be wise, they became fools. And they changed the glory of the incorruptible God into the likeness of the image of a corruptible man, and of birds, and of four-footed beasts, and of creeping things. Wherefore God gave them up to the desires of their heart, unto uncleanness, to dishonor their own bodies among themselves. Who changed the truth of God into a lie; and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God delivered them up to shameful affections. For

their women have changed the natural use into that use which is against nature.

All: Thanks be to God.

Father or Leader: Drop down dew from above, O you heavens, and let the clouds rain the Just One.

DAY TWO READINGS

DECEMBER 17th

Genesis 3:14-20 Douay-Rheims

And the Lord God said to the serpent: Because thou hast done this thing, thou art cursed among all cattle, and beasts of the earth: upon thy breast shalt thou go, and earth shalt thou eat all the days of thy life. I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed: she shall crush thy head, and thou shalt lie in wait for her heel. To the woman also he said: I will multiply thy sorrows, and thy conceptions: in sorrow shalt thou bring forth children, and thou shalt be under thy husband's power, and he shall have dominion over thee. And to Adam he said: Because thou hast hearkened to the voice of thy wife, and hast

Veni, veni, Adonai,
Qui populo in Sinai
Legem dedisti vertice
In maiestate gloriae.

Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel,
Nascetur pro te Israel!

DAY FOUR ANTIPHON

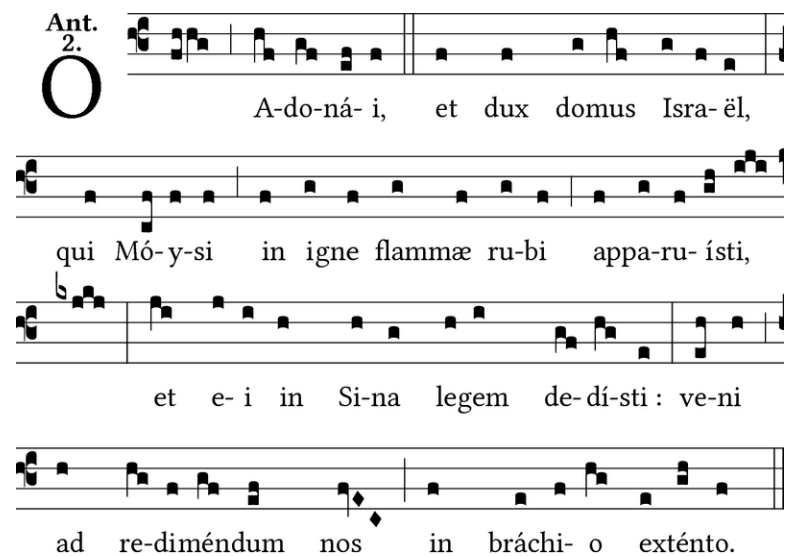
DECEMBER 19th

O Root of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of the people, at Whom the kings shall shut their mouths, Whom the Gentiles shall seek, come to deliver us, do not tarry.

O Radix Jesse, qui stas in signum populorum,
super quem continebunt reges os suum,
quem Gentes deprecabuntur:
veni ad liberandum nos, jam noli tardare.

Or

Ant.
2.



A-do-ná- i, et dux domus Isra-ël,
 qui Mó-y-si in igne flammæ ru-bi appa-ru-ísti,
 et e- i in Si-na legem de-dí-sti: ve-ni
 ad re-diméndum nos in bráchi- o exténto.

Or

O Come O Come Emmanuel

O come, o come, Thou Lord of might,
 Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
 In ancient times did give the law,
 In cloud, and majesty, and awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to thee, O Israel!

eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldst not eat, cursed is the earth in thy work; with labour and toil shalt thou eat thereof all the days of thy life. Thorns and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herbs of the earth. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread till thou return to the earth, out of which thou wast taken: for dust thou art, and into dust thou shalt return. And Adam called the name of his wife Eve: because she was the mother of all the living.

Romans 5:12-21 Douay-Rheims

Wherefore as by one man sin entered into this world, and by sin death; and so death passed upon all men, in whom all have sinned. For until the law sin was in the world; but sin was not imputed, when the law was not. But death reigned from Adam unto Moses, even over them also who have not sinned after the similitude of the transgression of Adam, who is a figure of him who was to come. But not as the offence, so also the gift. For if by the offence of one, many died; much more the grace of God, and the gift, by the grace

of one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. And not as it was by one sin, so also is the gift. For judgment indeed was by one unto condemnation; but grace is of many offences, unto justification. For if by one man's offence death reigned through one; much more they who receive abundance of grace, and of the gift, and of justice, shall reign in life through one, Jesus Christ. Therefore, as by the offence of one, unto all men to condemnation; so also by the justice of one, unto all men to justification of life. For as by the disobedience of one man, many were made sinners; so also by the obedience of one, many shall be made just. Now the law entered in, that sin might abound. And where sin abounded, grace did more abound. That as sin hath reigned to death; so also grace might reign by justice unto life everlasting, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Father or Leader: Drop down dew from above, O you heavens, and let the clouds rain the Just One.

Veni, O Sapientia,
Quae hic disponis omnia,
Veni, viam prudentiae
Ut doceas et gloriae.

Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel,
Nascetur pro te Israel!

DAY THREE ANTIPHON

DECEMBER 18th

O Lord, and Ruler of the house of Israel,
Who didst appear unto Moses in the burning bush,
and gavest him the law in Sinai, come to redeem
us with an outstretched arm!

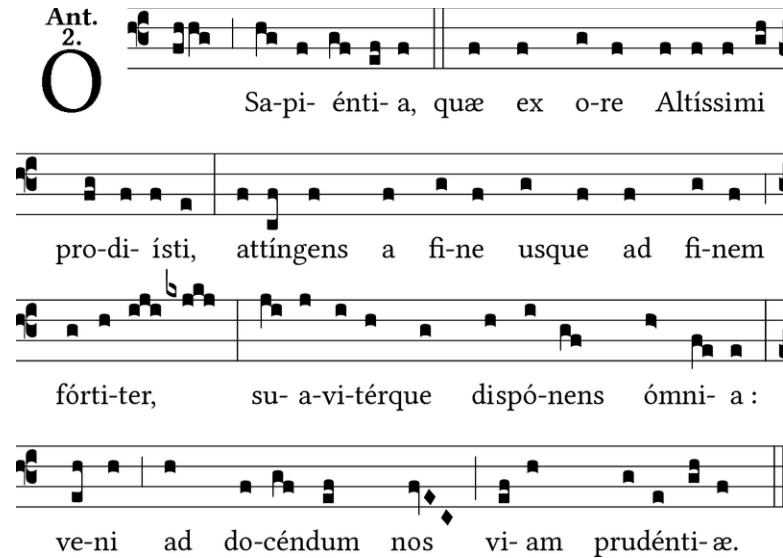
O Adonai, et Dux domus Israel, qui Moysi in igne
flammæ rubi apparuisti, et ei in Sina legem
dedisti: veni ad redimendum nos in brachio
extento.

Or

DAY THREE READINGS

DECEMBER 18th

Ant.
2.
O



Sa-pi- énti- a, quæ ex o-re Altissimi
pro-di- ísti, attingens a fi-ne usque ad fi-nem
fórti-ter, su- a-vi-térque dispó-nens ómni- a :
ve-ni ad do-céndum nos vi-am prudénti-æ.

Or

O Come O Come Emmanuel

O come, Thou Wisdom, from on high,
And order all things far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Genesis 17:15-23 Douay-Rheims

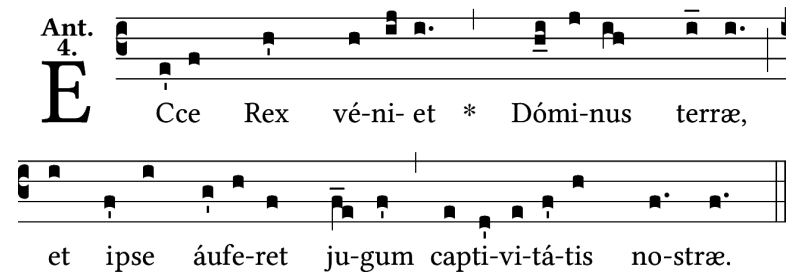
God said also to Abraham: Sarai thy wife thou shalt not call Sarai, but Sara. And I will bless her, and of her I will give thee a son, whom I will bless, and he shall become nations, and kings of people shall spring from him. Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, saying in his heart: Shall a son, thinkest thou, be born to him that is a hundred years old? and shall Sara that is ninety years old bring forth? And he said to God: O that Ismael may live before thee. And God said to Abraham: Sara thy wife shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name Isaac, and I will establish my covenant with him for a perpetual covenant, and with his seed after him. And as for Ismael I have also heard thee. Behold, I will bless him, and increase, and multiply him exceedingly: he shall beget twelve chiefs, and I will make him a great nation. But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sara shall bring forth to thee at this time in the next year. And when he had left off speaking with him, God went up from Abraham. And Abraham took Ismael his son, and all that were born in his house: and all whom he had bought, every male among the men of his house: and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskin forthwith the very same day, as God had commanded him.

Romans 4:13-23 Douay-Rheims

For not through the law was the promise to Abraham, or to his seed, that he should be heir of the world; but through the justice of faith. For if they who are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, the promise is made of no effect. For the law worketh wrath. For where there is no law, neither is there transgression. Therefore is it of faith, that according to grace the promise might be firm to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, (As it is written: I have made thee a father of many nations,) before God, whom he believed, who quickeneth the dead; and calleth those things that are not, as those that are. Who against hope believed in hope; that he might be made the father of many nations, according to that which was said to him: So shall thy seed be. And he was not weak in faith; neither did he consider his own body now dead, whereas he was almost an hundred years old, nor the dead womb of Sara. In the promise also of God he staggered not by distrust; but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God: Most fully knowing, that whatsoever he has promised, he is able also to perform. And therefore it was reputed to him unto justice. Now it is not written only for him, that it was reputed to him unto justice,

All: Thanks be to God.

Ant.
4.
E



Cce Rex vé-ni-et * Dómi-nus terræ,
et ipse áufe-ret ju-gum capti-vi-tá-tis no-stræ.

DAY TWO ANTIPHON

DECEMBER 17th

O Wisdom, O holy Word of God, you govern all creation with your strong yet tender care.
Come and show your people the way to salvation.

O Sapientia, quæ ex ore Altissimi prodisti,
attingens a fine usque ad finem fortiter,
suaviter disponensque omnia:
veni ad docendum nos viam prudentiæ.

Or

The Great O Antiphons are used from December 17th - 23rd and may also be sung in Latin or English with the hymn O Come O Come Emmanuel. Similar to the Jesse Tree, the O Antiphons mark Salvation history and with increasing insistence hopefully plead for God to send His promised Messiah. They begin with O Sapientia for the eternal past of the Most Holy Trinity, followed by O Adonai for the prophet Moses at the deliverance of Egypt from captivity, then O Radix Jesse, O Clavis David, O Oriens. and O Rex Genitum recall the Davidic Kingdom of Israel and, and they end with O Emmanuel at the time of Christ's nativity.

DAY ONE ANTIPHON

DECEMBER 16th

Behold, the King will come, the Lord of the earth,
and He will remove from us the yoke of our
captivity.

Ecce Rex veniet, Dominus terrae, et ipse auferet
jugum captivitatis nostrae.

Or

Father or Leader: Drop down dew from above, O
you heavens, and let the clouds rain the Just One.

DAY FOUR READINGS

DECEMBER 19th

Deuteronomy 15:13-20 Douay- Rheims

And when thou sendest him out free, thou shalt
not let him go away empty: But shalt give him for
his way out of thy flocks, and out of thy barnfloor,
and thy winepress, wherewith the Lord thy God
shall bless thee. Remember that thou also wast a
bondservant in the land of Egypt, and the Lord
thy God made thee free, and therefore I now
command thee this. But if he say: I will not
depart: because he loveth thee, and thy house,
and findeth that he is well with thee: Thou shalt
take an awl, and bore through his ear in the door
of thy house, and he shall serve thee for ever:
thou shalt do in like manner to thy womanservant
also. Turn not away thy eyes from them when
thou makest them free: because he hath served
thee six years according to the wages of a

hireling: that the Lord thy God may bless thee in all the works that thou dost. Of the firstlings, that come of thy herds and thy sheep, thou shalt sanctify to the Lord thy God whatsoever is of the male sex. Thou shalt not work with the firstling of a bullock, and thou shalt not shear the firstlings of thy sheep. In the sight of the Lord thy God shalt thou eat them every year, in the place that the Lord shall choose, thou and thy house.

Acts 3:18-26 Douay-Rheims

But those things which God before had shewed by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled. Be penitent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out. That when the times of refreshment shall come from the presence of the Lord, and he shall send him who hath been preached unto you, Jesus Christ, Whom heaven indeed must receive, until the times of the restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of his holy prophets, from the beginning of the world. For Moses said: A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me: him you shall hear

Beatus auctor saeculi,
servile corpus induit;
ut carne carnem liberans,
ne perderet quos condidit.

Castae parentis viscera,
caelestis intrat gratia;
venter puellae bajulat,
secreta quae non noverat.

Domus pudici pectoris,
templum repente fit Dei;
intacta nesciens virum,
concepit alvo fillum.

Deo Patri sit gloria,
ejusque soli filio,
cum Spiritu Paraclito,
in saeculorum saecula. Amen.

**The daily antiphon is then said,
sung, or chanted.**

And see! with heavenly grace instilled,
A Mother's loving heart is filled.
Behold a Virgin's body bears
The mystery of endless years!

The Mother makes her spotless breast
A temple for the child to rest.
This Virgin loved the Holy One
And she conceived the Eternal Son.

To him who comes the world to free,
To God the Son, all glory be,
To Father, Maker of us all
And Holy Spirit, God, we call.

Or

En clara vox redarguit,
obscura quaeque personans;
procul fugentur somnia,
ab alto Jesus promicat.

En Agnus ad nos mittitur,
laxare gratis debitum;
omnes simul cum lacrymis,
precemur indulgentiam.

according to all things whatsoever he shall speak
to you. And it shall be, that every soul which will
not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from
among the people. And all the prophets, from
Samuel and afterwards, who have spoken, have
told of these days. You are the children of the
prophets, and of the testament which God made
to our fathers, saying to Abraham: And in thy
seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be
blessed. To you first God, raising up his Son, hath
sent him to bless you; that every one may convert
himself from his wickedness.

All: Thanks be to God.

Father or Leader: Drop down dew from above, O
you heavens, and let the clouds rain the Just One.

DAY FIVE READINGS

DECEMBER 20th

Isaiah 28:14-20 Douay-Rheims

Wherefore hear the word of the Lord, ye scornful
men, who rule over my people that is in

Jerusalem. For you have said: We have entered into a league with death, and we have made a covenant with hell. When the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come upon us: for we have placed our hope in lies, and by falsehood we are protected. Therefore thus saith the Lord God: Behold I will lay a stone in the foundations of Sion, a tried stone, a corner stone, a precious stone, founded in the foundation. He that believeth, let him not hasten. And I will set judgment in weight, and justice in measure: and hail shall overturn the hope of falsehood: and waters shall overflow its protection. And Sour league with death shall be abolished, and your covenant with hell shall not stand: when the overflowing scourge shall pass, you shall be trodden down by it. Whensoever it shall pass through, it shall take you away: because in the morning early it shall pass through, in the day and in the night, and vexation alone shall make you understand what you hear. For the bed is straitened, so that one must fall out, and a short covering cannot cover both.

EN CLARA VOX

This optional hymn may be sung in English or Latin all 9 days of the novena & uses the tune of "Creator of the Stars at Night"

Behold a thrilling voice calls out
And chides the darkened shades of earth
Pale dreams are gone, dim shadows fly
Christ in his might now shines on high.

The Lamb of God is sent below
Himself to pay the debt we owe.
O for this gift let every voice
With songs and prayers to God rejoice.

The Lamb of God is sent below
Himself to pay the debt we owe.
O for this gift let every voice
With songs and prayers to God rejoice.

The Blessed Author of our race
Took human form to bring us grace
Lest lost should be those whom he made,
And he with love our sin repaid.

Syria. And all went to be enrolled, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem: because he was of the house and family of David, To be enrolled with Mary his espoused wife, who was with child. And it came to pass, that when they were there, her days were accomplished, that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him up in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds watching, and keeping the night watches over their flock.

All: Thanks be to God.

Father or Leader: Drop down dew from above, O you heavens, and let the clouds rain the Just One.

Romans 10:5-11 Douay-Rheims

For Moses wrote, that the justice which is of the law, the man that shall do it, shall live by it. But the justice which is of faith, speaketh thus: Say not in thy heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? that is, to bring Christ down; Or who shall descend into the deep? that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead. But what saith the scripture? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart. This is the word of faith, which we preach. For if thou confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in thy heart that God hath raised him up from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For, with the heart, we believe unto justice; but, with the mouth, confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith: Whosoever believeth in him, shall not be confounded.

All: Thanks be to God.

Father or Leader: Drop down dew from above, O you heavens, and let the clouds rain the Just One.

DAY SIX READINGS

DECEMBER 21st

1 Samuel 2:1-10 Douay-Rheims

My heart hath rejoiced in the Lord, and my horn is exalted in my God: my mouth is enlarged over my enemies: because I have joyed in thy salvation. There is none holy as the Lord is: for there is no other beside thee, and there is none strong like our God. Do not multiply to speak lofty things, boasting: let old matters depart from your mouth: for the Lord is a God of all knowledge, and to him are thoughts prepared. The bow of the mighty is overcome, and the weak are girt with strength. They that were full before have hired out themselves for bread: and the hungry are filled, so that the barren hath borne many: and she that had many children is weakened. The Lord killeth and maketh alive, he bringeth down to hell and bringeth back again. The Lord maketh poor and maketh rich, he humbleth and he exalteth. He raiseth up the needy from the dust, and lifteth up the poor from the dunghill: that he may sit with princes, and hold the throne of glory. For the poles of the earth are the Lord's, and upon

robber: they have laid siege against us, with a rod shall they strike the cheek of the judge of Israel. AND THOU, BETHLEHEM Ephrata, art a little one among the thousands of Juda: out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be the ruler in Israel: and his going forth is from the beginning, from the days of eternity. Therefore will he give them up even till the time wherein she that travaileth shall bring forth: and the remnant of his brethren shall be converted to the children of Israel. And he shall stand, and feed in the strength of the Lord, in the height of the name of the Lord his God: and they shall be converted, for now shall he be magnified even to the ends of the earth. And this man shall be our peace, when the Assyrian shall come into our land, and when he shall set his foot in our houses: and we shall raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principal men.

Luke 2:1-6 Douay-Rheims

And it came to pass, that in those days there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that the whole world should be enrolled. This enrolling was first made by Cyrinus, the governor of

which is conceived in her, is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son: and thou shalt call his name JESUS. For he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done that it might be fulfilled which the Lord spoke by the prophet, saying: Behold a virgin shall be with child, and bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. And Joseph rising up from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him, and took unto him his wife. And he knew her not till she brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

All: Thanks be to God.

Father or Leader: Drop down dew from above, O you heavens, and let the clouds rain the Just One.

DAY NINE READINGS

DECEMBER 23rd

Micah 5:1-5 Douay-Rheims

Now shalt thou be laid waste, O daughter of the

them he hath set the world. He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness, because no man shall prevail by his own strength. The adversaries of the Lord shall fear him: and upon them shall he thunder in the heavens. The Lord shall judge the ends of the earth, and he shall give empire to his king, and shall exalt the horn of his Christ.

Luke 1:26-39 Douay-Rheims

And in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God into a city of Galilee, called Nazareth, To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel being come in, said unto her: Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. Who having heard, was troubled at his saying, and thought with herself what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said to her: Fear not, Mary, for thou hast found grace with God. Behold thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and shalt bring forth a son; and thou shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the

most High; and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of David his father; and he shall reign in the house of Jacob for ever. And of his kingdom there shall be no end. And Mary said to the angel: How shall this be done, because I know not man? And the angel answering, said to her: The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the most High shall overshadow thee. And therefore also the Holy which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And behold thy cousin Elizabeth, she also hath conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month with her that is called barren: Because no word shall be impossible with God. And Mary said: Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her. And Mary rising up in those days, went into the hill country with haste into a city of Judah.

All: Thanks be to God.

Father or Leader: Drop down dew from above, O you heavens, and let the clouds rain the Just One.

said: I will not ask, and I will not tempt the Lord. And he said: Hear ye therefore, O house of David: Is it a small thing for you to be grievous to men, that you are grievous to my God also? Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign. Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel. He shall eat butter and honey, that he may know to refuse the evil, and to choose the good. For before the child know to refuse the evil, and to choose the good, the land which thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of the face of her two kings.

Matthew 1:18-25 Douay-Rheims

Now the generation of Christ was in this wise. When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child, of the Holy Ghost. Whereupon Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing publicly to expose her, was minded to put her away privately. But while he thought on these things, behold the angel of the Lord appeared to him in his sleep, saying: Joseph, son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife, for that

therefore you are no more strangers and foreigners; but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and the domestics of God, Built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone: In whom all the building, being framed together, groweth up into an holy temple in the Lord. In whom you also are built together into an habitation of God in the Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God.

Father or Leader: Drop down dew from above, O you heavens, and let the clouds rain the Just One.

DAY EIGHT READINGS

DECEMBER 23rd

Isaiah 7:10-16 Douay-Rheims

And the Lord spoke again to Achaz, saying: Ask thee a sign of the Lord thy God either unto the depth of hell, or unto the height above. And Achaz

DAY SEVEN READINGS

DECEMBER 22nd

Deuteronomy 7:6-21 Douay-Rheims

Because thou art a holy people to the Lord thy God. The Lord thy God hath chosen thee, to be his peculiar people of all peoples that are upon the earth. Not because you surpass all nations in number, is the Lord joined unto you, and hath chosen you, for you are the fewest of any people: But because the Lord hath loved you, and hath kept his oath, which he swore to your fathers: and hath brought you out with a strong hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, out of the hand of Pharaoh the king of Egypt. And thou shalt know that the Lord thy God, he is a strong and faithful God, keeping his covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments, unto a thousand generations: And repaying forthwith them that hate him, so as to destroy them, without further delay immediately rendering to them what they deserve. Keep therefore the precepts and ceremonies and judgments, which I command thee this day to do. If after thou hast

heard these judgments, thou keep and do them, the Lord thy God will also keep his covenant to thee, and the mercy which he swore to thy fathers: And he will love thee and multiply thee, and will bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy vintage, thy oil, and thy herds, and the flocks of thy sheep upon the land, for which he swore to thy fathers that he would give it thee. Blessed shalt thou be among all people. No one shall be barren among you of either sex, neither of men nor cattle. The Lord will take away from thee all sickness: and the grievous infirmities of Egypt, which thou knowest, he will not bring upon thee, but upon thy enemies. Thou shalt consume all the people, which the Lord thy God will deliver to thee. Thy eye shall not spare them, neither shalt thou serve their gods, lest they be thy ruin. If thou say in thy heart: These nations are more than I, how shall I be able to destroy them. Fear not, but remember what the Lord thy God did to Pharaoh and to all the Egyptians, The exceeding great plagues, which thy eyes saw, and the signs and wonders, and the strong hand, and the stretched out arm, with which the Lord thy God brought thee out: so will he do to all the people, whom thou

fearest. Moreover the Lord thy God will send also hornets among them, until he destroy and consume all that have escaped thee, and could hide themselves. Thou shalt not fear them, because the Lord thy God is in the midst of thee, a God mighty and terrible:

Ephesians 2:12-22 Douay-Rheims

That you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the conversation of Israel, and strangers to the testament, having no hope of the promise, and without God in this world. But now in Christ Jesus, you, who some time were afar off, are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and breaking down the middle wall of partition, the enmities in his flesh: Making void the law of commandments contained in decrees; that he might make the two in himself into one new man, making peace; And might reconcile both to God in one body by the cross, killing the enmities in himself. And coming, he preached peace to you that were afar off, and peace to them that were nigh. For by him we have access both in one Spirit to the Father. Now