

Feast + Fast + Feria



Feast + Fast + Feria

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

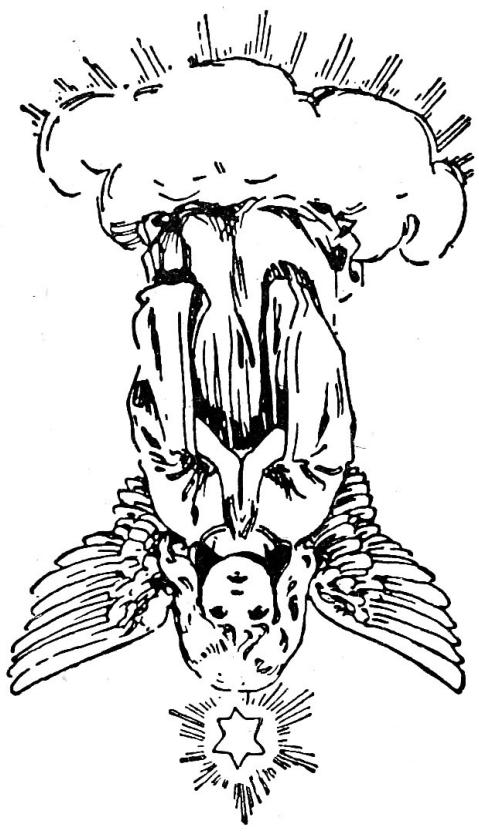
It is an offering of Feast Fast Feria,  
a Barefoot Abbey ministry whose purpose is to aid  
families as they grow in holiness and journey to  
heaven by living out their Catholic faith each day through  
the Liturgical Year.  
All rights reserved, 2018



A Nine Day Devotion from the Traditional Monastic  
Prayers, Scriptures, Chants, & Hymns  
in Preparation for Christ's Nativity

[www.feastfastferia.com](http://www.feastfastferia.com)

Genie Shaw



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

**Father or Leader:** Let us bless the Lord.  
**All:** And give Him thanks.

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.

Copyright © 2019 by Genie Shaw and Barefoot Abbey Media. All  
Rights Reserved

With the exception of the Purchaser printing a copy for their own  
personal use, no part of this publication may be reproduced,  
distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means,  
including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or  
mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the  
publisher.

The quotation of brief passages in a review is permitted. To do so,  
please seek prior written permission from the publisher by  
contacting [barefootabbeymedia@gmail.com](mailto:barefootabbeymedia@gmail.com)

Cover art: public domain line art

Magnificat anima mea Dominum.

Et exultavit spiritus meus: in Deo salutari meo.

Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae:

Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes

generationes.

Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est: et sanctum  
nomen eius.

Et misericordia eius in progenies et progenies  
timebunt eum.

Fecit potentiam in brachio suo: dispersit superbos  
mente cordis sui.

Deposuit potentes de sede: et exaltavit humiles.

Esurientes implevit bonis: et divites dimisit  
inanes.

Suscipit Israel puerum suum: recordatus  
misericordiae 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 prophesies 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 LIFE Show here: <http://barefootabbey.com/L3/> 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/>

## THE MAGNIFICAT

Ant. 8 G.

UM or-tus fu-e-rit sol de coe-lo, vi-de-  
 bi-tis Regem re-gum pro-cedentem a Patre,  
 tamquam sponsum de tha-lamo su-o. E u o n a e.

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 PROPHETS

**Mother or Older Child:** Rejoice, O you daughter of Zion 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 legislator noster, expectatio gentium, et Salvator earum: veni ad salvandum nos Domine Deus noster.

Or

Ant.  
2.

Emma-nu-el, Rex et le-gi-fer noster, expecta-ti-o genti-um, et Salva-tor e-a-rum: ve-ni ad salvandum nos, Domi-ne, De-us noster.

Or

## *Come To 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

DAY SEVEN ANTI-PHON

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 limbo formasti.

Or

Ant.  
2.

formasti.

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.

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!

## DAY SIX ANTIPHON

### DECEMBER 21st

Veni, Clavis Davidica,  
Regna reclude caelica,  
Fac iter tutum superum,  
Et claude vias inferum.  
Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel,  
Nascetur pro te Israel!

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.

**DECEMBER 20th**  
**DAY FIVE ANTIIPHON**  
 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 vincitum de domo carceris, sedentem in tenebris, et umbra mortis.

Veni, O Iesse virgula,  
 Ex hostis tuos ungula,  
 De spectu tuos tartari.  
 Educ et antro barathri,  
 Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel,  
 Nascetur pro te Israel!

**Or**

Ant.  
2.

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 Dewey-Rhims*

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 ANTI-PHON

### DECEMBER 19th

O Root of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of

the people, at Whom the kings shall shut their

mouhths, 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,

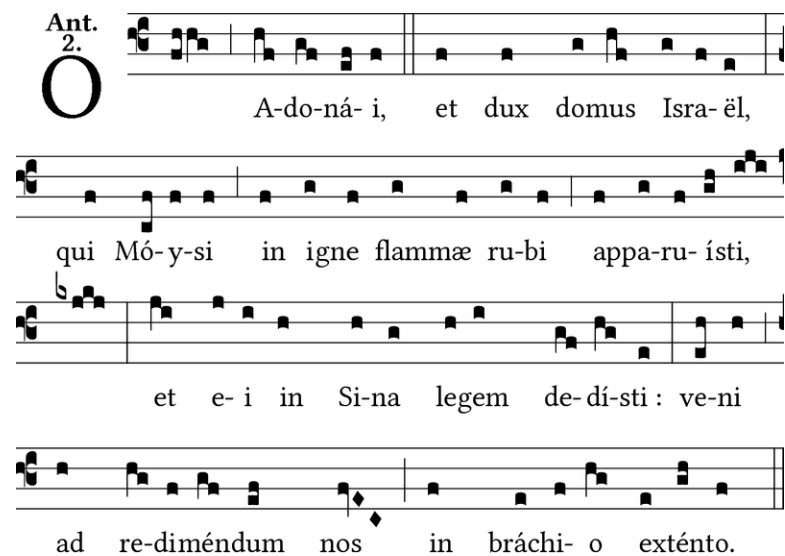
quem Gentes deprecabuntur:

veni ad liberandum nos, iam 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.

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  
 extenso.

**Or**

Veni, O Sapientia,  
 Quae hic disponis omnia,  
 Veni, viam prudentiae  
 Ut doceas et gloriae.  
 Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel,  
 Nascetur pro te Israel!

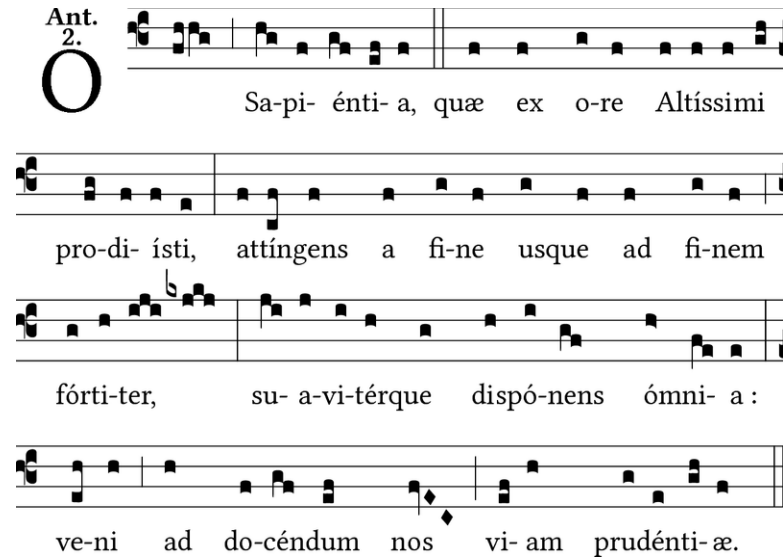
**DAY THREE ANTI-PHON**

**DECEMBER 18th**

## 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.

*Remans 4:13-23 Dewey-Rhems*

For not thorough 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.

Cce Rex ve-ni-et \* Dõmi-nus terræ,  
et ipse aũfe-ret ju-gum capti-vi-tã-tis no-stræ.

**DAY TWO ANTI-PHON**

**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, quae ex ore Altissimi prodisti, attingens a fine usque ad finem fortiter, suavior dispenses omnia: veni ad docendum nos viam prudentiae.

**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 3:16-26 Dewey-Rhims*

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 repententis Dei;  
intacta nesciens virum,  
concepit alvo filium.  
Deo Patri sit gloria,  
ejusque soli filio,  
cum Spiritu Paraclypto,  
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

**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  
Fale 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.

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  
hall 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

strengthened, so that one must fall out, and a short  
covering cannot cover both.



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 Dewey-Rhims*

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 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 Dewey-Rhims*

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 Cyprius, 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

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 Dewey-Rhims*

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

most High; and the Lord God shall give unto him in the house of David his father; and he shall reign 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.

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

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:

### *Ezekiel's 2:12-22 Dewey-Rivins*

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

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