

**Drop down dew from above, ye heavens, and let the clouds rain the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bud forth a Savior. (Isa. 14:8)**

"Come, let us adore our Lord and King, Who is about to come to us!"

(Repeat together after each prophecy or verse.)



FIRST WEEK:

Rejoice, O daughter of Sion, and be jubilantly glad, O daughter of Israel. Behold, thy Lord cometh, and in His day a great light shall arise; the mountains shall drop down sweetness and the hills shall flow with milk and honey, for the Great Prophet shall come and He shall renew Jerusalem. *(Roman Breviary)*

Behold, thy God cometh, the Man of the House of David, to sit upon the throne; and you shall see and your heart shall rejoice. *(Rom. Brev.)*

Let us pray:

O Lord, stir up Thy power, we beg Thee, and come, that by Thy protection we may deserve to be rescued from the threatening dangers of our sins and be saved by Thy deliverance. Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.



SECOND WEEK:

Behold, the Lord, our Protector, cometh, the Holy One of Israel, having on His head the regal crown, and He shall rule from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth. *(Apoc. 14:14; Ps. 71:8)*

Behold, the Lord cometh, and He will not lie; should He tarry, await Him; for He shall assuredly come and shall not delay. *(Rom. Brev.)*

Let us pray:

O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare the ways of Thine only begotten Son, that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with purified minds. Through Christ our Lord. **R.**Amen.



THIRD WEEK:

The Lord shall come down as rain upon the fleece, and in His days shall justice spring up and abundance of peace; and all kings of the earth shall adore Him, all nations serve Him. *(Ps. 51:6-7,11)*

A Child is born to us, and He shall be called the Mighty God; He shall sit upon the throne of David, His Father, and shall rule; for the government is upon His shoulders. *(Isa. 9:6)*

Let us pray:

O Lord, we beseech Thee, incline Thine ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation. Through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.



FOURTH WEEK:

Bethlehem, city of the most high God, out of thee shall go forth the Ruler of Israel, and His proceeding is from the beginning, even from the days of eternity; and He shall be exalted in the midst of the whole earth, and peace shall hold sway in the day of His coming. (*Mich. 5:2*)

Our forerunner Jesus, the Lamb undefiled, has entered the Holy of Holies for us, having become a High Priest forever, according to the order of Melchisedech... He is the King of Justice... having neither beginning of days, nor end of life. (*Heb. 6:20*)

Let us pray:

O Lord, we beseech Thee, stir up Thy power and come; and with great might deliver us, that with the help of Thy grace, Thy merciful forgiveness may hasten what our sins impede. Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.



HAIL AND BLESSED be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Blessed Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my petitions, through the merits of Jesus Christ Our Lord, and of His Blessed Mother. Amen.

O Infant Savior, many times in life we have prepared for guests about to enter our beloved household. Some guests were important, but not nearly as important as the heavenly Visitor, for Whom we now prepare our hearts.

The Prophets of old longed for Thy coming into their world. We long for Thy return to our modern world. If Advent means the coming of Christ, there is nothing we need so badly today as an Advent-another coming of Thyself and Thy principles into our pagan times. Only then will we breathe in a Christian atmosphere, in which joy replaces sorrow, peace replaces war and disturbance, in which love casts out darkness.

O Mary, my Mother, be my model during this holy season. Christ was alive within thee during the first Advent. We want Him to be more alive within us than ever during this Advent. May we not merely possess our precious Catholic Faith-rather, may It take complete possession of us, so that wherever we go, whatever we do or say, it will be the Christ Child that inspires us.

We resolve to make our Christmas a *holy day with Christ* instead of a *holiday without Him*. We resolve to observe Christmas as the Birthday of Christ, not merely as a day to give and receive merchandise; to help at least one poor family in honor of the Holy Family of Bethlehem. We promise to remember that the *real* symbols of Christmas are the star, the stable and the crib, not Santa and his reindeer.

Finally, we promise every day to give glory to God in the highest, and to work and pray for peace on earth among men of good will. Amen.