



The O Antiphons of Advent

The “O” Antiphons are seven verses that are recited during Evening Prayer (Vespers) in the Divine Office from December 17-23. These are short prayers that would work well with children of all ages. The antiphons use titles of the Messiah, based on the prophecies of Isaiah. The prayers are simple yet stunning reflections of the hope we have in Christ. The O Antiphons inspired many Advent hymns, including “O Come, O Come Emmanuel.”

Suggestion: After dinner each evening December 17-23, pray a decade of the Rosary followed by the antiphon.

Print. Cut on dashed lines to separate.

O Antiphons

December 17

O Wisdom of our God Most High,
guiding creation with power and love:
come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18

O Leader of the House of Israel,
giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai:
come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19

O Root of Jesse's stem,
sign of God's love for all his people:
come to save us without delay!

December 20

O Key of David,
opening the gates of God's eternal
Kingdom:
come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21

O Radiant Dawn,
splendor of eternal light, sun of justice:
come and shine on those who dwell in
darkness and in the
shadow of death.

December 22

O King of all nations and keystone of the
Church:
come and save man, whom you formed
from the dust!

December 23

O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law:
come to save us, Lord our God!

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