

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus,
that we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door
of love all over the world.

Let kindness come with every gift and
good desires with every greeting.

Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings,
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children,
and Christmas evening bring us to our beds
with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake.
Amen.

PRAYER BEFORE CHRISTMAS DINNER

God of all gifts,

we thank you for the many ways you have blessed us this day.
We are grateful for each of those who are gathered around this table.

We ask you to bless us and our food and to
bless those we love who are not with us today.

In our gratitude and love, we remember your humble birth into our
lives and pray for those who are without enough to eat.

We remember the stable in which you were born
and pray for those who have no place to live.

We remember your challenging message of caring and giving
and we pray for peace in families and nations throughout the world.
We bless you and give you thanks in your Spirit who brings our hearts
to life this Christmas Day and forever.

Amen.

Christmas Novena

December 16th - December 24th



O Holy Night!

CHRISTMAS NOVENA

SAY THIS NINE DAY NOVENA BEGINNING ON THE 16TH OF DECEMBER AND ENDING ON THE 24TH.



DECEMBER 16

O Shepherd that rulest Israel, Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep, come to guide and comfort us.
Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.



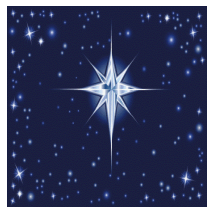
DECEMBER 17

O Wisdom that comest out of the mouth of the Most High, that reachest from one end to another, and orderest all things mightily and sweetly, come to teach us the way of prudence!
Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.



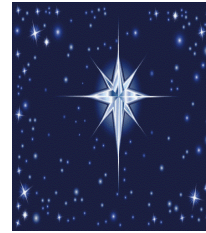
DECEMBER 18

O Adonai, 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!
Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.



DECEMBER 19

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.
Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.



DECEMBER 20

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.
Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.



DECEMBER 21

O Dayspring, brightness of the everlasting light, Son of justice, come to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death!
Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.



December 22

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!
Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.



DECEMBER 23

O Emmanuel, our King and our Law-giver, longing of the Gentiles, yea, and salvation thereof, come to save us, O Lord our God!
Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.



DECEMBER 24

O Thou that sittest upon the Cherubim, God of hosts, come, show Thy face, and we shall be saved.
Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.