



The Twelve Days of Christmas and The Epiphany *2014-2015 Edition*

The Twelve Days and the Epiphany are a great time to spend a few moments each day in prayer, scripture, and praise. These simple devotions, based on the Daily Office, are designed to be short but focused.

24 DECEMBER • Christmas Eve

Psalm 89:1-29 • Philippians 2:5-11

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

25 DECEMBER • The Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Day

Psalm 98.1-6 • Matthew 1.18-25

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

26 DECEMBER • Feast of St. Stephen

Psalm 31 • Matthew 23:34-39

We give you thanks, O Lord of glory, for the example of the first martyr Stephen, who looked up to heaven and prayed for his persecutors to your Son Jesus Christ, who stands at your right hand; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

27 DECEMBER • Feast of St. John

Psalm 92 • 1 John 1:1-9 • John 21:19b-24

Shed upon your Church, O Lord, the brightness of your light, that we, being illumined by the teaching of your apostle and evangelist John, may so walk in the light of your truth, that at length we may attain to the fullness of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

28 DECEMBER • The 1st Sunday after Christmas (Or Holy Innocents)

Psalm 93 • John 1:1-18

Behold, the dwelling of God is with mankind; He will dwell with them and they shall be his people. Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

29 DECEMBER • Feast of the Holy Innocents (transferred or kept on Sunday the 28th)

Psalm 124 • Matthew 2:13-18

We remember today, O God, the slaughter of the holy innocents of Bethlehem by King Herod. Receive, we pray, into the arms of your mercy all innocent victims; and by your great might frustrate the designs of evil tyrants and establish your rule of justice, love, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

30 DECEMBER • Remember the Poor

Psalm 20 • John 7:53 – 8:7

Almighty and most merciful God, we remember before you all poor and neglected persons whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who have none to care for them. Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy. Grant this, Father, for the love of your Son, who for our sake became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

31 DECEMBER • New Year's Eve

Psalm 46 • John 8:12-19

O God our Creator, you have divided our life into days and seasons, and called us to acknowledge your providence year after year: Accept your people who come to offer their praises, and, in your mercy, receive their prayers; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

1 JANUARY • The Holy Name, New Year's Day

Philippians 2:5-11 • Luke 2:15-21

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

2 JANUARY • Mission

Psalm 68 • Matthew 28:16-20

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you, bring the nations into your fold, pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

3 JANUARY • Be Filled with the Holy Spirit

Psalm 139 • 1 Corinthians 12 • John 14:15-31

Almighty and most merciful God, grant that by the indwelling of your Holy Spirit we may be enlightened and strengthened for your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

4 JANUARY • The Second Sunday after Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7-14 • Luke 2:41-52

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

5 JANUARY • Eve of Epiphany

Psalm 98 • Isa. 66:18-23 • Romans 15:7-13

Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

6 JANUARY • The Epiphany

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 • Matthew 2:1-12

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.