

# O Antiphons

The O Antiphons refer to the seven antiphons that are recited (or chanted) preceding the Magnificat during Vespers of the Liturgy of the Hours.

They cover the special period of Advent preparation known as the Octave before Christmas, Dec. 17-23, with Dec. 24 being Christmas Eve and Vespers for that evening being for the Christmas Vigil.

Each antiphon highlights a title for the Messiah & refers to a prophecy of Isaiah of the coming of the Messiah.

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Sapiencia

**WISDOM**

*Isaiah 11:2-3, 28:29*

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

**DEC**  
**17**



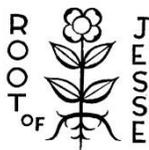
Adonai

**LORD OF ISRAEL**

*Isaiah 11:4-5, 33:22*

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

**DEC**  
**18**



Radix Jesse

**ROOT OF JESSE**

*Isaiah 11:1, 10*

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

**DEC**  
**19**



Clavis David

**KEY OF DAVID**

*Isaiah 22:22, 9:6*

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

**DEC**  
**20**



Oriens

**RADIANT DAWN,  
DAYSPRING**

*Isaiah 9:2*

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.

**DEC**  
**21**



Rex Gentium

**KING OF ALL NATIONS,  
KING OF THE GENTILES**

*Isaiah 9:7, 2:4*

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

**DEC**  
**22**



Emmanuel

**GOD WITH US**

*Isaiah 7:14*

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

**DEC**  
**23**

Join with the Prayer of the Church each evening & reflect on these words preparing for Christmas day by day.