

## DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

On Monday, December 15, the Christmas Novena began. This is a celebration of the "O Antiphons." It is not clear where the O Antiphons came from, but they have become part of the official Liturgy of the Hours. There is a different antiphon proclaimed each night of the novena. The O antiphons assign different descriptive names to Christ, such as Wisdom, King, Emmanuel. Here are a few of them for you to reflect on:

+O Wisdom, O holy Word of God, you govern all creation with your strong yet tender care. Come and show your people the way to salvation.

+O Flower of Jesse's stem, you have been raised up as a sign for all peoples; kings stand silent in your presence; the nations bow down in worship before you. Come let nothing keep you from coming to our aid.

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

+O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations, Savior of all people come and set us free O Lord our God.

Come to the Christmas Novena (Dec. 15-23, 7:30pm, Chapel) and experience the wonderful peace of the Advent season. You do not have to come every night, but you certainly may if you are able. It is just one way you can prepare your heart for the coming of Christ.