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Ephesus Notes



A Catholic Newsletter Dedicated to Our Lady of Ephesus

A free publication designed by Fr. F. Gruber for the needs of the elderly. Prepared with the help of Grok. ©2026 Archives available at www.mothersforpriests.org/ephesus-notes

VOLUME 4 · ISSUE 61 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2026 MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SAINT OF THE DAY

December 17: The O Antiphons begin; St. John of Matha (Roman Martyrology).

From today until December 23, the Church sings the great “O Antiphons” before the Magnificat at Vespers, calling on Christ by His titles from the prophets: Wisdom, Lord, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Dawn, King of the nations and Emmanuel.

St. John of Matha, a French priest, founded the Order of the Most Holy Trinity to ransom Christians held captive. Pope Innocent III approved the order on December 17, 1198. He died in Rome in 1213.

FROM THE CATECHISM

95. “...Born of the Virgin Mary”: Why is Mary truly the Mother of God? Mary is truly the Mother of God because she is the Mother of Jesus (John 2:1, John 19:25). The One who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and became truly her Son is actually the eternal Son of God the Father. He is God himself.

Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Q. 95



The Mass of St. John of Matha, Juan Carreño de Miranda (1666)

QUOTE OF THE DAY

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

—Gospel Acclamation, December 17

ADVENT ASPIRATIONS

Come, Lord Jesus, O Wisdom from on high, and govern all creation with your strong and tender care. ... Come, Lord Jesus, O Flower of Jesse's stem, rule over all nations and all peoples.

(Mothers for Priests brochure Advent Aspirations)

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Q: Read backwards, the first letters of the Latin O Antiphons spell what?

A: ERO CRAS, “Tomorrow I will be there.”

Mary, stem of Jesse, Pray for us.

Recommended Prayer Brochure: Advent Aspirations



Daily Gospel Word Find Puzzle

(Matthew 1:1-17, December 17, 2026)

Find the all-capitalized words in bold print.

P	D	U	R	I	A	H	Z	K	M	P	J	W	K	V
P	O	J	V	G	E	N	E	R	A	T	I	O	N	S
S	F	B	M	A	R	Y	R	Z	F	N	D	W	R	I
J	O	S	E	P	H	M	U	R	E	O	A	I	A	N
E	U	L	L	D	K	S	B	U	B	K	V	S	B	J
S	R	K	O	M	Y	D	B	T	O	W	I	A	R	U
S	T	T	A	M	A	R	A	H	A	B	D	A	A	D
E	E	J	A	C	O	B	B	C	Z	H	W	C	H	A
T	E	A	M	M	U	N	E	W	J	O	S	I	A	H
M	N	W	E	J	W	F	L	G	T	N	I	L	M	H

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ,
the son of **DAVID**, the son of **ABRAHAM**.
Abraham became the father of **ISAAC**,
Isaac the father of **JACOB**,
Jacob the father of **JUDAH** and his brothers.
Judah became the father of Perez and Zerah,
whose mother was **TAMAR**.
Perez became the father of Hezron,
Hezron the father of Ram,
Ram the father of Amminadab.
Amminadab became the father of Nahshon,
Nahshon the father of Salmon,
Salmon the father of **BOAZ**,
whose mother was **RAHAB**.
Boaz became the father of **OBED**,
whose mother was **RUTH**.
Obed became the father of **JESSE**,
Jesse the father of David the king.
David became the father of **SOLOMON**,
whose mother had been the wife of **URIAH**.
Solomon became the father of Rehoboam,
Rehoboam the father of Abijah,
Abijah the father of Asaph.
Asaph became the father of Jehoshaphat,
Jehoshaphat the father of Joram,
Joram the father of Uzziah.
Uzziah became the father of Jotham,
Jotham the father of Ahaz,

Ahaz the father of **HEZEKIAH**.
Hezekiah became the father of Manasseh,
Manasseh the father of Amos,
Amos the father of **JOSIAH**.
Josiah became the father of Jechoniah and his
brothers
at the time of the Babylonian exile.
After the Babylonian exile,
Jechoniah became the father of Shealtiel,
Shealtiel the father of **ZERUBBABEL**,
Zerubbabel the father of Abiud.
Abiud became the father of Eliakim,
Eliakim the father of Azor,
Azor the father of Zadok.
Zadok became the father of Achim,
Achim the father of Eliud,
Eliud the father of Eleazar.
Eleazar became the father of Matthan,
Matthan the father of Jacob,
Jacob the father of **JOSEPH**, the husband of
MARY.
Of her was born Jesus who is called the Christ.
Thus the total number of **GENERATIONS**
from Abraham to David
is **FOURTEEN** generations;
from David to the Babylonian exile, fourteen
generations;
from the Babylonian exile to the Christ,
fourteen generations.