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Ephesus Notes



A Catholic Newsletter Dedicated to Our Lady of Ephesus

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VOLUME 4 · ISSUE 68 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2026 MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SAINTS OF THE DAY

December 24: The Holy Ancestors of Christ (Roman Martyrology).

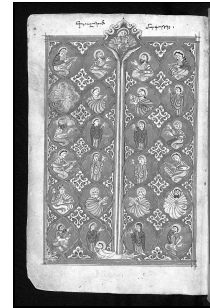
Today the Roman Martyrology remembers all the holy ancestors of Jesus Christ, son of David, son of Abraham, son of Adam: the fathers who pleased God and died in faith, not receiving what was promised but seeing and greeting it from afar, and from whom Christ was born according to the flesh.

This evening the Church begins the celebration of Christmas.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Q: According to St. Matthew, how many generations were there from Abraham to Christ?

A: Forty-two: three sets of fourteen (Matthew 1:17).



The Tree of Jesse, Armenian Gospels (Walters Manuscript W.543)

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

—Zechariah, Luke 1:78-79 (*today's Gospel*)

PRAYER FROM THE LITANY OF THE INFANT JESUS

O Lord Jesus, who allowed the greatness of Your incarnate divinity and most sacred humanity to be born in time, to become a little child, and to suffer bitter death, grant that we may acknowledge infinite wisdom in the silence of a child, power in weakness, majesty in abasement, so that adoring Your humility and littleness on earth we may contemplate Your glories in heaven. We ask this of You, Who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns God, forever and ever. Amen.

(Mothers for Priests brochure CJ3)

Mary, Morning star, Pray for us.

Recommended Prayer Brochure: CJ3 Litany of the Infant Jesus



Daily Gospel Word Find Puzzle

(Luke 1:67-79, December 24, 2026)

Find the all-capitalized words in bold print.

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

ZECHARIAH his father, filled with the Holy Spirit, **PROPHESIED**, saying:
"Blessed be the Lord, the God of **ISRAEL**;
for he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a **MIGHTY SAVIOR**,
born of the house of his servant **DAVID**.
Through his **PROPHETS** he promised of old
that he would save us from our **ENEMIES**,
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show **MERCY** to our fathers
and to remember his holy **COVENANT**.
This was the **OATH** he swore to our father
ABRAHAM:
to set us free from the hand of our enemies,

free to worship him without fear,
holy and **RIGHTEOUS** in his sight
all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the
Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his
way,
to give his people **KNOWLEDGE** of
SALVATION
by the **FORGIVENESS** of their sins.
In the tender **COMPASSION** of our God
the **DAWN** from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in **DARKNESS** and
the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of **PEACE**."

Gospel text: Lectionary for Mass (USCCB), Thursday of the Fourth Week of Advent.

FROM THE CATECHISM

9. What is the full and definitive stage of God's Revelation?

The full and definitive stage of God's revelation is accomplished in his Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, the mediator and fullness of Revelation. He, being the only-begotten Son of God made man, is the perfect and definitive Word of the Father. In the sending of the Son and the gift of the Spirit, Revelation is now fully complete, although the faith of the Church must gradually grasp its full significance over the course of centuries. "In giving us his Son, his only and definitive Word, God spoke everything to us at once in this sole Word, and he has no more to say." (Saint John of the Cross)

Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Q. 9