

# Sunday before Christmas- of the Ancestors

December 24, 2023



# Coloring Icons

Who do you see?



# Hebrews

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## 11: 9-10 & 32-40

9 BY FAITH HE STAYED FOR A TIME IN THE LAND HE HAD BEEN PROMISED, AS IN A FOREIGN LAND, LIVING IN TENTS, AS DID ISAAC AND JACOB, WHO WERE HEIRS WITH HIM OF THE SAME PROMISE. 10 FOR HE LOOKED FORWARD TO THE CITY THAT HAS FOUNDATIONS, WHOSE ARCHITECT AND BUILDER IS GOD. 32 AND WHAT MORE SHOULD I SAY? FOR TIME WOULD FAIL ME TO TELL OF GIDEON, BARAK, SAMSON, JEPHTHAH, OF DAVID AND SAMUEL AND THE PROPHETS— 33 WHO THROUGH FAITH CONQUERED KINGDOMS, ADMINISTERED JUSTICE, OBTAINED PROMISES, SHUT THE MOUTHS OF LIONS, 34 QUENCHED RAGING FIRE, ESCAPED THE EDGE OF THE SWORD, WON STRENGTH OUT OF WEAKNESS, BECAME MIGHTY IN WAR, PUT FOREIGN ARMIES TO FLIGHT. 35 WOMEN RECEIVED THEIR DEAD BY RESURRECTION. OTHERS WERE TORTURED, REFUSING TO ACCEPT RELEASE, IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A BETTER RESURRECTION. 36 OTHERS SUFFERED MOCKING AND FLOGGING, AND EVEN CHAINS AND IMPRISONMENT. 37 THEY WERE STONED TO DEATH, THEY WERE SAWN IN TWO,<sup>[A]</sup> THEY WERE KILLED BY THE SWORD; THEY WENT ABOUT IN SKINS OF SHEEP AND GOATS, DESTITUTE, PERSECUTED, TORMENTED— 38 OF WHOM THE WORLD WAS NOT WORTHY. THEY WANDERED IN DESERTS AND MOUNTAINS, AND IN CAVES AND HOLES IN THE GROUND. 39 YET ALL THESE, THOUGH THEY WERE COMMENDED FOR THEIR FAITH, DID NOT RECEIVE WHAT WAS PROMISED, 40 SINCE GOD HAD PROVIDED SOMETHING BETTER SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT, APART FROM US, BE MADE PERFECT.

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# Matthew

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## 1: 1-25

### **The Genealogy of Jesus the Messiah**

1 An account of the genealogy[a] of Jesus the Messiah,[b] the son of David, the son of Abraham.

2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, 3 and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, 4 and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, 5 and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, 6 and Jesse the father of King David.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah,

7 and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph,[c] 8 and Asaph[d] the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, 9 and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, 10 and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos,[e] and Amos[f] the father of Josiah, 11 and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

12 And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, 13 and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, 14 and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, 15 and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, 16 and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.[g]

# Matthew

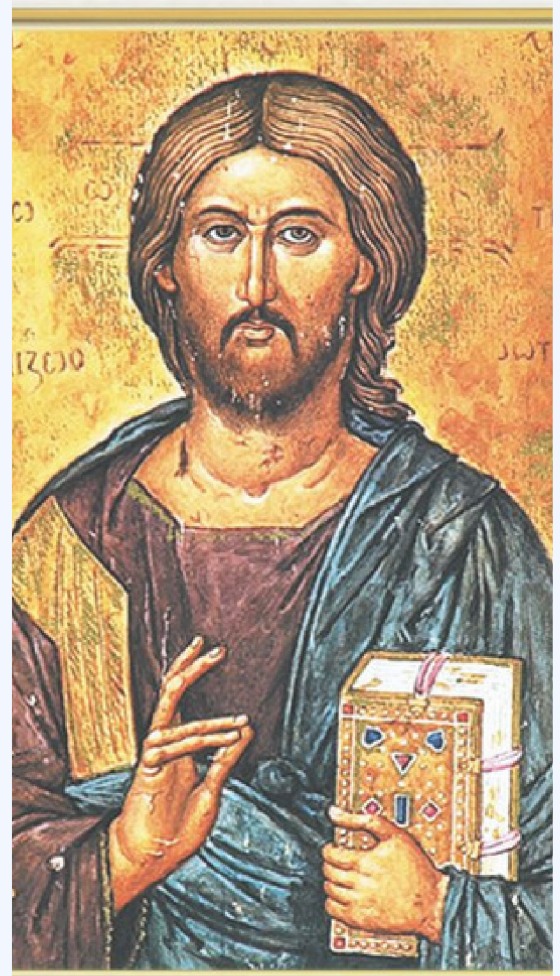
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## Cont

17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah,[h] fourteen generations.

### **The Birth of Jesus the Messiah**

18 Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah[i] took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 Her husband Joseph,



being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. 20 But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

23 “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” 24 When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, 25 but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son;[j] and he named him Jesus

# Hebrews

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## 1: 1-12 (PM)

### **GOD HAS SPOKEN BY HIS SON**

1 LONG AGO GOD SPOKE TO OUR ANCESTORS IN MANY AND VARIOUS WAYS BY THE PROPHETS, 2 BUT IN THESE LAST DAYS HE HAS SPOKEN TO US BY A SON,<sup>[A]</sup> WHOM HE APPOINTED HEIR OF ALL THINGS, THROUGH WHOM HE ALSO CREATED THE WORLDS. 3 HE IS THE REFLECTION OF GOD'S GLORY AND THE EXACT IMPRINT OF GOD'S VERY BEING, AND HE SUSTAINS<sup>[B]</sup> ALL THINGS BY HIS POWERFUL WORD. WHEN HE HAD MADE PURIFICATION FOR SINS, HE SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE MAJESTY ON HIGH, 4 HAVING BECOME AS MUCH SUPERIOR TO ANGELS AS THE NAME HE HAS INHERITED IS MORE EXCELLENT THAN THEIRS.

THE SON IS SUPERIOR TO ANGELS

5 FOR TO WHICH OF THE ANGELS DID GOD EVER SAY, "YOU ARE MY SON;

TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU"?

OR AGAIN,

"I WILL BE HIS FATHER,

AND HE WILL BE MY SON"?

6 AND AGAIN, WHEN HE BRINGS THE FIRSTBORN INTO THE WORLD, HE SAYS,

"LET ALL GOD'S ANGELS WORSHIP HIM."

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# Hebrews

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## Cont

7 OF THE ANGELS HE SAYS,  
"HE MAKES HIS ANGELS WINDS,  
AND HIS SERVANTS FLAMES OF FIRE."

8 BUT OF THE SON HE SAYS,  
"YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS[C] FOREVER AND EVER,  
AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF  
YOUR[D] KINGDOM.

9 YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED  
WICKEDNESS;  
THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD, HAS ANOINTED YOU  
WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS BEYOND YOUR  
COMPANIONS."

10 AND,  
"IN THE BEGINNING, LORD, YOU FOUNDED THE EARTH,  
AND THE HEAVENS ARE THE WORK OF YOUR HANDS;  
11 THEY WILL PERISH, BUT YOU REMAIN;  
THEY WILL ALL WEAR OUT LIKE CLOTHING;  
12 LIKE A CLOAK YOU WILL ROLL THEM UP,  
AND LIKE CLOTHING[E] THEY WILL BE CHANGED.  
BUT YOU ARE THE SAME,  
AND YOUR YEARS WILL NEVER END."

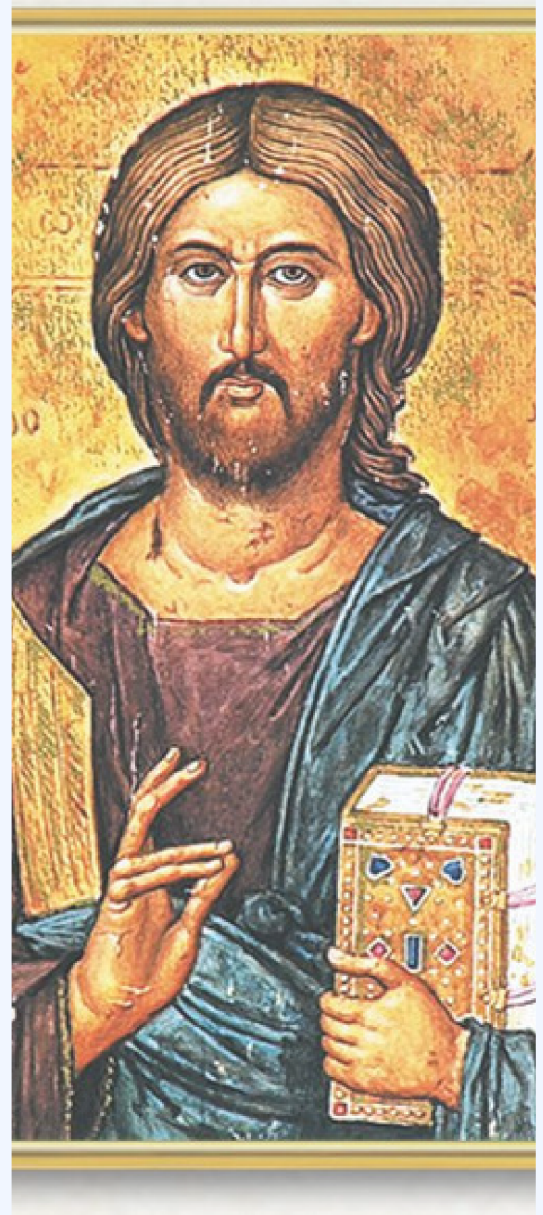
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# Luke

## 2:1-20 (PM)

### The Birth of Jesus

2 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in



bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

### The Shepherds and the Angels

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah,<sup>[a]</sup> the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in



# Luke

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# Cont

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host,[b] praising God and saying,

14 “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”[c]

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” 16 So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17 When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.



# Nativity Scene

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

Small One

Sheep

Donkey

Peace

Glory

Christ

Good Tidings

City of David

Hay

Lord

Taxed

Judea

Inn Keeper

Inn

God

Messiah

Savior

Joy

Angels

Bethlehem

King Herod

Caesar Augustus

Wise Men

Shepherds

Joseph

Virgin

Mary

Star

Jesus

Christmas

# Prayer before Communion

**O LORD, I BELIEVE AND PROFESS THAT YOU ARE TRULY CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD, WHO CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS OF WHOM I AM THE FIRST.**

**ACCEPT ME TODAY AS A PARTAKER OF YOUR MYSTICAL SUPPER, O SON OF GOD, FOR I WILL NOT REVEAL YOUR MYSTERY TO YOUR ENEMIES, NOR WILL I GIVE YOU A KISS AS DID JUDAS, BUT LIKE THE THIEF I PROFESS YOU: REMEMBER ME, O LORD, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.**

**REMEMBER ME, O MASTER, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.**

**REMEMBER ME, O HOLY ONE, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.**

**MAY THE PARTAKING OF YOUR HOLY MYSTERIES, O LORD, BE NOT FOR MY JUDGMENT OR CONDEMNATION BUT FOR THE HEALING OF SOUL AND BODY.**

**O LORD, I ALSO BELIEVE AND PROFESS THAT THIS, WHICH I AM ABOUT TO RECEIVE, IS TRULY YOUR MOST PRECIOUS BODY AND YOUR LIFE-GIVING BLOOD, WHICH, I PRAY, MAKE ME WORTHY TO RECEIVE FOR THE REMISSION OF ALL MY SINS AND FOR LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN. O GOD, BE MERCIFUL TO ME, A SINNER. O GOD, CLEANSE ME OF MY SINS AND HAVE MERCY ON ME. O LORD, FORGIVE ME FOR I HAVE SINNED WITHOUT NUMBER.**

# Prayer for Vocations

**O GOD, GREAT IN MIGHT AND INSCRUTABLE IN WISDOM, MARVELOUS IN COUNSEL ABOVE THE SONS OF MEN, FATHER OF ALL PERFECT GIFTS: YOU THE SAME LORD, ENLIGHTEN WITH YOUR HOLY SPIRIT THE HEARTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND CALL THEM TO FOLLOW YOUR ONLY BEGOTTEN SON AND OUR SAVIOUR, JESUS CHRIST, THE GOOD SHEPHERD! GIVE THEM THE COURAGE AND GENEROSITY NECESSARY TO OVERCOME ALL OBSTACLES TO THEIR VOCATION, FOR YOU COMPLETE WHAT IS LACKING! GIVE TO THE PARENTS THAT FAITH, LOVE AND SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE WHICH WILL INSPIRE THEM TO OFFER THEIR CHILDREN TO YOUR SERVICE AND REJOICE WHENEVER ONE OF THEIR CHILDREN IS CALLED TO FOLLOW CHRIST IN A SPECIAL WAY OF PRIESTHOOD OR RELIGIOUS CONSECRATION. WE IMPLORE YOU THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF THE MOST PURE THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY!  
AMEN!**