

Sunday before Christmas Of the Ancestors

December 22, 2024



Coloring Icons



Hebrews 11:9-10 & 17-23 & 32-40

9 BY FAITH HE SOJOURNED IN THE PROMISED LAND AS IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY, DWELLING IN TENTS WITH ISAAC AND JACOB, WHO WERE HEIRS WITH HIM OF THE SAME PROMISE. 10 FOR HE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO A CITY WITH FIRM FOUNDATIONS, WHOSE ARCHITECT AND BUILDER IS GOD. 17 BY FAITH ABRAHAM, WHEN PUT TO THE TEST, OFFERED UP ISAAC. HE WHO HAD RECEIVED THE PROMISES WAS READY TO OFFER UP HIS ONLY SON, 18 OF WHOM HE HAD BEEN TOLD, "THROUGH ISAAC DESCENDANTS SHALL BEAR YOUR NAME." 19 FOR HE REASONED THAT GOD WAS ABLE EVEN TO RAISE SOMEONE FROM THE DEAD, AND IN A SENSE HE WAS GIVEN BACK ISAAC FROM THE DEAD.[B] 20 BY FAITH ISAAC[C] GAVE HIS BLESSINGS TO JACOB AND ESAU FOR THE FUTURE. 21 BY FAITH JACOB,[D] AS HE WAS DYING, BLESSED EACH ONE OF THE SONS OF JOSEPH AND BOWED IN WORSHIP, LEANING ON HIS STAFF.

22 BY FAITH JOSEPH,[E] NEAR THE END OF HIS LIFE, MENTIONED THE EXODUS OF THE ISRAELITES AND GAVE INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT HIS BURIAL.

23 BY FAITH MOSES[F] WAS HIDDEN BY HIS PARENTS FOR THREE MONTHS AFTER HIS BIRTH, BECAUSE THEY SAW THAT HE WAS A BEAUTIFUL CHILD, AND THEY DID NOT FEAR THE KING'S EDICT. 32 THE FAITH OF THE JUDGES AND PROPHETS. WHAT MORE SHALL I SAY? TIME IS TOO SHORT FOR ME TO SPEAK OF GIDEON, BARAK, SAMSON, AND JEPHTHAH, OF DAVID AND SAMUEL AND THE PROPHETS,[I] 33 WHO BY FAITH CONQUERED KINGDOMS, ADMINISTERED JUSTICE, AND OBTAINED THE PROMISES. THEY CLOSED THE MOUTHS OF LIONS,[J] 34 QUENCHED RAGING FIRES,[K] AND ESCAPED THE EDGE OF THE SWORD. THEIR WEAKNESS WAS TURNED INTO STRENGTH AS THEY BECAME MIGHTY IN BATTLE AND PUT FOREIGN ARMIES TO FLIGHT.

35 WOMEN RECEIVED THEIR DEAD[L] BACK THROUGH RESURRECTION. OTHERS WHO WERE TORTURED REFUSED TO ACCEPT RELEASE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A BETTER RESURRECTION. 36 STILL OTHERS WERE MOCKED AND SCOURGED, EVEN TO THE POINT OF ENDURING CHAINS AND IMPRISONMENT.

37 THEY WERE STONED,[M] OR SAWED IN TWO, OR PUT TO DEATH BY THE SWORD. THEY WENT ABOUT IN SKINS OF SHEEP OR GOATS—DESTITUTE, PERSECUTED, AND TORMENTED. 38 THE WORLD WAS NOT WORTHY OF THEM. THEY WANDERED ABOUT IN DESERT AREAS AND ON MOUNTAINS, AND THEY LIVED IN DENS AND CAVES OF THE EARTH.

39 YET ALL THESE, EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE COMMENDED FOR THEIR FAITH, DID NOT RECEIVE WHAT WAS PROMISED. 40 FOR GOD HAD MADE PROVISION FOR US TO HAVE SOMETHING BETTER, AND THEY WERE NOT TO ACHIEVE PERFECTION EXCEPT WITH US.[N]

Matthew 1: 1-25

The Genealogy of Jesus.[b] 1 The account of the genealogy of Jesus Christ,[c] the son of David, the son of Abraham. 2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. 3 Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah, with Tamar[d] being their mother. Perez was the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, 4 Ram the father of Amminadab. Amminadab was the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, 5 Salmon the father of Boaz, with Rahab being his mother. Boaz was the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth. Obed was the father of Jesse, 6 and Jesse was the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been the wife of Uriah. 7 Solomon was the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa. 8 Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, Joram the father of Uzziah. 9 Uzziah was the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. 10 Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amos, Amos the father of Josiah. 11 Josiah was the father of Jechoniah and his brothers at the time of the deportation to Babylon. 12 After the deportation to Babylon, Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, 13 Zerubbabel the father of Abiud. Abiud was the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, 14 Azor the father of Zadok. Zadok was the father of Achim, Achim the father of Eliud, 15 Eliud the father of Eleazar. Eleazar was the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob. 16 Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, who gave birth to Jesus who is called the Christ.[e] 17 Therefore, in total there were fourteen generations from Abraham to David, another fourteen generations from David to the deportation to Babylon, and another fourteen generations from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ. 18 The Birth of Jesus.[f] The birth of Jesus Christ occurred in this way. When his mother Mary was engaged to Joseph, but before they came to live together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. 19 Her husband Joseph was a just man and did not wish to expose her to the ordeal of public disgrace; therefore, he resolved to divorce her quietly. 20 After he had decided to follow this course of action, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to receive Mary into your home as your wife. For this child has been conceived in her womb through the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you shall name him Jesus,[g] for he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All this took place in order to fulfill what the Lord had announced through the prophet: 23 “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” a name that means “God is with us.”[h] 24 When Joseph rose from sleep, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him. He took Mary into his home as his wife, 25 but he engaged in no marital relations[i] with her until she gave birth to a son, whom he named Jesus.

Caught you Listening

- ☪ Three women are listed between Abraham and David. Who are they?
- ☪ Who was David's great-grandson?
- ☪ Who was Solomon's mother?
- ☪ Who is listed as king just before the Babylonian captivity?
- ☪ How many generations from Abraham to David?
- ☪ How many generations from David to Jesus?

Matthew 1: 1-25

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

generations

Rehoboam

fourteen

Ruth

Abraham

Matthan

father

Isaac

Rahab

Jesse

Daivd

Uriah

Zadok

Boaz

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!