



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

THE O ANTIPHONS — THE SEVEN GREAT ANTIPHONS OF ADVENT

Magnificat antiphons of 17-23 December, already commented on in the 9th century

O Wisdom, O Adonai, O Root of Jesse...: the last seven days before Christmas



LATIN

DIE XVII DECEMBRIS

O Sapientia, quae ex ore Altissimi prodiisti,
attingens a fine usque ad finem,
fortiter suaviterque disponens omnia:
veni ad docendum nos viam prudentiae.

DIE XVIII DECEMBRIS

O Adonai, et Dux domus Israel,
qui Moysi in igne flammae rubi apparuisti,
et ei in Sina legem dedisti:
veni ad redimendum nos in brachio extento.

DIE XIX DECEMBRIS

O Radix Iesse, qui stas in signum
populorum,
super quem continebunt reges os suum,
quem gentes deprecabuntur:
veni ad liberandum nos, iam noli tardare.

ENGLISH

17 DECEMBER — O WISDOM

O Wisdom, who camest forth from the
mouth of the Most High,
reaching from end to end,
and ordering all things mightily and sweetly:
come and teach us the way of prudence.

18 DECEMBER — O ADONAI

O Adonai, and Leader of the house of Israel,
who didst appear to Moses in the flame of the
burning bush,
and gavest him the law on Sinai:
come and redeem us with an outstretched
arm.

19 DECEMBER — O ROOT OF JESSE

O Root of Jesse, who standest for an ensign
of the peoples,
before whom kings shall keep silence,
and unto whom the nations shall make
supplication:
come and deliver us, and tarry not.

DIE XX DECEMBRIS

O Clavis David, et sceptrum domus Israel,
qui aperis, et nemo claudit,
claudis, et nemo aperit:
veni, et educ vinctum de domo carceris,
sedentem in tenebris et umbra mortis.

DIE XXI DECEMBRIS

O Oriens, splendor lucis aeternae,
et sol iustitiae:
veni, et illumina sedentes in tenebris et
umbra mortis.

DIE XXII DECEMBRIS

O Rex gentium, et desideratus earum,
lapisque angularis, qui facis utraque unum:
veni, et salva hominem,
quem de limo formasti.

DIE XXIII DECEMBRIS

O Emmanuel, Rex et legifer noster,
expectatio gentium, et Salvator earum:
veni ad salvandum nos, Domine, Deus
noster.

20 DECEMBER — O KEY OF DAVID

O Key of David, and Sceptre of the house of
Israel,
who openest, and no man shutteth,
who shuttest, and no man openeth:
come and bring forth the captive from the
prison house,
who sitteth in darkness and in the shadow of
death.

21 DECEMBER — O DAYSPRING

O Dayspring, brightness of the light eternal,
and Sun of justice:
come and enlighten them that sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death.

22 DECEMBER — O KING OF THE
NATIONS

O King of the nations, and their Desired,
the cornerstone, who makest both one:
come and save man,
whom thou didst form out of clay.

23 DECEMBER — O EMMANUEL

O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver,
the Expectation of the nations and their
Saviour:
come to save us, O Lord our God.

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