



16 DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS NOVENA

INTRODUCTION: Dear Friends, today we begin the Novena in preparation for Christmas. Advent invites us to reflect not only on the birth of Jesus more than 2000 years ago, but more importantly, on his coming here and now, into our daily lives. May our advent journey help us live our discipleship more profoundly.

SCRIPTURE: **John 1: 1-9** (*The Word became flesh*)

REFLECTION: Those who confess sins are reassured that God will forgive, and remove that sin's impact on fellowship. Note that even though this passage is written to believers, John states that those who confess sins are both forgiven and cleansed. Though believers are forgiven at the point of salvation, there is also an ongoing sense in which believers need to confess sin and experience forgiveness and cleansing.

INTERCESSIONS: Jesus Christ is the joy and happiness of all who look forward to his coming. Let us call upon him and say:

RESPONSE: **Come Lord and do not delay!**

In joy, we wait for your coming, come bring us the fullness of joy and peace the world longs for. **R/-**

Before time began, you shared life with the Father, come now and share the light and life you came to give us. **R/-**

You created the world and all who live in it, come to redeem the work of your hands. **R/-**

You did not hesitate to become one with us and be subject to death, come to free us from the clutches of death. **R/-**

You desire that all people live in love in your kingdom. Come to establish unity and love among people of all races and nations. **R/-**

CONCLUDING PRAYER: Hasten, we beseech You, O Lord; do not delay; grant us the help of supernatural virtue, so that Your coming will be a consolation to those who hope in Your mercy. You who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

CONCLUDING HYMN: (Optional)



