



24 DECEMBER CHRISTMAS NOVENA

INTRODUCTION: Dear friends, on this last day of the Novena in preparation for Christmas, we turn our gaze of faith towards Bethlehem with the entire Church. May the song of angels enchant our hearts again and draw us to Christ Child, our Emmanuel.

SCRIPTURE: **Luke 2: 1-8** (*Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.*)

REFLECTION: Regardless of what your opinion is, you have to say that this humble birth and the gaudiness of 21st century Christmas don't go together. Most folks today don't even think about Jesus Christ at Christmas. Most are more concerned with Black Friday and getting just the right gift. Most are concerned with wrapping paper and price tags. My challenge for us this year is to remember what we're doing when we celebrate Christmas. We are celebrating the birth of King Jesus, the One who would give us the greatest gift which is the gift of salvation.

RESPONSE: **Come Lord Jesus; come as the desire of our hearts!**

Let us love the church which continues to proclaim to all ages the reality of your coming. **R/-**

May all of us who are called to be Christians, be known by our love and service to each other.
R/-

May your coming into our lives bring us new vigour and vitality to our faith and our ministry towards the needy of our world. **R/-**

Prince of peace, may your birth bring harmony and lasting peace to all the troubled and conflicting Nations. **R/-**

Lord, your birth brings eternal life within our reach; may our departed loved ones enjoy eternal peace in you. **R/-**

CONCLUDING PRAYER: Come Jesus our Saviour, come and dwell among us, clothed in a robe of flesh, give us love, wisdom and understanding at your birth. Reveal to us the mystery of your life, and then send us forth to reveal your Word to the furthest ends of the earth. You who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

CONCLUDING HYMN: 288-Joyful Celebration (Optional)

