



21 DECEMBER CHRISTMAS NOVENA

INTRODUCTION: Dear friends, on this sixth day of the Novena in preparation for Christmas, we reflect on the royal descent of Jesus as the Son of King David.

SCRIPTURE: Acts 13: 22-25 (*Jesus Son of David*)

REFLECTION: God promised David, that his throne would be established forever. This made the people long for David's greater son - the one who would rule forever. The gospels record Jesus been called the, "Son of David." Repeatedly and Jesus never denied that he was the Son of David. In fact, on Palm Sunday he received the praise and worship of the people. The Son of David was, therefore, a messianic title. Jesus called this to the attention of the religious rulers but they never recognised the promised Messiah in Jesus. Who is Jesus to us now?

O ADVENT ANTIPHONS: O Key of David, and Sceptre of the House of Israel, who opens and no man shuts, who shuts and no man opens: Come and bring forth the captive from his prison, he who sits in darkness and in the shadow of death. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS: RESPONSE: Come Lord, do not delay!

David was considered the least of his family, but God, examined the heart and recognised him as a man of integrity; let us set our hearts on the Lord as we await his coming. **R/-**

Lord Jesus, Son of God and Son of David, you come to us born as man; may the welcome we give you make us children of God. **R/-**

Lord God, you made us and sustain us with your love; help us to recognise and receive Jesus your incarnate Son amidst us. **R/-**

May the birth of the prince of peace move the hearts of all who govern and rule towards deep and lasting peace. **R/-**

Lord you entered our world and shared our human condition; bring health to the sick and give the dying a share in your glory. **R/-**

CONCLUDING PRAYER: God almighty, we thank you for our heritage, for our family history and the gift of faith pass down to us. Make us faithful and loyal to the teachings of the Church. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. AMEN

CLOSING HYMN: Optional

