

# Advent -- ChristMass Reading Plan

"MARY TREASURED THESE THINGS AND PONDERED THEM IN HER HEART"

**GOD, THE INSPIRER AND AUTHOR OF THE BOOKS OF BOTH TESTAMENTS, IN HIS WISDOM HAS SO BROUGHT IT ABOUT THAT THE NEW SHOULD BE HIDDEN IN THE OLD AND THAT THE OLD SHOULD BE MADE MANIFEST IN THE NEW. FOR, ALTHOUGH CHRIST FOUNDED THE NEW COVENANT IN HIS BLOOD [c. LK 22:20; 1 COR 11:25], STILL THE BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, ALL OF THEM CAUGHT UP IN THE GOSPEL MESSAGE, ATTAIN AND SHOW FORTH THEIR FULL MEANING IN THE NEW TESTAMENT [MT 5:17; LK 24:27; ROM 16:25—6; 2 COR 3:14—16] AND IN THEIR TURN, SHED LIGHT ON IT AND EXPLAIN IT [DEI VERBUM #16].**

Attempt in your reading and prayer to perceive and understand the intimate and organic relationship between the elements of Divine Revelation, especially between Testaments Old and New as described above.

**READ... REFLECT... RESPOND... RECEIVE... RESOLVE!**

If this reading can be done with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, so much the better.

## 1. "IN THE BEGINNING" ... "FROM ALL ETERNITY"

**JOHN'S PROLOGUE: DIVINITY & HUMANITY OF THE WORD JN 1:10—18 [1]**

### **BIBLE: OT**

PROV 8:22—36 "Yahweh begot me, the firstborn of His ways..."  
WIS 7:22b—8:1 "...an aura of the Might of God and a pure effusion of the Glory..."  
WIS 9:9—18 "Now with you is Wisdom, who knows your works and was present..."  
PS 2: "Yahweh said to Me, 'Your are My Son, this day I have begotten You..."  
PS 110 "Yahweh said to my Lord, "Sit at My Right Hand..."

### **CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH [hereafter CCC]**

290 "...the verb "create" – Hebrew, *bara* – always has God as its Subject"  
291 "God created everything by the Eternal Word..." ["create/bara" in 290]  
234 "The Mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central Mystery of Christian Faith..."  
1997 Grace is a participation in the Life of God

**426 "At the Heart of Catechesis we find, in essence, a Person...Jesus"**

## 2. INFANCY NARRATIVES I: 6 BC

**LUKE'S PROLOGUE LK 1:1—4 [1]**

**ANNUNCIATION TO ZECHARIAH LK 1:5—25 [2]**

**ANNUNCIATION TO MARY LK 1:26—38 [3]**

**VISITATION LK 1:39—56 [4]**

**BIRTH OF THE BAPTIST & BENEDICTUS LK 1:57—80 [5]**

### **BIBLE: OT**

GEN 3:15 "I will put enmity between you and the serpent..."  
DAN 9:20—27 "Gabriel, the one whom I had seen before in vision came to me..."  
SIR 24:1—21 "From Eternity, in the beginning He [begot] me...and for Eternity..."  
ZECH 9:9—15 "Rejoice heartily O daughter Zion. Shout for joy, O Daughter..."  
ZEPH 3:14—17 "Shout for joy O Daughter Zion"

2 SAM 7: 1—17 “Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever...”  
1 SAM 2:1—10 “My heart exults in the Lord, my horn is exalted in my God...”  
IS 7:10—14 “The Virgin shall be with child, and bear a son...”

### CCC

328—333 “Angels... office, not nature...personal and immortal”  
460 “the Son of God became man so that...”  
467—468 “One Person... Two Natures... without confusion, change, division...”  
490—493 “The Immaculate Conception”  
499—500 “Mary Ever Virgin”  
2558 “Prayer... a vital and personal relationship with the Living and True God”

## 3. INFANCY NARRATIVES II: 6 BC

GENEALOGIES MT 1:2—17... LK 3:23—38... [6]

ANNUNCIATION TO JOSEPH MT 1:18—25 [7]

NATIVITY LK 2:1—8 [7]

THE SHEPHERDS LK 2:8—20 [8]

### BIBLE: OT

JER 1:4—10 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you...”  
MICAH 5:1—4 “From you shall come forth for me One Who is to be Ruler of Israel...”  
WIS 7:4—6 “In swaddling clothes and with constant care I was nurtured...”  
IS 1:3 “An ox knows its owner, and an ass its master’s manger; But Israel...”  
IS 9:5—6 “For a child is born for us, a son is given us; upon His shoulder...”  
IS 11:1—2 “A **shoot** shall sprout from the stump of Jesse...”  
IS 49:1—7 “From my mother’s womb He gave Me My Name...”

### CCC

430—36 The Holy Name of Jesus  
494/5 Theotokos  
525 Jesus was born in a stable  
526 To become a child of God is a condition for entry into His Kingdom

## 4. INFANCY NARRATIVES III: 6 BC

CIRCUMCISION LK 2:21 [9]

PRESENTATION LK 2:22—40 [9]

WISE MEN AND HEROD MT 2:1—23 [8,10,11]

FINDING IN THE TEMPLE LK 2:41—52 [12]

### BIBLE: OT

NUM: 24:15—19 “A star shall advance from Jacob, and a staff shall arise from Israel”  
PS 72 “The Kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute...”  
IS 11:1—2 “A **shoot** shall sprout from the stump of Jesse...”  
IS 42:6—7 “A Light for the nations...”  
IS 49:6 “It is too little for you to be My Servant... I shall make you...”  
IS 60:1—7 “All from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense...”  
HOS 11:1—4 “Out of Egypt I have called My Son...”  
JER 31:15 “In Ramah is heard the sound of moaning...”  
JER 23:5—6 “I will raise up a righteous shoot to David...”  
JER 33:14—17 “I will raise up for David a just **Shoot**; He shall do what is right...”

### CCC

527—534 Circumcision, Epiphany, Presentation, Flight, Jesus’ obedience, Hidden Life  
534 The Finding in the Temple  
964 The Blessed Virgin progressed in her pilgrimage of faith  
471—475 Jesus’ Knowledge and Consciousness  
478 Jesus knew each of us individually and personally us during His Life on earth