

PRAYERS FOR CHRISTMAS



Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea, during the time when Herod was king. Soon afterward, some men who studied the stars came from the East to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the baby born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star when it came up in the east, and we have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:1-2

A Jesuit Refugee Service Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
your heart was moved with love for those in need.
You healed the sick, you fed the hungry,
you forgave sinners, you cried over Jerusalem.
Above all, you showed the pathway to true life,
for you are the Way the Truth and the Life.

Open my heart this Christmas season. Help me find
practical ways to build your Kingdom of justice, peace
and love here on earth. Amen.

From JesuitPrayer.org



Nativity Prayer

O Lord, you have come to us as a small child,
but you have brought us the greatest of all gifts,
the gift of eternal love. Caress us with your tiny hands,
embrace us with your tiny arms,
and pierce our hearts with your soft, sweet cries.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux



Prayer from the Orthodox Church Liturgy

What shall we present to you, O Christ,
for your coming to earth for us?
Each of your creatures brings you a thank-offering:
the angels - singing;
the heavens - a star;
the wise men - treasures;
the shepherds - devotion;
the earth - a cave;
the desert - a manger:
but we offer you the virgin-mother.
O eternal God, have mercy upon us.

Adapted by the Jesuit Institute of London

