

# Food Drive to Benefit the Catholic Neighborhood Center

The Society of St. Joseph is asking for your help during its annual food drive to benefit the Catholic Neighborhood Center on 18th street.

you could bring your donations to the church or parish office by Dec. 18.

Last year's drive netted more than 20 boxes of canned-goods. Food supplies at the Center are ex-

tremely low especially with the upcoming holiday season. We will only ask you to fill one bag with canned or boxed goods, but extra donations are always welcome.

So the next time you are at the store, fill up an extra bag and return it to the church by Dec. 18. And thank you in advance for helping us out in this important ministry.

**Thank You**  
A big thank you to everyone who helped make the Christmas Concerts last weekend a huge success. An even bigger thank you to Debora Fahey for sorting all of our Angel Tree gifts (an arduous task). She and Don also helped to load all of the gifts with the help of our dear friends at the Altmeyer Funeral Home. Thanks to all of our parishioners for supporting the Angel Tree program again this year.

I would like to take the opportunity to wish my dearest Gia a happy 9th birthday today! I am most certainly biased, but she is one of the two most precious people in the world. Please stop today to offer a prayer for her, and to wish her a most happy birthday!  
—Love Daddy

Mark Your Calendars  
SANTAtizing the Cathedral  
**December 18**  
**12:00 NOON**  
Fellowship  
Music  
Food  
Decorating the Cathedral  
A great time for all.



**Parish Office:** 1218 Eoff Street, Wheeling, WV 26003; (304) 233-4121  
www.SaintJosephCathedral.com  
Like us on Facebook!

**Parish Staff:**  
Most Rev. Michael J. Bransfield, Pastor  
Rev. Monsignor Kevin M. Quirk, J.C.D., Rector (304) 281-7073 (kquirk@dwc.org)  
Ms. Debora Valorie Fahey, Parish Assistant for Pastoral Ministries (dfahey@dwc.org)

**Sunday Masses:** 6:00 p.m. Saturday; 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

**Weekday Mass:** 12:05 p.m. Monday through Friday; 9:00 a.m. Saturday.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** 11:15-11:50 a.m. Friday; 5-5:45 p.m. Saturday.

**Sacrament of the Sick and Communion to Homebound:** Call the parish office anytime to make arrangements.

Sister Mary Bowman, SFCC, Pastoral Associate for Ministry to the Sick  
Dr. Michael Match, Director of Music (mmatch@dwc.org)  
Mr. Tyler J. Greenwood, Associate Organist (tgreenwood@dwc.org)  
Mr. Martin Imbroscio, Sacristan  
Mr. Alex Nagem, CPA, CGMA, Comptroller (anagem@dwc.org)  
Mr. Donald Gruber, Custodian

# Il Corriere del Duomo

Weekly Journal for the Cathedral of St. Joseph

## The "O" Antiphons

On Saturday of this week (Dec. 17), the Church begins a series of seven short verses sung before the Magnificat during Evening Prayer of the Church on the seven days before the vigil of Christmas. They each begin with the exclamation "O" and are called the "O Antiphons."

The antiphons were composed in the seventh or eighth century when monks put together texts from the Old Testament which looked forward to the coming of our salvation. The first letter of the Messianic titles: Emmanuel, Rex, Oriens, Clavis, Radix, Adonai, Sapientia—all spell out Latin words ERO CRAS, meaning, "Tomorrow, I will come."

Why not join with the Prayer of the Church each evening and reflect on these words preparing for Christmas day by day:

### Saturday-O Wisdom

O Wisdom, who came from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from end to end and ordering all things mightily and sweetly:

come, and teach us the way of prudence.

### Sunday-O Sacred Lord

O Lord and Ruler the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in

O Root of Jesse, that stands for an ensign of the people, before whom the kings keep silence and unto whom the Gentiles shall make supplication: come, to deliver us, and tarry not.

### Tuesday-O Key of David

O Key of David, and scepter of the house of Israel, who opens and no man shuts, who shuts and no man opens: come, and lead forth the captive who sits in the shadows from his prison.

### Wednesday-O Radiant Dawn

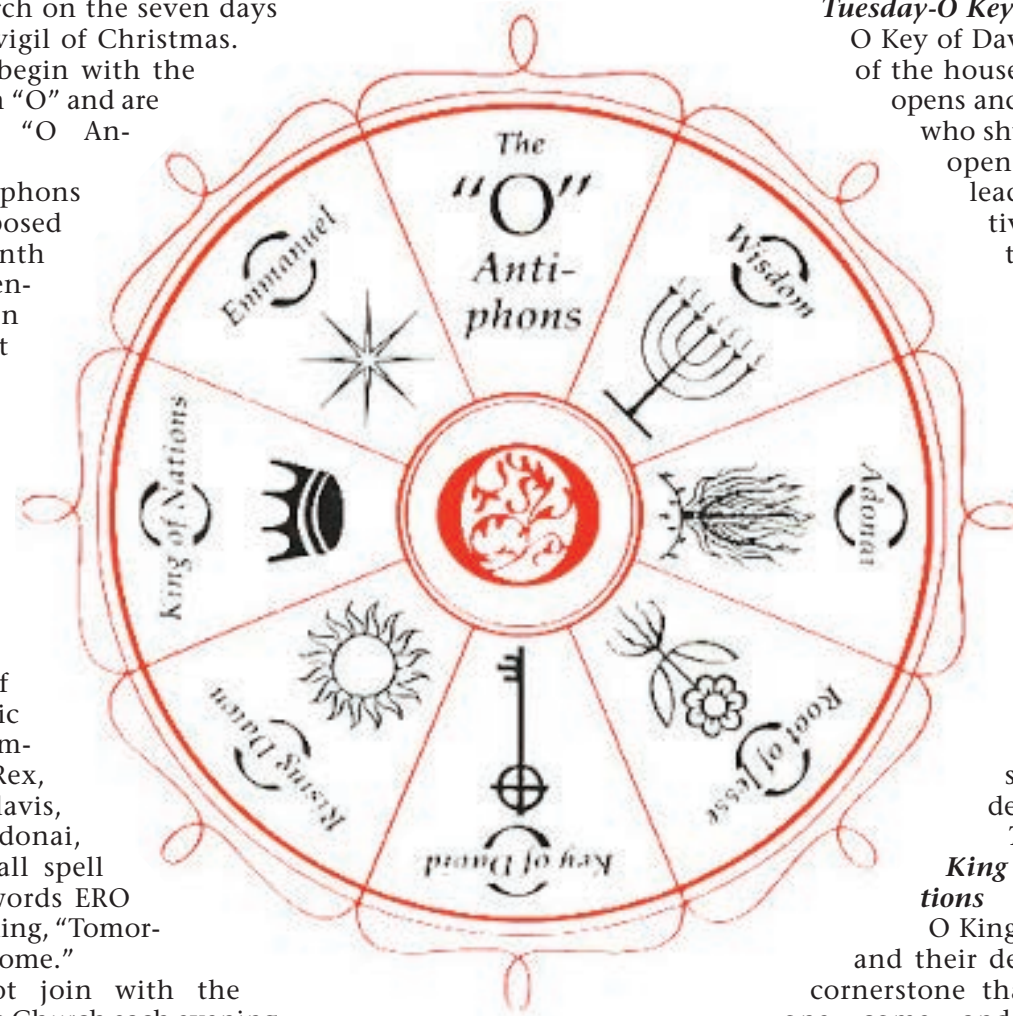
O dawn of the east, brightness of light eternal, and sun of justice: come, and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

### Thursday-O King of All the Nations

O King of the gentiles and their desired One, the cornerstone that makes both one: come, and deliver man, whom you formed out of the dust of the earth.

### Friday-O Emmanuel

O Emmanuel, God with us, our King and lawgiver, the expected of the nations and their Savior: come to save us, O Lord our God.



the flame of the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai: come, and redeem us with outstretched arms.

**Monday-O Flower of Jesse's Stem**

## Christian Awareness

By Alex J. Nagem

There were seven roads that split from the single path that lay before the traveler. They resemble a seven branched Menorah. Each branch invites curiosity and decision. One is lined with trees so thick sunlight could barely find a way through the leaves and branches. A cool breeze brings an invitation to shade from the heat of the day. The second rises to the heavens. The peak is hidden by the clouds. The excitement of what lays beyond teases the mind. The third, a winding, tree lined path with briars edging the sides. The songs of nesting birds provide entertainment for this chosen way. A mind would be tranquil following this path. The fourth takes one down a hill toward a stream shaded by trees and spotted with wild flowers. The sound of flowing water and the scent of flowers give birth to serene contemplation. The fifth follows the sunset, an easy road to travel without hills and turns. The distant end is only a black dot to the eye. What awaits one at this road's end? The sixth is rocky and uneven which veins the mountain side. This road provides a bird's view of the valley below. The seventh is a path of dirt into the forest of trees. Signs of direction are not clear for few have made this one of choice. What would one find with each path chosen? Is the decision for one of wealth, excitement or peace of

mind? Does a path of beauty or one that feeds imagination help you decide? Would your path be straight or one of uneven and rocky ground? What if the wrong decision is made? Could you turn from the chosen path with consequence or hope for relief at the next turn or crest? Would you ask God for direction before you begin or after discouragement and fear set in? Would you consider the path chosen to be one of God's plan or your free-will? Alas, the decisions for our daily journey.

The more I read about Catholicism and Christianity the more I see the relationship with God and one another. We are to love our neighbor as ourselves (Mark 12:31). We are to be humble, gentle and patient with one another (Ephesians 4:2). We are to trust in God and not lean on our own understanding. We are to acknowledge Him, and He will provide the path to follow (Proverbs 3:5-6). A few chosen verses to give birth to thought as we look upon our own paths chosen. We may try to be the symbol of a Christian life and then we encounter a rocky path in our life. How do we react? Do we look up to the sky and yell, "Why me Lord?" If you have, you are heading in the right direction calling out to God. Though a tranquil path in life as one we wish to take, we are not guaranteed an easy journey or a good life. I believe in Heaven, and yes, Deacon Doug Breiding, I believe in Purgatory. (That is a story for another day.) I

## God's Path

have hope for an eternity with God with the path I walk in life. The Christian life we see each day provides shadows of what will come with a perfect eternity. Pretty optimistic, don't you think? The path chosen is one that should follow the footsteps of Jesus Christ as our Savior and Shepherd. His path was one of teaching, example, and pain, before He returned to the Father. Why should our path be any different? If Jesus walked the earth today, do you think he would live in a large home, drive an expensive car, and vacation in resorts two or three times a year? "For we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction." (1Timothy 6:7-10)

Our path may lead us into the chaos of others. Each day will be one of dealing with the sick, homeless, hungry and lonely. The path may lead to a life of business and finance, or husband and wife, a father and mother. In all we look for fairness, righteousness, and comfort of body and mind. There are those who have encountered adversity that could not be overcome. They become bitter and cold toward others and God. They feel and say God has forgotten them. James 1:12 reminds us that if we remain steadfast in

our love for God under trials, we will receive the rewards promised by Christ. With all, we need a strong faith in the words of Christ. Each second of life is a gift, as I was reminded by a dear friend who enjoyed the scent of my cologne. The seconds we have were never promised to be easy. We are told to be humble toward one another in 1Peter 5. We are to cast all anxieties on God because he cares for us. Evil and temptations are alive to lead us away from the teachings of Christ. We are, again, reminded that after we have suffered a while we will be called to the eternal glory in Christ. We will be restored, confirmed strengthened in the Light of Christ. It begins with faith, at least for me. For those who are harsh toward life, for those who have given up, and for those who hold out a hand to provide comfort to all, we pray for the blessings of God to be upon them. As for the path we choose and adversity we may encounter, what awaits us at the end of our journey is an existence that has been taught by theologians, envisioned by dreamers, and placed in lyrics by poets.

"Aim at Heaven and you will get earth thrown in. Aim at earth and you get neither." C.S. Lewis

You are remembered in my daily prayers and as you approach the altar to receive Christ in the Eucharist. I hope to be remembered in yours.

*"Vocatus Atque non Vocatus, Deus Aderit"*  
Alex J. Nagem

December 11, 2016

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The Cathedral Courier 3

## Mass Intentions and Readings

### Sunday—December 11th—THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sat 6:00p Mass for Chris Miller  
8:00a Mass for Mary Bartolovich  
9:15a 1st Communion and Confirmation Classes Cathedral Offices  
9:15a RCIA (Rector)  
10:30a Mass for the Parishioners  
RDGS: Is 35:1-6a, 10 Ps 146:6-10 Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11

### Monday—December 12th—Our Lady of Guadalupe

12:05p Mass for Bartholomew Purpura  
RDGS: Zec 2:14-17 JDT 13:18bcde, 19 Lk1:26-38  
Today's feast recalls the apparitions of Mary at the hill of Tepeyac to St. Juan Diego; known to the Aztecs as Tecolaxope, meaning "she will crush the serpent of stone"; declared patroness of Americas by Pope Pius XII and raised to the rank of a feast for all the countries of the Americas by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 25 March 1999.

### Tuesday—December 13th—Saint Lucy

12:05p Mass for Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery  
RDGS: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23 Mt 21:28-32

Lucy, died in 304 under Diocletian; because of her name, she is the patroness of those afflicted with diseases of the eye and associated with festivals of light, especially in Scandinavia; mentioned in the Roman Canon; patroness of Syracuse and all Sicily.

### Wednesday—December 14th—Saint John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor of the Church

12:05p Mass for Dr. Adiel Anghie  
RDGS: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25 Ps 85:9-14 Lk 7:18b-23  
6:30p Choir Rehearsal

John of the Cross, died 1591; born in Fontiveros, Spain c. 1542; mystic and poet; ally of Teresa of Jesus of Avilain founding the reformed Carmelite friars; suffered cruel imprisonment and privations by the unreformed Carmelites of the Observance; authored the Ascent of Mount Carmel, The Dark Night of the Soul, The Spiritual Canticle, and The Living Flame of Love; known as the "Mystical Doctor"; Discalced Carmelites today number around 4,000 religious.

### Thursday—December 15th—Advent Weekday

12:05p Mass for Patrick Davis  
RDGS: Is 54:1-10 Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12a, 13b Lk 7:24-30

### Friday—December 16th—Advent Weekday

11:15a Confession  
12:05p Mass for Ron Radcliffe  
RDGS: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 Jn 5:33-36

### Saturday—December 17th—Advent Weekday—"O Wisdom"

9:00a Mass for The Moran Family  
Rosary  
5:00p Confessions  
6:00p Mass for Catherine Bauer  
RDGS: Gn 49:2, 8-10 Ps 72:1-4b, 7-8, 17 Mt 1:1-17

### Sunday—December 18th—FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—"O Sacred Lord"

8:00a Mass for Helen Pasden  
9:15a 1st Communion and Confirmation Classes Cathedral Offices  
9:15a RCIA (Rector)  
10:30a Mass for the Parishioners  
RDGS: Is 35:1-6a, 10 Ps 146:6-10 Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11

**12:00p Christmas Decorating!!!**

## Sign Up Now!

Sign ups are in the back of church for various ministries during the Christmas Masses! Don't forget to sign up before its filled!

## Holiday Schedule

Dec 24  
6:00p Vigil Mass  
Dec 25  
12:00a Midnight Mass  
10:30a Christmas Day Mass  
Dec 31  
6:00p  
Jan 1  
8:00 a  
10:30a

