

O Antiphons!

Time to change our focus a bit, in preparation for Christmas Day!

After the 3rd Sunday of Advent, we change our focus from the **“Second Coming”** of Jesus into the world in the future to His **“First Coming”** — on Christmas Day as a baby in a stable long ago. Of course, the Blessed Virgin Mary was carrying Him around in her womb for 9 months before He was born, and some people already recognized Him then! Do you know who those people were? _____

With the beginning of the **“O Antiphons,”** which begin on Dec 17th each year, we really begin to turn our attention to the celebration of Christmas by contemplating the wonder of His Birth through the eyes of those who had been waiting all those years for the Messiah God had promised to send.

To get you ready for Dec 17, when we’ll begin the “O Antiphons,” try to **FIND** all the words in the **WORD SEARCH** below!

N	A	H	O	D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R	S	X	O
M	N	D	H	K	X	H	T	T	Y	M	D	R	K	B
H	A	F	V	T	E	Z	A	S	M	R	H	I	P	O
A	Q	G	W	E	H	Y	E	I	O	Q	N	W	R	R
I	B	N	N	R	N	H	O	L	S	G	T	K	O	A
A	M	K	P	I	P	T	F	F	O	S	W	R	M	D
S	O	V	C	O	F	O	W	F	D	V	E	C	I	I
I	D	C	R	W	D	I	N	L	E	A	H	M	S	A
H	S	P	N	R	X	A	C	S	R	T	V	M	E	N
D	I	L	O	E	T	L	P	A	N	B	C	I	T	T
N	W	L	R	I	V	E	P	X	T	K	B	M	D	D
T	O	Z	O	J	R	E	D	W	W	F	K	F	F	A
R	M	N	K	S	D	J	S	R	E	Y	A	R	P	W
T	S	Q	V	L	E	U	N	A	M	M	E	O	R	N
M	O	F	L	O	W	E	R	O	F	J	E	S	S	E

WORDS & PHRASES TO FIND

Advent	Magnificat	O Flower of Jesse	O Radiant Dawn	Prayers	Seven
December	Messiah	O Key of David	O Wisdom	Promise	Vespers
Isaiah	O Emmanuel	O Lord of Lords	O King of Nations	Prophecy	

ELIJAH in Salvation History



Elijah was a great prophet during a time when many people were worshipping false gods. The people simply did not have faith that the One True God would fulfill His promises to their ancestors and continue



to care for them. However, Elijah trusted God, so God sent him as a messenger and used him to perform many miracles.

READ about Elijah in **1 Kings chapters 17 and 18.**

God has done many wonderful things to take care of you, too. But sometimes we start thinking of the things we wish we had, instead of being grateful for what we have been given! It is especially difficult to be thankful when there are lots of bad things around us; it was the same during Elijah's time, when a long famine struck. Everyone was hungry, and many people thought they would die!

We should always be grateful and thank the people who help us to live and become holy. This pleases God very much. It is especially important during Christmas time that we tell God how thankful we are for what we have, instead of telling Him we'll only be thankful if we get certain Christmas presents!

WRITE down some things that you are **thankful for**—then thank the person who made it possible!

This Advent, I am especially thankful to God for:

I am thankful to my parents for:

I am thankful to my friends and siblings for:



READ the **Picture Bible** pages 384–409.

Elijah saw God perform many miracles to try to teach the people not to worship false gods, but instead to worship the One True God! God did many magnificent miracles to show them His Power. One time, God told Elijah to go to Mount Horeb and wait inside a cave. God said He would pass by the entrance of the cave, and when Elijah heard Him pass by, he was to go outside the cave to speak with God.

Help Elijah know when he should leave the cave.

Outside the cave, Elijah heard a strong wind, an earthquake, a fire, and a small voice. Which one signals that God is passing by?

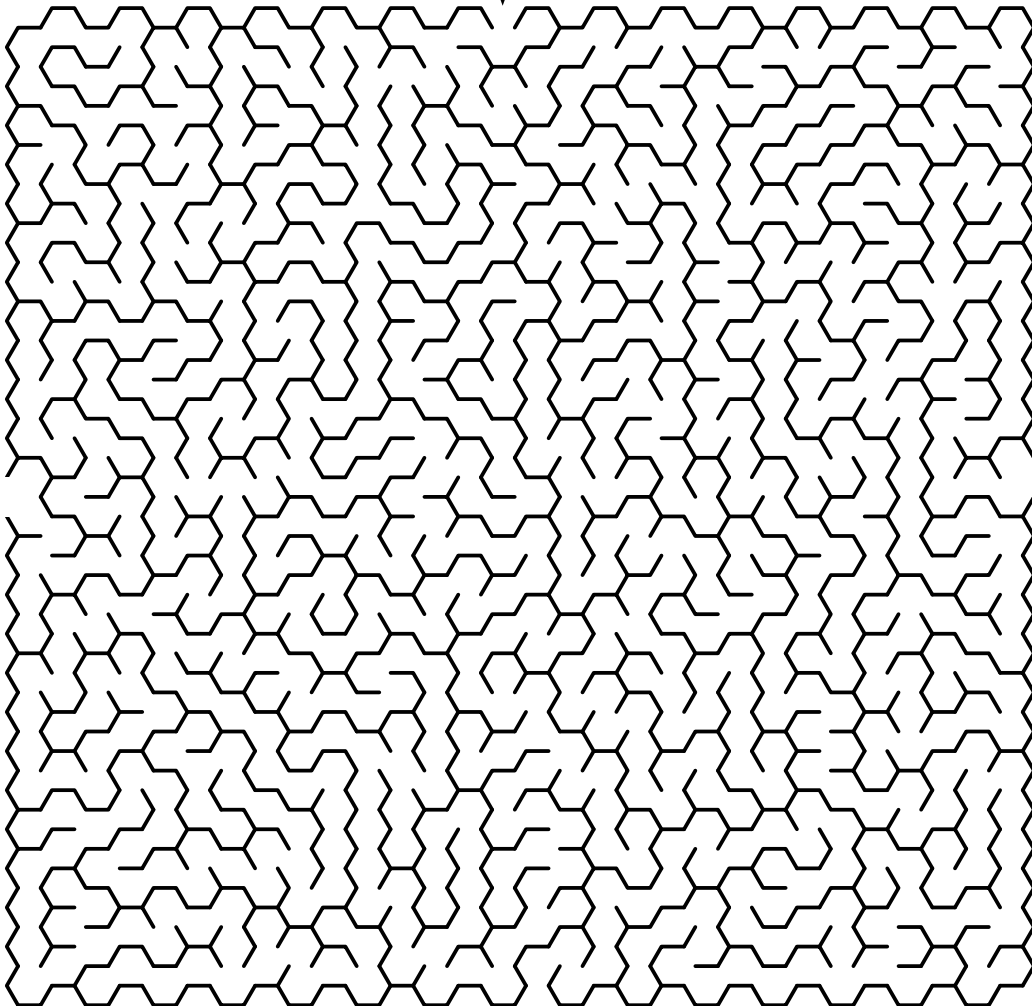
The **ANSWER** to the maze will tell you!

Elijah



**Strong
Wind**

Fire



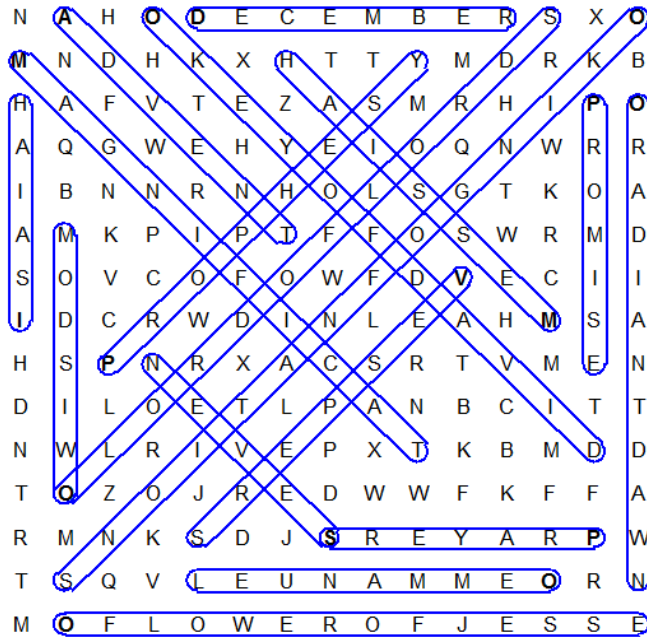
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Small Voice

TUESDAY / December 16 – ANSWER KEY

O Antiphons

Who recognized Jesus before He was born: John the Baptist (in his mother's womb), Elizabeth, and Saint Joseph



Elijah maze

