



The Proclaimer

Knights of Columbus Saints Peter & Paul Council #11337



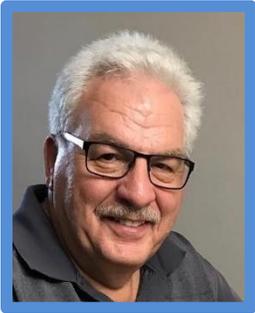
DECEMBER 2020

*May the guiding light of Christmas
shine on you throughout the year*



Have a Blessed Christmas





Grand Knight's Message:

Dear Brother Knights:

As the lockdown continues, I pray and hope that you and your families are doing well and have not been affected by COVID 19.

As more regions are going into lock down and the numbers of positive tests keep setting new records almost daily, it doesn't look promising that the restrictions that the province has put in place, will be removed on December 21st, but let us pray that the Churches will be allowed to go back to where we were before the lockdown, so that we can Celebrate the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This year Christmas will certainly be different as we can only celebrate with members of our immediate household but thank God for technology, we will be able to spend time with our loved ones even if only virtually.

I know Reverend Father Mario and his team are working hard in planning for both scenarios if the Church is open or closed, keep checking on the <https://linktr.ee/peterpaulchurch> website or the Church's Facebook page for updates.

As I close my final message for 2020, my family and I would like to wish all of you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Health New Year.

If you are aware of any Brother who is sick or in need of help, please let me know as soon as possible.

Thank You and God Bless

SK Fernando Greco
Grand Knight



Financial Secretary's Report:

Hi Brothers:

Some Catholic Advent and Christmas Customs

Advent wreath: The Advent wreath, which has German origins, is probably the most recognized Advent custom. It is a wreath made of evergreens that is bound to a circle of wire. It symbolizes the many years from Adam to Christ in which the world awaited its Redeemer; it also represents the years that we have awaited His second and final coming. The wreath holds four equally spaced candles, the three purple ones lit on the penitential Sundays and a pink one for Gaudete, the joyful third Sunday in Advent. There are many available prayers and hymns found in the reading list that can accompany your personal Advent wreath ceremony.

The empty manger: Each child may have his own individual manger, or there may be one manger for the whole family. The idea is that when acts of service, sacrifice, or kindness are done in honor of Baby Jesus as a birthday present, the child receives a piece of straw to put into the manger. Then, on Christmas morning, Baby Jesus is placed in the manger. Encourage your children to make Jesus' bed as comfortable as possible through their good deeds. In the process, explain Christ's incomparable self-gift at Christmas and Easter that enables us to be part of God's family.

The Jesse tree: The Jesse tree tells about Christ's ancestry through symbols and relates Scripture to salvation history, progressing from creation to the birth of Christ. The tree can be made on a poster board with the symbols glued on, or on an actual tree. The Jesse tree reminds us of Jesus' Davidic ancestry (cf. Mt. 1:1).

St. Nicholas Day: The feast of St. Nicholas is on Dec. 6th. It is a highlight of the Advent season. Each child puts out a shoe the night before St. Nicholas Day in the hope that the kind bishop with his miter, staff, and bag of gifts will pay a visit. The current Santa Claus is modeled after St. Nicholas, but commercialism has tarnished the true story. Many families give gifts on both Dec. 6 and Christmas. Read about St. Nicholas in your favorite saints' book.

The Christ candle: Any large white candle can be used for the Christ candle. The idea is to decorate it with symbols for Christ. Use old Christmas cards, sequins, holly, etc. The candle can be lit on Christmas Eve to show that the Light of the World has arrived. Then continue to light the Christ candle throughout the year at Sunday dinner to remind your family of our waiting for Christ, as well as celebrating His birth and Resurrection.

The Mary candle: Some families have the custom of decorating the Christ candle with a blue veil on December 8th, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. On this great feast, others place a candle with a blue ribbon before a statue or picture of the Blessed Virgin, whose yes to God enabled our Lord's coming at Christmas. The candle is lit during mealtimes to serve as a delightful reminder of Mary's eager expectation of the Light of the World. It can also serve as a reminder to each family member to keep their own light of grace burning as a preparation for Christ's coming.

St. Lucy cakes: The feast of St. Lucy, virgin and martyr, is on December 13th. This marks the opening of the Christmas season in Sweden. Her life story can be found in most saints' books,

as can the recipe for the traditional cakes. The symbolism is rich and her life story worthwhile reading.

The Nativity scene: This is the event in which the entire family shares setting up the Christmas manger. Mary and Joseph should be far off traveling and their approach to Bethlehem can be adjusted daily. Older children can make life-size Nativity models, carve them, cut them out from cardboard, or set up pre-made figurines. The creative ideas are without limit. Make sure to place the Nativity scene where many can admire the children's efforts to give God glory.

Christmas baking: There are many recipe books available to find great traditional Christmas baking ideas. (See recommended reading below.) The baking usually starts around December 20th. As Christmas approaches, the house will smell of baking and fresh wreaths. The glory of Christmas is at hand! Move the manger to a focal point, add lights to the Nativity to be lighted on Christmas Eve, and anticipate together.

Blessing of the tree: More and more frequently families are blessing their Christmas trees. It is good to remind children that the tree relates to many aspects of our faith. For example, we are reminded that our first parents were not allowed to eat from one tree, and that Christ paid the great price for our redemption by hanging on a tree (cf. Acts 5:29-32).

There are many different stories which attempt to explain why we use a tree at Christmas. For instance, St. Boniface in the eighth century gave the balsam fir tree to the Druids in place of the oak tree, the symbol of their idol. He said, "The fir tree is the wood of peace, the sign of an endless life with its evergreen branches. It points to heaven. It will never shelter deeds of blood, but rather be filled with loving gifts and rites of kindness."

The Jesse tree reminds us of Jesus' Davidic ancestry (cf. Mt. 1:1). For a greater understanding of the relationship between the house of David, Jesus, and the Catholic Church's divine origin, see CUFs FAITH FACT: Rock Solid: The Salvation History of the Catholic Church.

Father, all-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces His glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for His coming.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The funny things children say at Christmas: 'There were sheep, horses and a CROCODILE outside the stable'

A recent survey revealed that one in three young adults had no idea that Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Other religious blank spots included the role of the Archangel Gabriel, with more than a quarter having no idea that Gabriel brought God's message to Mary at her home in Nazareth to say that she would give birth to a son.

So what do Britain's youngsters really know about Christmas? We quizzed four to nine-year-olds at four primary schools in Britain to find out.

What gifts did the three wise men bring?

Rashneet, six, from Broad Oak Primary School, Manchester: "The wise men brought coconut oil which was made of coconut, some sweets and some gold."

Jay, five, from Broomhill Infant School, Bristol: "The three wise men brought Jesus presents of gold, frankincense, smurr (sic) and silver. But I think he would have preferred wrestling toys."

Daniel, seven, from Stanfield Merchant Taylors' Junior School, Merseyside: "I know for his birthday he got money and gold from the wise men but I would have given him a Liverpool kit."

Dominic, six, Merchant Taylors: "I don't know what the three wise men brought Jesus but I would have given him a tin of biscuits. I think Mary, Joseph and Jesus would have all liked a biscuit."

Rebecca, five, Merchant Taylors: "They brought Jesus gold and myrrh but I would have brought him a nice warm blanket."

William, seven, Merchant Taylors: "I don't know what presents the wise men brought Jesus but a Lego set would have been better."

Ellie, five, Broomhill Infants: "The three wise men brought Jesus gold, frankincense and myrrh - no real presents. I feel sorry for him."

Ellie, six, Merchant Taylors: "When he was born three kings brought him gold, coins and a sheep."

What animals were there when baby Jesus was born?

Matthew, six, Merchant Taylors: "There were sheep, horses and a crocodile outside the stable."

Ruby, six, Broomhill Infants: "At his birth there were oxens, a donkey, three camels, three birds - all white - and three cats, all black."

Hannah, seven, Merchant Taylors: "There was a donkey, a sheep and cow there as well as Mary and Joseph. It sounds quite crowded."

Megan, six, Broomhill Infants: "The animals who were there in the stable were oxens, donkey, cats and a lamb."

Valente, six, Merchant Taylors: "There were camels, donkeys and cows around the stable and the wise men went to the manger to say hello to Jesus."

Who was the Angel Gabriel?

Erin, six, Broomhill Infants: "The Angel Gabriel is a big white fairy. He helped Mary and Joseph look after the baby - kind of like a doctor."

Jay, five, Broomhill Infants: "There was also an angel called Gabriel, whose favourite thing was to fly around all day."

Molly, six, Broomhill Infants: "Angel Gabriel was also there and he has yellow wings and a white costume."

Millie, seven, Merchant Taylors: "I don't know who the angel is but I like Jesus."

Katherine, nine, from St James' Church of England Primary School, Weybridge, Surrey: "Gabriel was this herald angel. He was a boy but he's played by a girl in Christmas plays."

Hollie, seven, Broomhill Infants: "The Angel Gabriel is a fairy that God sent to help us."

Who is Jesus?

Jay, five, Broomhill Infants: "Jesus was a king and he wore a crown even though he was a baby. It was a really small crown."

Antonia, seven, Merchant Taylors: "Jesus is Mary and God's little boy."

Molly, six, Broomhill Infants: "Jesus was a newborn king - but there were a lot of newborn kings so he wasn't the only one."

Zoe, six, Merchant Taylors: "Jesus is really old and his birthday was on Christmas 2007 years ago."

Sara, seven, St James' Primary: "Jesus is a mystery man."

Sarves, seven, Broad Oak: "Jesus is the God of the Christians."

Why do we celebrate Christmas?

Ellyshia, nine, St James' Primary: "I am not really a Christian. I believe in unicorns and pixies."

Ben, seven, Broad Oak: "We celebrate Christmas because Santa comes and gives us lots and lots of presents."

Where was Jesus born?

Alexie, five, Broomhill Infants: "Baby Jesus was born in a stable made out of hay with string around it."

Daniel, seven, Merchant Taylors: "He was born in a stable where Mary and Joseph stayed. There were chickens, cows and a donkey. I don't remember any more."

Charlie, four, Broomhill Infants: "He was born in a stable a long way away from here in another country. Bethlehem - it's in England."

Erin, six, Broomhill Infants: "Jesus was born in the stable - it had lots of hairs."

Ellyshia, nine, St James' Primary: "Jesus was born in a barn, a shed or barn anyway. Or it might have been a stable, one of the three."

What did the wise men follow to find the stable where Jesus was born?

Hannah, seven, Merchant Taylors: "They followed a special Christmas star, which is only out around Christmas."

six, Broomhill Infants: "They followed a star to find Jesus, it's a very special star, but I forgot the rest."

Erin, six, Broomhill Infants: "They followed a star. It was really bright like the sun, even at night."

Who are his parents?

Charlie, four, Broomhill Infants: "Jesus's mummy and daddy are called Jovis and Mary."

Ansel, six, Broad Oak: 'Jesus's parents were Gods.'

Archie, seven, St James' Primary: "His parents were Mary and Joseph. That's easy because I was Joseph in the play."

Antonia, seven, Merchant Taylors: "Jesus's mum and dad are Mary and Joseph and they were very happy with the king's gifts."

A Happy and Holy Christmas to all, Brother Mike

SK Michael Bryce



Chancellor's Report

Dear Brother Knights,

Hope you and your families are all keeping well and safe, as the Covid-19 cases keep increasing.

We have a few days to go before the 28 days lock down ends on Dec. 20.

Let us keep praying that the churches will be opened in time for Christmas. The good news is that on December 9th the Pfizer Vaccine for the Covid-19 Virus, was approved for use in Canada. This week Canada will be receiving a small shipment of the vaccine, with a bigger quantity to follow by the end of the month. If all goes well everyone above the age of 16 should be vaccinated by September next year.

I am pleased to inform you that one of our new members, Brother Ronald Somasundaram, took his 4th degree at the virtual Exemplification held on Dec. 5th, 2020. Bro. Ronald will be knighted when everything gets back to normal and we can hold our monthly meetings.

In the next few days, the phone committee members will be making phone calls to the council members, just to find out how you and the family are coping during the pandemic. If you need help, or you moved, or are not receiving emails etc. kindly let the caller know.

At this time, on behalf on my wife Lady Agnes and myself, I would like to wish you all, and your families a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year 2021.

ON A LIGHTER NOTE.....

- The noblest of all dogs is the HOT DOG, it feeds the hand that bites it!
- A housewife, wanting to relax a little from the chores of the day, took a quick shot of Bourbon. She still had the odour of the liquor on her breath as she kissed her little girl goodnight. "Gee, Mommy," the kid said, "I didn't know you used Daddy's perfume."

LET US BE OUR BROTHER'S KEEPER AND STAY SAFE

Vivat Jesus.

Fraternally,

**SK Brother Joseph Rocha, PGK, PFN
Chancellor**



Words from the Lecturer.

Dear Bros,

I found this Christmas Prayer for your family to use:

Lord Jesus Christ, when,
on a winter's night I look up through the clear air at the stars,
I can be very close to You

and to Your native Bethlehem.

It was at night that You first came to this earth.

It was under the same stars that now gleam in this night sky
that Mary first held You in her arms.

It was by the faint light of these stars
still shining tonight that the shepherds found their way to the stable,
and discovered You,
as the angels had said they would,
lying in a manger.

Dear Christ,
it is especially at Christmas time
that I see and understand how close You are
to those who live on the land.

We have so many reminders of You!
The stars and moon at night and the sun by day,
the same stars under which You were born;
the same moon that shone that night on Bethlehem;
the same sun that brightened Your first days on earth.

The stable, and the farm animals
that shared their quarters and their warmth with You, their creator.
The sheep and the shepherds that came to adore You,
rough men, but good, truthful, honest, and sincere.

O Jesus, Son of the everlasting God,
You are so wonderfully made one of us at Christmas time!

You are our God,
but You are our Brother, too.

You are our King,
but You come as a helpless little baby,
longing for our love.

Help us today and always to see You
in all those with whom we come in contact.

Let us never forget Your own instruction,
that whatever we do for the least of those around us,
we do for You.

Help us always to serve You in the generous,
selfless spirit of this season,
and we shall then be real Christians,
more and more like You, other Christs.

Amen.

Also...

I would like to remind members to join our Facebook page.

Members have been posting current photos, videos and guided prayers/reflections.

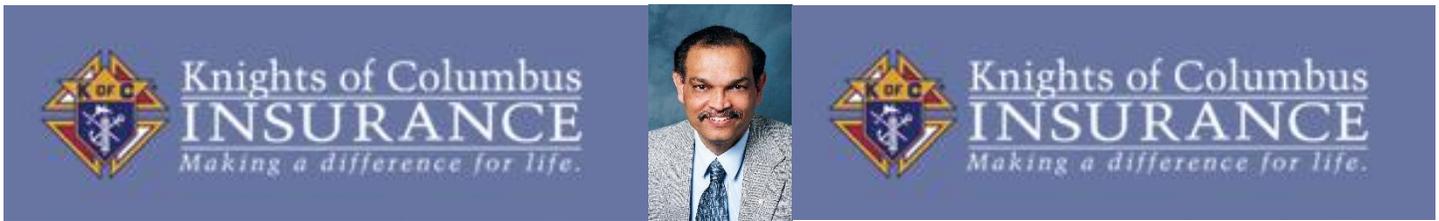
Please search and join our Facebook Page:

Knights 11337

Merry Christmas to all!

Vivat Jesus!

SK Fred Policarpio



In previous years this was the time we may have been shopping for that special present, getting a tree and preparing to cook the traditional Christmas meal. This year will be different. Many will be reluctant to travel, so many may be celebrating with just the household instead of a house-full! Instead of crushes of people at the mall, our Christmas presents will be dropped at the front door by CANADA POST or Amazon Prime. No large dinners for immediate and extended family and friends, just a small one for the immediate family. While this year may be different, it may get us to slow down a bit and perhaps savor the special time of year and what we really celebrate.

We turn our thoughts to themes of "Peace on Earth" and "Goodwill to Men!" We think of our Savior's birth in Bethlehem and the beginning of this chapter of salvation history. We think of family, both the ones we celebrate with this year in person and those who might only be present on Zoom. But we'll make it through the season; we'll have even more to celebrate next year.

Each year I remind my brother knights of important financial issues as we move through December and hit year end. Some of these issues come with rules and regulations, so don't go it alone. Give me a call and I will be happy to discuss any of these issues...and you can do it safely, virtually with me on the computer from the comfort of your home.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us be thankful for all the graces God has showered on us, especially the gift of his Son, our Savior! "For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:5

Vivat Jesus!

Fraternally

Bro John Fernandes, M.B.A., F.I.C.

Tel: [905 785-1647](tel:9057851647) Cell: [416 500-1950](tel:4165001950)

E-mail: fernandesjm@gmail.com

"To Inspire And Be Inspired"



HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS' MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION – DECEMBER 2020:

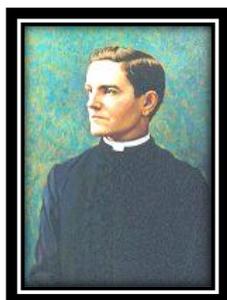
A Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



PRAYER TO BLESSED FR. MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY

O great and glorious God, you imbued your holy priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, with deep priestly virtue and especially with pastoral concern for the poor, the orphan, the widow, for the Christian education of youth, for the protection of the faith of the working man of his day.



Now that his priestly ministry continues to spread to countless millions throughout the world through the efforts and influence of the Order of the Knights of Columbus, which Father McGivney founded, we beseech you, Heavenly Father, to raise your faithful servant, Michael, to the honours of the altar. We ask this favour through our Lord Jesus Christ and His holy mother, Mary and our mother. Amen

PRAYER FOR THE PERSEVERANCE OF VOCATIONS

O God, You have constituted Your only-begotten Son supreme and eternal Priest for the glory of Your majesty and the salvation of mankind: grant that those whom He has chosen ministers and dispensers of His mysteries may be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received.

Please inform the Grand Knight immediately you are aware of any Brother, or Family Member, who is ill or in need of assistance.

Please Remember in your Prayers:

Our Brothers and family members who are sick or recovering:

"Deceased Members of our Council"

- Bro. Arnold J. Benoit, Bro. William P. Riosa, Bro. Ha Quang Nguyen, Bro. William Anderson, Bro. James McWilliams, Bro. Arturo H. Magpayo, Bro. Domenico Carnevale, Bro. Kevin Halpin, Bro. Alberto Cataudella, Bro. Noel R. D'Souza, Bro. Peter Golobic, Bro. Joseph Abela, Bro. Eugenio Colautti, Bro. Victor J. Ceccanese, Bro. William Sheppard, Bro. Desmond K. Rose, Bro. John Soumelidis, Bro. Harold Farrugia. Bro. Michael Petronis, Bro. Emeterio M. Chosa, Bro. Patrick F. O'Reilly, Bro. Julian Rego, Bro. Joseph Tokar, Rev. Bro. Matthew F. Grogan, Bro. James A. Brownhill, Bro. Rafael D. Garcia, Bro. Rosalino C. Vinluan, Bro. Cosmas F. Fernandes, Bro. Alfredo L. Santos, Bro. Bernard F. Geraghty, Bro. Philippe A. Lacroix, Bro. Joseph N. Reston Bro. Derrick J. Dias and Bro. Brian C. McCarthy.

MAY THESE AND ALL THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN PEACE.

AMEN.

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2020 – 2021

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2020 – 2021

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STS PETER & PAUL COUNCIL 11337

2020 – 2021 PROGRAMME

DECEMBER 2020**OPENING ODE**

**SING YE HIS PRAISES LOUD AND LONG,
AND LET THE UNENLIGHTENED KNOW,
IN EV'RY ECHO OF YOUR SONG,
THE GREAT DEEDS DONE, THO' LONG AGO,
BY COLUMBUS OF THE VALIANT SOUL,
WHO FIRST OLD NEPTUNE HAS CONTROLLED,
DESPITE OF ENVY, INTRIGUE, GOLD,
IN THE DIM PAST OF LONG AGO.**

**WITH VESSELS THREE O'ER STORMY SEA,
HE THRILLED THE WORLD OF LONG AGO,
WHILE WISDOM LINKED WITH DESTINY,
IN JUSTICE SCALES ITS WEIGHT DID THROW.
WE ARE HIS HEIRS; WE WEAR HIS NAME;
WE BOAST HIS DEEDS; WE SPREAD HIS FAME;
OUR ORDER IS THE SHINING FLAME,
THAT LIGHTS THE GLOOM OF LONG AGO.**

December Birthdays	January Birthdays
Roland F. D'Costa	Neville F. Smith
Darrell J. D'Souza	Vivian S. Rodrigues
Albert Diniz	Joseph J. Berlettano
Ash Attia	Peter Linhart
Steven W. Ballem	Oscar S. Olegario
Rui M. Neto	John P. Zettler
Felix J. D'Souza	Hector Luna
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Russel F. Noronha	Errol A. Colautti
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IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

<http://www.kofc.org/en//index.html>

<https://ontariokofc.ca/>

<http://www.kofc11337.com/>

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<https://linktr.ee/peterpaulchurch?fbclid=IwAR3iNu3SktmKsag-F6dYvEXHOgsRASvW1-cXShB2kb2vwgpmg69Vxqgu38>

https://www.kofc.org/un/en/videos/download/membership_videos.html

<https://www.kofc.org/en/members/resources/membership-webinar.html>

<https://www.kofc.org/un/en/programs/index.html>

ONLINE RESOURCES

Supreme Website

Ontario State Website

Sts. Peter and Paul Council Website

Parish Website

Mass reservations, etc.

Miscellaneous Knights of Columbus Websites

https://www.kofc.org/un/en/videos/download/membership_videos.html

<https://www.kofc.org/en/members/resources/membership-webinar.html>

<https://www.kofc.org/un/en/programs/index.html>

Editor's Corner: I have been reminiscing of past Proclaimer articles and happened to find this one submitted by our late Grand Knight, Sir Knight James Brownhill, from our December 2006 edition. I found it very appropriate in our current times:

Remember My Birthday?

As you well know, we are getting closer to my birthday. Every year there is a celebration in my honour and I think that this year the celebration will be repeated. During this time there are many people shopping for gifts, there are many radio announcements, TV commercials, and in every part of the world everyone is talking that my birthday is getting closer and closer. It is really very nice to know, that at least once a year, some people think of me. As you know, the celebration of my birthday began many years ago. At first people seemed to understand and be thankful of all that I did for them, but in these times, no one seems to know the reason for the celebration. Family and friends get together and have a lot of fun, but they don't know the meaning of the celebration.

I remember that last year there was a great feast in my honour. The dinner table was full of delicious foods, pastries, fruits, assorted nuts and chocolates. The decorations were exquisite and there were many, many beautifully wrapped gifts. But, do you want to know something? I wasn't invited. I was the guest of honour and they didn't remember to send me an invitation. The party was for me, but when that great day came, I was left outside, they closed the door in my face..... and I wanted to be with them and share their table. In truth, that didn't surprise me because in the last few years all close their doors to me. Since I was not invited, I decided to enter the party without making any noise.. I went in and stood in a corner. They were all drinking; there were some who were drunk and telling jokes and laughing at everything. They were having a great time. To top it all, this big fat man all dressed in red wearing a long white beard entered the room yelling Ho-Ho-Ho! He seemed drunk. He sat on the sofa and all the children ran to him, saying : "Santa Claus, Santa Claus"...as if the party were in his honour! At 12 midnight all the people began to hug each other; I extended my arms waiting for someone to hug me and do you know no one hugged me. Suddenly they all began to share gifts. They opened them one by one with great expectation. When all had been opened, I looked to see if, maybe, there was one for

me. What would you feel if on your birthday everybody shared gifts and you did not get one? I then understood that I was unwanted at that party and quietly left. Every year it gets worse. People only remember to eat and drink, the gifts, the parties and nobody remembers me. I would like this Christmas that you allow me to enter into your life. I would like that you recognize the fact that almost two thousand years ago I came to this world to give my life for you, on the cross, to save you. Today, I only want that you believe this with all you heart. I want to share something with you. As many didn't invite me to their party, I will have my own celebration, a grandiose party that no one has ever imagined, a spectacular party. I'm still making the final arrangements..

Today I am sending out many invitations and there is an invitation for you. I want to know if you wish to attend and I will make a reservation for you and write your name with golden letters in my great guest book.. Only those on the guest list will be invited to the party. Those who don't answer the invitation, will be left outside. Do you know how you can answer this invitation? it is by extending it to others whom you care for... I'll be waiting for all of you to attend my party this year...

See you soon I love you!

-Jesus-

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