

ENTER Christmas

Christmas In Merrick Hall

As the shadows of night slowly descended and engulfed the buildings, yellow, red, blue, green, and orange lights cast a colorful glow on the snow-covered campus. Joyful, laughing, and excited feminine voices and scurrying feet could be heard throughout Merrick Hall at College Misericordia. What a Christmas party would be held tonight! It would be the first held in the new Student Union Building. A huge Christmas tree had been erected in the Redwood Room and Christmas decorations throughout the building expressed Christmas wishes and joy to all. The students were putting the finishing touches on the refreshment table before Santa's arrival. A spirit of expectation hung over the entire campus!

Meanwhile, above the clouds over Dallas, Santa was flying his sleigh towards the college. He was always willing to make the trip a little early for the students' party because classes adjourned early for the Christmas vacation and he couldn't see them all on Christmas Eve with all the little boys and girls to visit. Soon he sighted the high tower of the college and began circling for a landing. How well he remembered the place! — the Nativity scene at the entrance, the huge, lighted tree in the center court, and the chimney of Regina Hall — the one he had slid down for many years. As he proficiently guided his reindeer in for a landing on the roof of Regina Hall, he was startled to find the building quiet and still, dark, with only a small wreath on the door. Where was everybody? Surely he hadn't made a mistake. It was the right day and time. He looked around bewildered and received the biggest shock of all — there before his eyes were two modern, gayly decorated buildings that he had failed to see in his eagerness to land.

As he was climbing back into his

sleigh to resume his flight. Santa heard the sound of a familiar tune — "Here Comes Santa Claus . . ." Some of the Misericordians returning from their annual Christmas carol serenading had spied him on the roof and had realized his error. "We came to escort you to the party," said one of the girls. "We have everything prepared and waiting, but you won't be able to slide down the chimney in the new building — it's only about twelve inches wide. Either you walk in the front door or go on a diet, Santa."

"Santa laughed heartily at this suggestion and said, 'I'll go through the door. I'm one person who hasn't changed for hundreds of years and I don't intend to start now. Can you imagine — a skinny Santa Claus — Ho Ho Ho!'"

Eagerly the procession of girls leading Santa's reindeer, his sleigh laden with gifts and Santa himself, marched to Merrick Hall where the girls received gifts and greeting from their friends and best of all from Santa himself!

by Mary Anne Toth
College Misericordia

Christmas

Christmas is a time for being happy and gay. It is such a time because once, a long time ago, a child was born. He was called Jesus and He became a Savior to all who have believed or do believe in Him. We celebrate Christmas to commemorate His birth.

Christmas is also a time of giving. Giving presents is just a social custom; but it could also come from the fact that presents were given to the Christ Child; therefore one gives presents to the ones he loves.

Some people give gifts anonymously. This idea came from a man named Nickolas who later became a patron saint. Once he gave gifts to poor men as his daughters would have doweries. In our country Saint Nickolas is known as Santa Claus. People give gifts in his name to needy institutions and parents give gifts to their young.

No one really knows how or when celebrating Christmas started, but Christian people have been observing Christmas since the fourth century.

Little Jesus

Little Jesus in the crib,
Help us all little and big,
To do things you want us to do,
So we can go to heaven with you.

by Christopher Stash 4-104
Gate of Heaven

Yuletide Thoughts

Christmas is here again and the annual exodus to the downtown shopping districts will soon begin. In many large cities the merchants have already begun to emblazon the store fronts and their interiors. In past years Christmas has become very commercialized to the distaste of many people, myself included.

In days gone by, the Christmas season brought to one's mind thoughts of holly wreaths adorning front doors, mistletoe hanging innocently above doorway arches, fragrant pine trees dressed in their finest splendor standing proudly in people's homes, the delicious aroma of Christmas cookies, and many other equally pleasant things. These days most people's thoughts at Christmas are of expensive presents in elegant wrappings, fancy engraved Christmas cards, and an extensive round of holiday parties. Many people also think of this season as a time of rush and activity which completely exhausts them, as they put it.

My thoughts at Christmas usually turn to many things. Foremost is the thought that Christmas is Christ's birthday and is meant to be celebrated as such. My other thoughts are of the joys of the season, the fun of shopping for presents, and the excitement of awaiting Christmas day. One of my deepest wishes is for what, I guess, could be called an old-fashioned Christmas, where a huge green tree is placed in a tremendous living room, with a glowing fire in the fireplace to warm the room. I'd trim the tree with strings of popcorn and cranberries and other decorations I had made. On Christmas Eve the whole family would

gather to sing carols and read the Christmas story. Christmas day would be spent opening and enjoying presents; partaking of a delicious dinner of crisp, golden brown turkey with a savory stuffing, fluffy mounds of mashed potatoes, heaping piles of buttered, green beans, tangy cranberry sauce, and, last but not least, sharing spicy mince pie; and having a good time with friends.

These are just a few of my ideas about Christmas and a description of a Christmas I'd like to spend. However you spend your Christmas I hope it's a very merry one!

by Pat Bauman 10-5
Dallas Senior High

Christmas Time

Sweaters are bought for you.
Bracelets are bought for me.
People everywhere, are shopping
For a nice and tall green tree.

Small bells, large bells,
And ornaments galore
Are found on many windows
And adorn most every door.

Blue lights, green lights,
Red lights, and more
Are found on many Christmas trees
From the top, down to the floor.

The Lights Are On

We have already torn "November" off our calendar and the lights have come on! It is all so mystical, yet so real; so far away, but it is here. The story is so short everyone knows it, so long that none can follow it through. It is so simple children know it: It is so profound Angels ponder it. Ancient prophets anticipated it: "Unto us a Child is born", an angel announced it, "Fear not for unto you is born a Savior", Heaven's choir caroled it, "Glory to God in the highest". Ages long that story is given in a single verse — "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that he whosoever believeth in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."

by Rev. Charles H. Frick
formerly of Huntsville Christian

Christmas is a happy time
Both here and far away.
We wish both people near and far
A happy Christmas day.

by Carol Cloak 10-6
Dallas Senior High

Christmas

Christmas is that time of year;
That everyone enjoys,
It is Christ's birthday;
And everyone gets toys,
But putting up the Christmas tree
Is the most fun to me,
Every Christmas there's much fun,
But then again there's only One,
That I adore on Christmas Day
Christ Our Savior born that day.

by Francis Siracuse 5-206
Gate of Heaven

Clubs Distribute Good Will



The Key Club and Keyette annual clothing drive was completed on Monday, December 2. The members of these two clubs worked after school and during the Thanksgiving vacation to prepare the boxes of clothing for needy families in our area. Many families are aided each year by this annual project.

The work in this project requires sorting clothes for local distribution and then the remaining clothing is bagged and tied for shipment out of our area. This year's drive resulted in 67 boxes of clothing being distributed locally and 49 distributed to other areas.

Prior to the clothing drive, the Key Club delivered boxes of food to families. These boxes were prepared and donated by the Kiwanis Auxiliary of the Dallas Kiwanis Club.

WRAP UP BETTER LIVING

for your family

with every

Christmas

gift you buy!

SHOP

AT

HOME —



SHOP IN DALLAS!

You haven't seen the last of the money you spend in Dallas. Much of it stays right here and goes to work making this a better community for you and your family. It spurs local employment, progress, prosperity. It helps pay the taxes that maintain the good schools and other community facilities that add up to better living!



- Jones-Richards Beauty Salon
- Whitesell Bros.
- Delaney Gas & Appliances
- Wesley's Gulf Service
- Daring's Market
- Gosart's Appliances
- Davis' Food Market
- Caddie LaBar
- Dallas Drugs

- Joe's Men's Shop
- Colonial Restaurant
- Grace T. Cave Shop
- The Young Men's Shop
- Dallas Hardware
- Boyd R. White
- Ben Franklin Store
- Dallas Finance
- Slocum Insurance

- Birth's Esso Service
- Sutliff Furniture
- Stanton's TV
- New Dallas Dry Cleaners
- Kuehn's Pharmacy
- Shirley Wall Beauty Shop
- Kay's Beauty Shop
- Jim's Barber Shop
- Malkemes' Atlantic Service