



ART STUDENTS - Art students from Dallas Senior High School decorated the windows at United Penn Bank, Dallas, for the holiday season. Shown here, seated, from left, are Chris

Ondish, Kerry Roushey, and Lisa Bobeck. Standing, Amy Root, Mrs. Jane Cornell, John Maniskas, Rich Gdovin, Alan Cuba, and Lisa Lushefski. (Photo by Ed Campbell)

The North Pole



By
Rachel Schall
Grade 7
Gate of Heaven

Christmas in church terms

Life becomes confused at times. Difficult decisions face us. Frustrations and failures dog our paths. Sometimes, we even get mixed up about the meaning of life. Where do we turn?

God has turned to us! We are not alone. In Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate on Christmas Day, God comes to us. The message to the shepherds was, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy—for unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior which is Christ the Lord."

"Fear not." This is the assurance we need today. God did not send a message. He sent a person. He is still with us, for Jesus said, "I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you."

And He does. Through the Holy Spirit, He always is with us. The promise of "Emmanuel" is always and ever fulfilled, and at Christmas, we celebrate again that great event which assures us that God is always with us. May this be the gift we receive again this Christmas.

THE REV. JOHN S. PRATER,
PASTOR,
PRINCE OF PEACE
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
DALLAS, PA.

Millions will note holiday

BY CLYDE DUPIN

Christmas is the day when millions of people around the world celebrate the birth of Christ. Christmas is a time to proclaim His message of peace on earth and good will toward men.

Some people may find it difficult to talk about peace and good will in a world torn by strife and evil. Many earth shattering events have taken place since last Christmas. From the Sea of Japan to the Sea of Galilee, from the parched farmlands of middle America to the bloody battlefields of Central America, the troublesome events have called for our attention.

Since last Christmas, we have experienced turmoil and triumph. A Korean passenger jet was shot from the skies, as the space shuttle soared to new heights. Our Marines were killed in Beirut and liberated people in Granada. There have been leadership changes in Israel; and the election countdown has already begun for 1984.

In a moment riddled with crises, we need to stop and examine some things that are eternal. If we think of our present dangerous world, our minds will be filled with despair and not peace. The real peace that Jesus came to give is a personal peace. It is an inner security that comes from faith in God. It is only when we find peace within that we can help bring peace and good will to others. Christmas is really a demonstration of God's love. At this season of good will, let each of us share that never failing love.

(Clyde Dupin is editor of a national column entitled "Religious viewpoint.")