

ST. ALBERT OF JERUSALEM CATHOLIC SCHOOL DECEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER



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Board web site: www.dpcdsb.org
School website: www.dpcdsb.org/alber

A Christmas Prayer

O God, Whose mighty Son was born in Bethlehem
those days long ago,
lead us to that same poor place,
where Mary laid her tiny Child.



And as we look on in wonder and praise,
make us welcome Him in all new life,
see Him in the poor,
and care for His handiwork, the earth, the sky and the sea.

O God, bless us again in Your great love.
We pray for this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

*For Advent prayers and liturgies please visit:
www.catholicsdoors.com*

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2012/2013

**Is your child turning 4 prior to
December 31, 2012?**

**Catholic School supporters are
invited to register their school aged
children on or after the following
dates:**

February 6, 2012 : 7 – 9pm

**February 7, 2011:
7 – 9 pm Snow Date**

**February 8th – 10th 2012:
9 –11:00 a.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m.**



St. John of the Cross Catholic Church

6890 Glen Erin Drive, Mississauga, Ontario Tel: 905-821-1331

Pastors: Fr. Leo Huard, Fr. Abraham Kulanjiyil, Fr. Joseph Kalluvila

Website: <http://www.saintjohnofthecross.com/>

Mass Schedule St. John of the Cross Church

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

CELEBRATING ADVENT

The season of Advent begins with the fourth Sunday before Christmas. “Advent” is a Latin word meaning “the coming”. During the season of Advent, Christians across the world prepare for the celebration of the coming of the Lord into the world through the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ. Advent is a time to celebrate light in the midst of darkness, as symbolized best by the Advent Wreath.



At St. Albert of Jerusalem we emphasize the implications of the birth of our Saviour through our Christian actions. We ensure that Advent is a time where we emphasize charity and social justice. It is a time to prepare the way, to make God real each and every day through prayer, charity and good deeds. The following activities provide a small window into how the staff and students at St. Albert of Jerusalem are the arms, legs, and hands of God.

CONFIRMATION

As part of Confirmation preparations, all grade eight confirmandi were required to present themselves as candidates for the sacrament. This provided a wonderful opportunity for the parish to support our candidates as they pledge themselves and begin preparations to enter further into their role as responsible Catholics.

RECONCILIATION

As a faith-filled Catholic community, we offer our heartfelt praise and blessings to the grade two students who have just recently received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. *Boys and girls, your principal remembers how nervous I felt the first time I shared my most secret faults with my priest... I remember how nervous I was and I remember how nervous I still am every time I go to confession! But, I also remember how wonderful I feel when my priest tells me that my sins are forgiven in Jesus’ name. These simple words make my heart feel whole and make me want to continue to live Jesus’ message each and every day. I know that you feel that blessing now and your school mates, teachers and I are so very happy for you. Congratulations!*

SCHOOL ADVENT MASS

The student population of St. Albert of Jerusalem School celebrated an Advent Mass at St. John of the Cross Church, on Thursday, December 1st, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. The offering of the mass provides teachers, students and parents an opportunity to celebrate the Eucharist together as a school and parish community. Following mass, everyone joined in the parish hall for friendship, cheer and a nice sweet treat. *(Thank you to all who donated baked goods)*

A second Advent liturgy will be offered at the school, on December 20th at 9 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. All parents are warmly invited to attend.



FOOD DRIVE & MITTEN TREE

This year, as in the past, the staff and students of St. Albert of Jerusalem have organized a food drive and will place a tree in the front foyer that awaits donations of mittens, hats and scarves. The food drive and mitten tree will be accepting donations until December 16th. The items collected from the food drive and mitten tree will be donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Charity is the primary response to our call to live as Catholics and provides us an opportunity for service to others. Once again, we call on all the students at St. Albert of Jerusalem School to help support these events and make them a success. Thank you for your donations.

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Once again the St. Albert of Jerusalem School will celebrate the season of giving through our Christmas gift drive.

Beginning November 26th, 2011 gift tags are available at the school, these tags indicate the age and gender of a child in need.

When you are visiting the school please consider making Christmas a little brighter for the children in our community by requesting a gift tag. Recommended gifts are clothing items that will fit children from infant – 9 years of age, or gift certificates to local stores. Gifts should be left unwrapped or placed in a gift bag.



Our goal is to have the foyer full of gifts by December 16th, 2011. The gifts will be used to help various families in the community through the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Thank you in anticipation of your generosity.

NEWS FROM STUDENT LEADERS

A BIG thank you is extended to the St. Albert of Jerusalem school community for donating small items to the Operation Christmas Child. In all, 95 shoe boxes were created! Donations from our spirit days were used to aid St. John of the Cross Parish in mailing the boxes.

This past November our Student Leaders informed students about Free the Children and challenged our entire school to take a VOW OF SILENCE for one hour. Many students DID NOT talk for most of the day, it was a great success.

Finally, our school community showed their conscience by writing post cards to soldiers overseas and to our Veterans.

New for the New Year...

Student leaders are holding a charity book drive in support of the group "Invisible Children". This organization builds schools in Africa and equips the classrooms with donated books. Free shipping is provided for every 10 000 books received... just imagine if each St. Albert student donated 3 well loved, but still readable books we would be well on our way to 10 000! We hope that each child will canvas friends and family and will bring in as many books as possible. Donations will be accepted until January 27, 2012.

What to Send	What is not accepted
Picture Books	Magazines
Novels	CD's
Non-Fiction Books	Pamphlets
Game Books (word games, I Spy)	Posters / Pictures
Dictionaries	Ripped / Ruined Books
Text Books	
Any books for ages 4-18	

A MONTH OF VIRTUES

In December we celebrate the virtue of hope. We believe that God comes to us as a small fragile baby who shows us that even the smallest and poorest can make a profound difference in the world.

God has given us this Advent season year after year in order to focus our minds and our hearts on the good all around us. During this time of hope, we are reminded that God chose to send His Son to us because we are worth it. God knows how great we can be when we all come together.

When we look at the world through the eyes of God we know that the message of hope in Jesus' second coming will be and is fulfilled, because Jesus' love lives in us everyday.

People of Hope...

- **Keep up a positive attitude**
- **Can bounce back from tough situations**
- **Set and stick to their goals**
- **See the good in others even when they make mistakes**
- **Work to include others**
- **Let others know that they are good people**



PRIMARY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The students of the primary division wish to invite their parents to a special presentation of "True Love: The story of Christmas" on Thursday, December 22nd, 2011, at 9:15 a.m. 1:00 pm in the school gymnasium. Doors open to family and friends at 9:00 a.m. or 12:45 pm. This celebration of song promises to be a highlight of the Christmas season.

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS

Every Wednesday, students are asked to pack healthy snacks and healthy lunches in re-usable containers. Students are awarded 1 POINT for their healthy food and an additional POINT for using re-usable containers. To kick start our Healthy School Initiative we will be awarding the classroom that has earned the highest points by the end of November a class set of green leaf awards. For the duration of the upcoming year, we will award the leaves on an individual point system (i.e. 30 points = one green leaf award). After earning an award the children will be invited to decorate their green leaf and display it along the fence that runs near the Kiss N Ride area. Our hope is that these colourful leaves will remind our students that their simple commitment to a healthier lifestyle is good for them and good for the environment.



Each wooden leaf has been hand cut and primed by the students at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Secondary School. The goal for St. Albert is for every student to paint a leaf to show that our school supports a healthy lifestyle. We know that these leaves will add to the aesthetic appeal along our fence line and to the greater goodness of our global community. Students who regularly go home for lunch can opt to stay at school on Wellness Wednesdays so that they can participate in this school wide program. In some cases an alternative recording system can be arranged by contacting the teacher. Please remember to pack healthy snacks everyday!!

ACTIVE STUDENTS

EXTENDED FRENCH PARENT MEETING

Parents of senior kindergarten or grade four students who wish to enroll their child in the grade one or grade five Extended French for September 2012, are invited to attend information meetings as follows:

A meeting for parents of **senior kindergarten** students who would attend *Divine Mercy, St. Elizabeth Seton or St. Margaret of Scotland* will be held on Thursday, January 11, 2012 at St. Margaret of Scotland School at 7:00 p.m.

A meeting for parents of **grade four** students will be held at *St. Therese of the Child Jesus* School on Thursday, January 18, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.

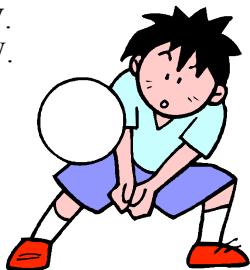
Applications for the Extended French Program will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8, 2012.

JUNIOR VOLLEYBALL

The junior volleyball teams have already completed their first round of competition. All players have shown great dedication and sportsmanship. Both our teams were successful in their local competition and will continue on to the family tournament on December 1st. We extend our sincerest thanks to the coaches who are supporting this extra-curricular activity:

Ms. Maiato, Mrs. Galle, Mrs. MacNeill and Mr. Bellizzi

Eric C.	Charlie H.
Lucas D'A	Stephanie M.
Elliot D.	Allisa P.
Ashton F.	Ashley P.
Fadi K.	Sydney S.
Dylan N.	Lauren V.H.
Travis S.	Sarah V.H.
Patrick S.	Ashleigh W.
Justin V.	
Tyler W.	



IT'S A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

Intermediate students will be performing the play "Charlie Brown Christmas". Parents are welcomed to attend daytime performances at 9:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Thursday December 15th and Friday December 16th. An evening performance is also scheduled for Monday, December 19th at 6:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Ticket information for the evening performances will be sent home early in December. A non-perishable food item, in lieu of ticket sales, will be accepted at the door. Students are working very hard to bring the true meaning of Christmas into your hearts this blessed season.



DID YOU ORDER POINSETTIAS????

Just a reminder that poinsettias will be available for pickup on Tuesday December 6th from 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Please note poinsettias must be picked up on this date to ensure the maximum lifespan of the plant.

STUDENT/PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

First term report cards will be sent home on Tuesday, January 31st, 2012. Along with the report card, you will receive a confirmation time for your report card conference. This conference will include the student, the teacher and the parents/guardians. Conference request forms will be sent home on January 17, 2012. During this first conference, the teachers would like to see and speak with all parents and students in order to discuss the first term and also to make plans and set goals for the second term. Conferences for first term reports will be held on February 2nd from 3:30 – 9 p.m. and during the day of February 3rd, 2012.



FLAG FOOTBALL

This year the Flag Football team has already competed in their first tournament, the Mississauga North Family of Schools tournament. In the round robin stage, the team had an impressive 3-1 record including one game in which they scored 54 points. Although the team was successful in the preliminary stage, they lost in a tough semi-final game against St. Simon Stock; the eventual winner of the tournament. The coaches would like to thank all team members for representing St. Albert with great sportsmanship, effort, and a positive attitude both on and off the field. The coaches would also like to thank the many parents who came out in the cold to cheer us on. The Angels will resume practicing in the spring for the next tournament at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in May 2012. Team members include:

Ricardo A.	Josh A.	Rebecca B.	Carmella B.
Erika C.	Clyde D.	Jacob D.	Josh F.
Marina H.	Stipe J.	Pierce M.	Anthony O.
Kyle P.	Lauren P.	Raquel S.	Leo T.
Taylor V.H.	Marcel Z.		

Our thanks is also extended to the Flag Football coaches, Mr. Kelenc and Mr. Sparkes. Your dedication and leadership is much admired and appreciated by the team and the entire school community.

PEACE PALS

Many of our grade five students have volunteered to act as Peace Pals to our younger students. Peace Pals are leaders within the school. They foster safe, fun, co-operative and active play during school recesses. Our teacher leaders, Mrs. Fletcher and Mrs. MacIntosh have worked closely with our students to provide training to these young individuals: Alyssa A., Deanna B., Carisa C., Isabella C., Diana C., Della D., Athena D'S., Emily D., Amanda D., Jessica G., Chasity G., Izela G., Anamarija J., Briana J., Emma M., Angela M., Jenny M., Veronica M., Sophie M., Madison M., Sabrina O., Runo O., Sarah P., Emily P., Vivian S., Mary Jane S., Rachel T., Caitlyn V., Ashley W.

Thank you Peace Pals for being such virtuous role models!



INDOOR FOOTWEAR

Please ensure that students keep a pair of running shoes or other appropriate footwear at school so that their feet remain dry and clean at all times. At certain times of the year areas of our schoolyard can be quite muddy. Having an additional pair of shoes at school assists us in keeping mud and dirt out of the classroom.

AFTER HOURS SCHOOL ACCESS

Although we appreciate the dedication of our students to return to school to gather forgotten materials, we beg your assistance in making this a rare rather than regular occurrence.

Access to the school at any time is highly monitored and after school hours is no exception. Our custodial staff are directed to not allow students and parents to enter classrooms for the purpose of picking up forgotten books or homework. This is to ensure the safekeeping of student, teacher and school property. In rare circumstances, where an important item is needed, please seek the assistance of the regular classroom teacher, the principal or vice-principal for classroom admittance.

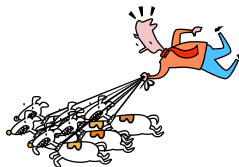
ANTI-BULLYING CURRICULUM INITIATIVES

Virtuous play has always been a part of our Catholic curriculum. It is primarily taught through Religion and Family Life, but is also woven within all subject areas. This year we have placed significant focus on being able to recognize bullying (the problem), identify that bullying does exist in our school, and identify what students can do to prevent bullying (the solution).

We are particularly proud of the leadership our students in the primary and junior grades took on in the development of a Virtue's DVD last year. Through role play and discussion, these students continue to share anti-bullying strategies and promote empathy, tolerance and kindness.

DOGS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Pet owners and community members are asked to support us in keeping our schoolyard clean. An increasing amount of pet lovers are neglecting to pick up after their pets... this causes additional work for our custodian and at times, unpleasant surprises for our students. Please report anyone who does not clean-up after their pet to the City of Mississauga.



TRANSPORTATION CANCELLATIONS / SCHOOL CLOSURES

A decision to cancel school transportation and/or close schools, due to inclement weather, is usually made by 6:30 a.m.. Only the Director of Education has the authority to cancel transportation and/or close schools. Please listen for DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD cancellations or closures. Announcements are made on the following radio stations:

CKFM – 99.9 FM	CFNY – 102.1 FM
CHIN – 100.7 FM, 1540 AM	CFRB – 1010 AM
CHUM – 1050 AM	DC103FM
CJCL – 590 AM	CHAY – 93 FM
CFTR - 680 AM	Q107 – 107.1 FM
CHFI – 98.1 FM	CJMR – 1250 AM
JACKFM – 92.5 FM	TALK640 – 640 AM
CBC – 740 AM	CHEZ ZP7.3
CIAO – 530 AM	CJBC (Fr.) 86

Want to check bus cancellations and late routes on-line???

Visit STOPPR.com

Please note that Dufferin-Peel bus cancellation notices for Dufferin County do not apply to St. Albert of Jerusalem School as we are located in the Region of the Peel.

LOCKDOWN DRILL

It is the policy of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board that all schools practice a “Lockdown Procedure” twice a year. This precautionary measure helps to ensure that proper procedures will be initiated and followed should an emergency exist on school property or in the surrounding neighborhood.

During the week of November 28, 2011 a Lockdown Drill was initiated. St. Albert of Jerusalem followed all procedures as outlined within school board policy. In this practice a lockdown situation is alerted to staff and students by an announcement, “Initiate Lockdown Procedure”. This announcement is followed by the repeated ringing of our lockdown bell sequence. This sequence is different from the bells that students hear for fire drills or at entry and dismissal. Students adhere to the following procedures when they hear the announcement. During an actual lockdown:

- All students and staff inside the building will remain in their classrooms.
- Students or staff in the hallways or washrooms will be expected to go to the closest classroom.
- Students and staff will remain in the classroom until further instructions are given. All doors and windows are locked.
- All blinds in the classroom are drawn.
- Students and staff sit on the floor out of the sight-line of the classroom door.

RAINY MORNINGS AND ENTRY PROCEDURES

Staff will closely monitor the weather conditions during the period of 8:15 to 8:30. If heavy rain falls during this period we will call the students into the school. However, in the event of a light rain, students will remain outside until the 8:30 bell rings. On misty mornings please ensure that your children arrive with a hat and/or an umbrella. Your assistance in this matter is much appreciated.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING!!

All School Council meetings are held in the library and are open to all parents of students attending St. Albert of Jerusalem Catholic School. Meetings are held once a month, beginning at 6:45 pm. Minutes of school council meetings are available at the school office.

Our next meeting is scheduled for:

Wednesday, January 11th: at this meeting we will share the 2011 Safe School Survey results

Future Meetings: February 27, April 25 and May 23

Please consider joining us!

SPIRITWEAR

With the New Year soon upon us we look forward to our next school council initiative... St. Albert of Jerusalem School Spirit Wear will be available for order following the busy Christmas rush. T-shirts, hoodies and baseball caps are just a few of the many items that will be offered for sale... please remember that water bottles, toques and St. Albert car magnets are always available for purchase, but especially during school events such as movie nights, parent interview evenings etc...

PARENT SURVEY COMING...we want your input. Coming this January, please watch for a parent online survey that will allow you to share your voice in regard to the many initiatives that are undertaken by the St. Albert of Jerusalem school council. A link to the survey will be provided in the January newsletter. Please share your ideas, thoughts and feedback with the council so that we can offer programs that meet the needs of the school and community.



GRADES JK – 3 MOVIE NIGHT

Parents please plan to join us in the gymnasium on December 15th for our primary movie night. Parents may purchase tickets starting December 6 – 9th. Older siblings are welcome to attend with their families.

Concession stands will open at 6:30... and 7:00 p.m. is



CAN YOU HELP OUT WITH A DONATION?

audio and video equipment always appreciated!



We can always use overhead projectors and portable projection units. If your company has recently upgraded its presentation tools and is looking to donate slightly used audio visual equipment that is in excellent working condition, please let us know.

Special thanks to Jennifer Honsa and C. Cussen who have just recently donated filing cabinets, tables and office supplies to

DATES TO REMEMBER

- December 1:** Junior Boys' and Girls' Family Volleyball Tournament
7:00 pm St. Albert of Jerusalem Advent Mass
and Christmas Social
- December 7:** Comic Book Art Presentation
- December 9:** Grade 2 trip to Cats Art Studio
- December 14:** Peel Police Safety Presentations grades 1-3
- December 15:** Primary Movie Night 6:30 p.m.
- December 15 and 16:** Charlie Brown Christmas Performance 9:15 and 1:00
- December 19:** Charlie Brown Christmas Performance 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm
- December 20:** 9 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. St. Albert of Jerusalem School Mass
- December 22:** Primary Christmas Pageant 9:15 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
- December 24 – Jan. 8:** Christmas Break
- December 25:** Merry Christmas Everyone!
- January 9:** Welcome Back
- January 11:** 6:45 p.m. School Council Meeting
- January 11:** 7 pm Extended French Meeting for senior kindergarten at
St. Margaret of Scotland School
- January 16:** **P.A. Day Report card writing**
- January 17:** First Day Term 2
- January 18:** 7 pm Extended French Meeting for grade 4 students at
St. Therese of the Child Jesus
- January 31:** Report Cards sent home
- February 2:** Gr. 1-8 Report Card Conferences
JK/SK Parent Conferences (no formal reports)
- February 3:** **P.A. Day Gr. JK -8 Conferences**
- February 20:** **Family Day (no classes)**
- March 12 – 16:** March Break

A gentle reminder that St. Albert school supports a nut free policy. On special occasions (Christmas Valentine's Day) teachers will advise students what foods they can bring for their own consumption. All food items should be nut free. Inedible items such as pencils or stickers can be sent to school to acknowledge special events such as birthdays. Please know that teachers do their best to acknowledge birthdays through good wishes and often song.

Thank you for your consideration and co-operation in making our classrooms safer for all students.



ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PARISH 2011-2012

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12TH - ONLY

7:00-9:00 PM

CANDELIGHT CAROL SERVICE

Take some time to share scripture, quiet time, festive music and fellowship

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH - 7:00 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

Mount Carmel Secondary School Gymnasium: 4:00 PM ONLY

At the church: 5:00 PM, 7:00 PM, 9:00 PM, 12:00 MIDNIGHT

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25th

At the Church Only: 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM

(Note: There will not be an 8:00 AM or 5:00 PM mass)

FEAST DAY MARY MOTHER OF GOD

Vigil Mass, Friday Dec. 31st

5:00 PM at Church

NEW YEARS DAY MASSES, SATURDAY, JAN 1ST



8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM, 5:00 PM

*From the Staff of St. Albert of Jerusalem
Catholic School*

May your Christmas be of great joy
And may the miracle of Christmas continue to shine within your heart all year.



S. Steer
P. Golin, T. Ball
A. Della Pia, P. D'Amato

C. Almeida, P. Ashworth, P. Aquino,
S. Baiana, C. Beach, L. Bellizzi, C. Biffis, E. Bradford,

P. Silva, M. Carbone, P. Tesoro, L. Adriano, A. Poweska,
M. Braun, T. Cameron, S. Cadieux, M. Campuzano, E. Caven,

C. Cheung, S. Dale, R. DeBuck, A. De Souza, F. DiFazio, C. Dulhanty,
J. Fletcher, C. Gal, A. Galle, J. Gogarty, N. Habre, R. Harris, M. Heffernan,

K. Havens, V. Juchimenko, S. Kelenc, E. Kontgen, P. Kupferschmidt,
B. Hussul, E. Lithwick, J. Lossing, L. Lucchetta, I. Maiato, A. MacIntosh, A. Mendes,

L. MacNeill, L. Marcuzzi, C. Melo, F. Miniaci, T. Misiewicz, F. Mondano, W. Moussa,
A. Murphy, D. Oliveira, M. Pandullo, J. Parker, A. Picciuto, J. Pocrnic, M. Polcz, J. Polom,

C. Richards, C. Rumbolt, M. Stellato, J. Sparkes, M. Zenga, M. D'Agostino, L. Querin, B. Mora
R. Gasparro, D. Sanders, L. Giustiniani, M. Wlodarczky, C. Gonzalez, S. Deocharran, G. Choudhury,
T. Morales, Z. Darvish



*Have a Blessed Christmas
and
the most prosperous of New Years.*

CHRISTMAS VACATION

Christmas vacation runs from Saturday, December 24th, 2011 to Sunday, January 8th, 2012.
School resumes on Monday, January 9th, 2012. **The last day of classes is Friday,
December 23rd, 2011.**

Blessing of the Nativity Scene

Read from the Gospel of Luke 2:1-8 from the Family Bible.

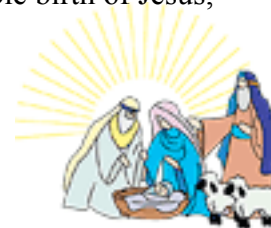
God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation
you have made known your love:

When our need for a Saviour was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.
To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.

Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,
and raise up our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Saviour of all,
and who lives and reigns forever and ever.

AMEN.

In Preparation



Blessing of the Christmas Tree

Read from the Letter of Paul to Titus 3:4-7 from the Family Bible.



Lord our God,
We praise You for the light of creation: the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.
We praise You for the light of Israel:
the Law, and the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures.
We praise You for Jesus Christ, Your Son:
He is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace, who fills us with the wonder of
Your love.

Lord God,

Let your blessing come upon us as we light this tree.

May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.

May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN. [light the tree]

Prayer Before Christmas Dinner

Lord Jesus,

In the peace of this season our spirits are joyful:

We thank You for all You have given us. The gift of life, of family, and friends and food that
strengthens and nourishes us.

You loved us so much that You sent Your Son Jesus to become part of our lives, to forgive us and save
us and show us your care for us.

By Your coming may the hungry be filled with good things,
and may our table and home be blessed.

Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts,
which we are about to receive from Thy bounty
through Christ our Lord, Amen.

