'EATURE

I will give the gift of friendship this holiday season. Anyone can buy a gift at a store, but this Christmas I will write to my pen pal to make her happy.

Steven Peet, Grade 6 Mother of Sorrows School, Greece

Dear Jesus,

My Christ, please help my sister. Please make me rich so I can buy a house so the poor people can live with me. Amen.

Katherine Fox, Grade 2 St. Mary's School, Canandaigua

Dear God,

Let this season be a good time for sharing and for cheer. Let church bells ring loud and clear. Let people remember the holiday joy and Christ our Savior is our New Born King.

Ashley Fanning, Grade 7 St. Francis/St. Stephen's School, Geneva

I love God.

God is good to me. God gave me Jesus. Please God make more snow.

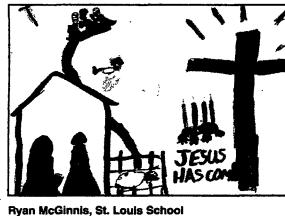
Michelle Sanna, Grade 1 St. John of Rochester School, Fairport

Thank you Jesus for my family and help my grandma and grandpa - heal their backs! Thank you Jesus for the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. And thank you Jesus for me. Amen.

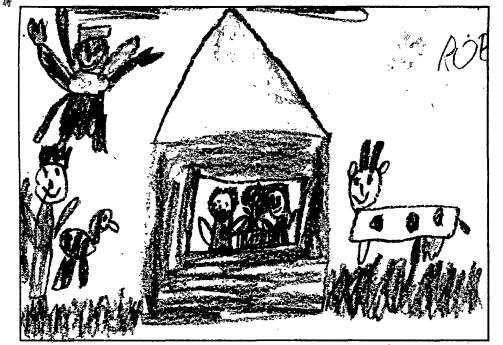
Jimmy Voit, Grade 2 St. Mary's School, Canandaigua



Ryan Finn, Grade 1, St. Mary's, Canandaigua







Robert Heyer III, Seton Catholic School

Dear God,



Bridgette Cool, Grade 2, St. Joseph's School, Auburn

Thank you for all that you have given us this year, our food, shelter, our family and love. I pray for peace for to the whole world. I pray for the poor to live long, have a good life and that they are warm and healthy. Show me how to help.

CATHOLIC COURIER DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, N.Y.

Our Special Gift

Seeing you lie there in that crib made me realize,

The miracle of life right before my eves

Just to see that special star shine, We know it is almost Christmas time.

You came to us long ago,

To realize Christmas isn't just trees and snow.

He wants us to slow down and look inthe sky,

For there's a sign so bright like a wink of his eye.

This is the perfect way to thank you, God, for all you've done.

Especially the gift of Jesus, your son. Stacy Colombo, Grade 8 Holy Cross School, Charlotte

Dear Father,

Thank you for the food I eat, for people great and smalll, the coming or your son Jesus Christ, the Savior born to all. Thank you for my family, that you for my home, thank you for the world. Amen.

Ashley Massaro, Grade 3 St. John the Evangelist School, Rochester

In joyful praise I thank you God for all your kind and loving deeds.

In joyful praise I thank you God for my life and my thoughts.

In joyful praise I thank you God for my friends and my family.

In joyful praise I thank you God for Me!

Peter Lepere, Grade 7 Holy Family Junior High, Elmira

Dear God,

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You always keep your word. I love you above all things with my whole heart and my whole soul. I try to pray to you every day and night. Most of the time I do. I try to teach my sister how to sing and pray. She's doing good so far.

Shelly Graham, Grade 2 St. Michael's School, Newark Jear Gou,

I'm very glad that you care for us all. It's nice to know that you will never leave us alone. It's also nice to know that you will always forgive us always. It's nice to know you will love us even if we are bad. Jesus thank you for dying on the cross for us. God thank you for sending Jesus to us. I hope everybody has a safe and happy Christmas.

> Dianna Thaczow, Grade 3 St. Helen's School, Rochester

Dear Lord,

I want to wish you a Happy Birthday. I'm thinking of you all the time. Christmas is my favorite holiday. Every Christmas I wake up real early. Right now I'm still thinking of you.

Nicole Lombardo, Grade 4 Holy Rosary School, Rochester Amy Van Kirk, Grade 7, Holy Cross School

God help me prepare for the coming of your son, Jesus Christ, my Savior. Let me be loving and kind, helpful and friendly. Please forgive my sins. I will try to serve you my God for you are a Holy God and I am just a humble servant.

Laura Steinbrenner, Grade 4, St. Louis School, Pittsford

Peter Cullen, Grade 3 St. John of Rochester School

Dear Lord,

Please bless everyone this Christmas. Please bless the poor, the elderly, the homeless and the sick. They need the most help. Also, please help me to act kind and caring during this Christmas season. Help me not to fight with anyone. I will pray more for people who need prayer. Help me to be more like you. Amen.

> Brittany Burgess, Grade 5 St. Michael's School, Newark