

Dear (Child's name):

Christmas is coming and you know what that means! It means colored lights and shiny ornaments, Christmas carols and cookies with sprinkles, secret surprises and lots of excitement. But do you know what Christmas really means?

Christmas is Jesus' birthday! Remember the story of how Baby Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem? God the Father sent His Son, Jesus from heaven to show how much He loved us. Jesus was the very first Christmas Gift! When Jesus grew up He taught everyone how to love each other and live in peace.

People who try very hard to follow Jesus and lead a holy life are called "saints." In fact, my name is really "Saint Nicholas" - I used to be a bishop in a faraway land and I would secretly give food and gifts to people in need. Over the years, "Saint Nicholas" was shortened to "Santa Claus." Every year, in honor of Jesus' birthday, I bring gifts and treats to children all over the world.

This year, as you count down the days till Christmas, try to be especially good--not for me, but for Jesus. Just as He came to Bethlehem so many years ago, He comes to our hearts on Christmas Day...bringing us love, joy and peace. And that's what Christmas really means.

Ho, Ho, Holy Holidays!

Love,

Santa Claus