



Dear Santa,
Would you please bring me glitter and a puppy. Make sure you bring the puppy. I also want a kids car with a motor.

I love you Santa.
Althea

Dear Santa,
I like love you Santa. I want a doll.

Autumn

Dear Santa,
I would like a Wii and an M3p player and a bedspread and a train set and drums and I did chores.

Thank you.
Aiden

Dear Santa,
I want a new semi with a remote and a Wii game. I will leave cookies and milk.

Payton

**MRS. TACHA'S
FIRST GRADE CLASS**

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a boy bird and a girl bird, Kyla as my sister, and to have my dogs back home.

Love, Hailey

Dear Santa,
How are your reindeer doing? I have been a good girl this year. I would like a big girl bike, a Nin-

tendo DS and a Spin toothbrush.
Coral

Dear Santa,
How are your reindeer? I have been a good girl. Can I please get a Password Journal and the DS game Spas Monkey?

Gracie

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? I have been a good girl once in a while. I'd like a Password Journal and a puppy with a bag and a Christmas dress.

Kylee

Dear Santa,
How is your family? I have been a good boy. I helped my Dad last night. My Dad had two bags of pellets. My Dad dropped the pellets and they broke and they were all over the place and I helped him sweep them up. I would like a pair of rubber boots. My brother and I also want a race track.

Mason

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph and your other reindeer? I did my work when I needed to do it. I would like a zoo Lego set please. I wish you a Merry Christmas.

Nate

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus? I have been a good girl once in a while. I helped my mom move to our apartment. I would like new snow boots, a DS and a game for it. Merry Christmas and thank you Santa Claus.

Lexus

Dear Santa,
How are Dasher and Prancer? I hope they are feeling good. I made two bucks from shoveling sidewalks at my cousin's house. I want the new Tony Hawk game for Wii, and a ride on your sleigh.

Well Santa, if you would want some hot chocolate come in with me.

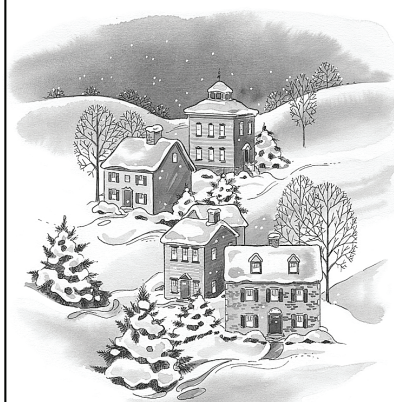
Jonah

Dear Santa,
I love your clothes. I have been a good girl once in a while. I would like a Wii for Christmas a puppy with a bag and a Barbi girl. Thank you Santa

Love, Courtney

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? I have been good because I helped put up the Christmas tree. I want a Nintendo.

Sydney
Thank You



*The
Cobbler's
Christmas
Guest*

(A Holiday Parable)

Many years ago there lived in a small village a cobbler by the name of Conrad. Though alone and poor, this kindly old man always had friendly and consoling words for everyone.

At Christmas time, some neighbors decided to visit their friend Christmas morning since he had no family. To their amazement, they saw that his wrinkled old face was radiant.

As they entered his shop, they saw a room made festive with holly and evergreen, and the table was laden with delicacies.

"Who is coming to visit you?" one neighbor asked in surprise.

"Last night the Lord appeared to me in a dream and told me that He wanted to be my guest on Christmas Day. I am all prepared for His arrival," Conrad replied.

After the neighbors had left, Conrad sat waiting for his hallowed guest. While he waited, a beggar passed his window, ragged and half starved. Conrad called him in, fed him and gave him shoes for his nearly frozen feet. After the beggar had left, an old woman hobbled by carrying a sack of wood. Conrad served her dinner, let her rest before the fire, and then helped her on her way.

Again, he sat by the window waiting for his important guest. Suddenly, he heard the sobbing of a child. When he opened the door, he saw a frightened, cold youngster.

After some warm milk and soothing words, he reunited the child with its worried mother.

Once more he returned to his vigil, but night was falling fast. Where was the promised guest? Anxious and weary, Conrad dropped to his knees.

"Oh, Lord," he pleaded. "What has delayed you?" Then out of the silence came a voice:

"Conrad, be not dismayed, for three times I came to your friendly door. Three times my shadow crossed your floor.

I was the beggar with frostbitten feet.
I was the woman given food to eat,
I was the child in the lonely street."

**VALLEY HOPE
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