6S The Saint Francis Herald/Bird City Times Thursday, December 24, 2009

Cheylin fifth graders have many traditions

the special question, If you could give a very special gift to someone, what would it be, who would it go to and why would you give it to that person? And, what is your favorite thing to do during the Christmas holiday? What are you going to do this year?

Arais Castillo wrote, if she was to give a gift to someone it would be her best friend because she comes everywhere Arais goes. I would give her a big bear with a scarf on it. Every Christmas she puts up her Christmas tree before the 25th or 24th. This year she is going to cook a turkey, mashed potatoes, and bake cookies, play games, watch movies. Her cousin, aunt and uncle will be with her family too. It will be very fun!!

Kevin Estrada would give a special gift to his favorite cousin, Recio, because she is nice and kind. He likes being with his family. This year his family are going to pick up his cousins in Denver.

Giving a Christmas tree to her mom is the special gift Regina Lee would give. Because her mom would want a new Christmas tree for the house and decorate it for Christmas and a new computer, even a new DVD video for her mom. Regina's favorite thing during Christmas is opening presents. She is going to go to her grandma's house for Christmas.

Tommy Frisbie's gift would be a bunch of

Cristi Antholz's fifth grade class answered Heart Song books by Mattie Stepanek and he would give them to his mom. His favorite thing to do during Christmas is to get together with his family and open presents. This year he is going to his grandma's and have a big Christmas meal.

> Giving a cross necklace to his brother, Clint, because he just got ordained is C.J. Antholz's special gift. His favorite thing to do is read the Christmas Story at Grandma's and Grandpa's house, and his whole family is coming home for Christmas.

> Haleigh Rucker says she would give the special gift of money and send it to Africa. Because they need more money to buy stuff. Her favorite thing to do on Christmas is being with her family and she is going to stay home with her family for Christmas, then go to her grandma's and grandpa's house.

> Bergan Bock would give a blanket to her mom because she always gets stuff for me when I'm sick. And Bergan's favorite thing to do is to go sledding on Christmas.

> The special gift Jacky Chacon would give would be a board game and she would give it to Arais because she is her friend. Jacky's favorite thing to do during the Christmas holiday is open presents. Her family is going to stay in her house and play games, watch movies, eat, sing, and open presents.

Christmas Trivia

Christmas Stockings

According to legend, a kindly nobleman grew despondent over the death of his beloved wife and foolishly squandered his fortune. This left his three young daughters without dowries and thus facing a life of spinsterhood.

The generous St. Nicholas, hearing of the girls' plight, set forth to help. Wishing to remain anonymous, he rode his white horse by the nobleman's house and threw three small pouches of gold coins down the chimney where they were fortuitously captured by the stockings the young women had hung by the fireplace to dry.

Christmas Cards

Christmas cards began in England first when young boys practiced their writing skills by creating Christmas greetings for their parents, but it is Sir Henry Cole who is credited with creating the first real Christmas card. The first director of London's Victoria and Albert Museum, Sir Henry found himself too busy in the Christmas season of 1843 to compose individual Christmas greetings for his friends.

He commissioned artist John Calcott Horsley for the illustration. The card featured three panels, with the center panel depicting a family enjoying Christmas festivities and the card was inscribed with the message "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You."





DAWSON DEGOOD checks to see if Santa's beard is the real thing. Dawson is the daughter of Darris and Adele DeGood of Colby and the granddaughter of Dwen and Charilyn Degood and Bonnie Cram all of St. Francis





May the Lord be with you during the holiday season

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