



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Christmas 2011 St. James Council 4949 - Columbus Court - 301-3003 Gateby Place - Vernon, British Columbia V1T 9H5 -

Christmas Greetings

Christmas Edition 2011



Grand Knight Guenter A. Rieger
My dear Brother Knights.



December is the Spiritual month of Joy when we Catholics welcome and celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

During Advent we “prepare the way of the Lord” for His coming as our King and Savior.

The Advent wreath, which has German origins, is probably the most recognized Advent custom.

“Why do we have a decorated Christmas Tree? In the 7th century a monk from Crediton, Devonshire, went to Germany to teach the Word of God. He did many good works there, and spent much time in Thuringia, an area which was to become the cradle of the Christmas Decoration Industry.

Legend has it that he used the triangular shape of the Fir Tree to describe the Holy Trinity of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The converted people began to revere the Fir tree as God's Tree, as they had previously revered the Oak.

By the 12th century it was being hung, upside-down, from ceilings at Christmastime in Central Europe, as a symbol of Christianity.

Chaplain F. Dale Normandeau
Dear Brother Knights.



The gift we receive is the Lord and Saviour Himself. The Lord Jesus was born in the fullness of our humanity, save sin, so that we would receive the gift of salvation through Him.

We commemorate His birth and come away having received the greatest gift of all--our salvation. While our thankful response will always be inadequate in light of such an overwhelming gift, let us at least make it sincere. Take a moment this Christmas Season to include a the words "thank you" in your prayers.

May you all have a happy, holy and safe Christmas and may God continue to bless you in the New Year.

Vivat Jesus,
Fr. Dale Normandeau

It is the custom, when attending a birthday celebration, to bring gifts for the one celebrating the birthday.

With Christmas, however, recipient of the gifts is reversed. It is we who commemorate our Saviour's birth who receives gifts.