

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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The Shining Son

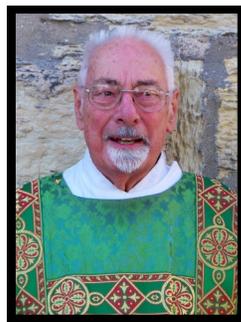
THE SHINING SON

DECEMBER 2011

You're the Light of the World

By: Deacon Vince Slomian

Dear TECites and families,



WOW ! ! ! TEC #175, TEC #176 & TEC #177 is behind us now.

Now we have time to concentrate on the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

If I asked you to choose one image to symbolize what Christmas is all about, what

image would you choose???

Of course you would all choose LIGHT, and for two reasons.

First, Jesus himself chose light to describe why he came into the world, saying: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (Jn 8:1`2).

Before Jesus came on Christmas, people were lost, staggering about in darkness.

By his birth, Jesus changed all of that. He

rescued us from darkness and showed us the way to the Father.

The second reason that light is a perfect symbol of Christmas is because Jesus said to his disciples, "YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD..."

"Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father" (Matt 5:14,16).

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The Christmas Story

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David.

The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The

Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great

and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be?," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

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Pass It On . . . A Note From Brenda

By: Brenda Barnickel, Lay Director

“Having been taught as a toddler that Christmas is the holiday that Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus, he asked his mom, ‘Where’s the Line to See Jesus?’ . . . Out of the mouths of babes come profound truths that many adults cannot understand.

“Jesus is the Reason for the Season” are words in my heart, mind, and on my lips at this wonderful time of the year.

I recently received an email that has been circulating about a new Christmas song.

I actually heard the song last Christmas season and was blown away by the words, which some of you may have also.

The creators have succeeded in putting together a beautiful inspirational video since last year, which puts a great visual to the words of the song.

Please check out “Where’s the Line to See Jesus?” by Becky Kelly at http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=OExXItDyWEY&vq=medium.

I also wanted to pass on the story about the song . . . enjoy and remember to “Keep Christ in Christmas.”

“While at the mall a couple of years ago, my then four year old nephew, Spencer, saw kids lined up to see

Santa Claus.

Having been taught as a toddler that Christmas is the holiday that Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus, he asked his mom, “Where’s the Line to See Jesus?”

My sister mentioned this to my dad, who immediately became inspired and jotted words down to a song in just a few minutes.

After putting music to the words, and doing a quick recording at home, he received a great response from friends.

He sent the song off to Nashville without much response, except for a Christian song writer who suggested adding a bridge at the end of the first chorus.

My dad then asked if I wanted to record the song to see what we could do with it.

I listened to the song, made a few changes to the words to make it flow better, and we headed to Shock City Studios.

It was at the studio where Chris, owner and producer, rewrote the second verse and part of

the chorus.

With goose bumps and emotions high, we were all hopeful and felt like we had something special.

The demo was recorded in just under two hours and sent off again to Nashville; still no response.

Two weeks before Christmas last year, my cousins Greg and Robbie decided to do a video to see what we could accomplish on YouTube.

The first day we had 3,000 hits and it soared from there. We received e-mails, phone calls, and Facebook messages from people all over asking for the music, CDs, iTunes, anything we had nothing.

We headed back into the studio this past spring.

Out of the mouths of babes come profound truths that many adults cannot understand.

Hopefully Spencer’s observation will cause people all over to reflect on the love of Jesus, and that one day we will all stand in line to see Him.

Merry Christmas!”

Be the Light

From page 1

In other words, just as Jesus is a light for us, so we are to be a light for others. We're to show them the way out of the darkness, as Jesus did for us.

That's what Christmas is all about. It's celebrating the victory of light over darkness.

First, it celebrates the

fact that Jesus came as a light into the darkness of our world, rescued us, and showed us the way to the Father.

Second, it celebrates the fact that Jesus has called us to be a light in our world, just as he was a light in his world.

May you all have a Blessed, and Merry Christmas, and "keep coming back!"



Keep Us Updated

Did you know that the TEC Program is charged a fee for non-deliverable newsletters or for the forwarding of some newsletters to new addresses?

Therefore, it is very important to have correct addresses on file to keep costs reduced.

If you plan to move or have had a change of address, please send it to newsletter@peterstowntec.com.

To reduce printing and mailing costs, the Peterstown TEC Community is sending the majority of our publications electronically.

Other TEC notifications are also sent out through Email.

Therefore, it is very important that we have updated email addresses. Please send your updated Email addresses to Brenda Barnickel at laydirector@peterstowntec.com or to Kim Souba, Newsletter and Website Chairman at newslet-ter@peterstowntec.com.

Saving money on newsletters will allow the TEC Community to use the funds for the "Good of the Program."

Clip and Save

Important TEC Dates

Please make sure to mark your calendar so that you don't miss out on all the fun we have at the TEC Hilton, spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

The following are the important dates:

+ **Jan. 10:** Spiritual Core

Team Meeting 6:30p.m.

+ **Jan. 22:** Africa Presentation by Sister Anne Germaine Picard

+ **Jan. 25:** First Team Meeting TEC 178

+ **Feb. 20:** First Team Meeting TEC 179

+ **Feb. 22:** Ash Wednesday

+ **Feb. 25-27:** TEC 178

(Boys)

+ **March 4:** Follow-up 5:30p.m.

+ **March 24-26:** TEC 179

+ **April 1:** Follow-up 5:30p.m.

PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!

“Give thanks in all things for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus,”

I Thessalonians 5:18

Peterstown Wish List

Each month the Peterstown TEC Newsletter will include a wish list of items needed for the greater community.

Some items need to be specific and are required to be purchased by a certain date to prepare properly for a TEC weekend.

Those types of items have been marked accordingly with an asterisk.

If you would still like to give a monetary donation, but designate it for something on the list, please communicate that as well.

If you have any questions about something on the general list or suggestions about something not listed, please contact me at [laydirec-](mailto:laydirec-tor@peterstowntec.com)

tor@peterstowntec.com.

I can also be reached by phone at 815-973-6606 or 815-538-2091.

Please contact Rose Rose, our Kitchen Chairman, in regards to food donations for a TEC weekend, at [kitchen-
en@peterstowntec.com](mailto:kitchen@peterstowntec.com) or by phone at 815-638-2165.

Thanks for your Wheat and “Passing It On” in this way.

May you and your family have a Blessed Christmas!

- White Letter and Business size envelopes
- 10x13 Manilla envelopes with clasps
- Colored copy machine paper for applications etc. (*contact Brenda for colors needed)
- Colored paper for wheat letters (5x7 size)
 - White and colored poster-board (*contact Brenda for colors and sizes needed)

- Hand sanitizer
- Soft Soap refills (orange antibacterial and clear)
- Canned Soda (Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Sprite Zero, Mountain Dew and Diet Mountain Dew) (*contact Brenda for what is low in supply)
- Bottled water
- Donations designated for TEC Crosses/Bibles

Please contact Rose Rose for specific quantity, type, and deadline dates for the following:

- 2 % and Skim Milk
- Lemonade Mix
- Coffee
- Sugar/Creamer
- Fruit
- Cereal
- Cheese
- Butter/Syrup
- Potatoes
- Frozen Vegetables
- Fresh Vegetables (carrots, celery, cauliflower, broccoli)
- Lettuce
- Salad Dressing
- Condiments
- Meat
- Lasagna Noodles
- Ziplock Bags, aluminum foil, saran wrap, paper towels
- 100% cotton hand towels and large
- 100% white 36” square cotton drying



Nothing is Impossible with God

From page 1

The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

“Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God.”

“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May it be to me as you have said.”

Then the angel left her. (Luke 1:26-38)



Happy Birthday Jesus



Happy Birthday, Jesus!

We are happy because today is your special day, you were born today, just for us.

We thank you that you came from Heaven to Earth just for us.

Thank you for all you did for us when you were here with us.

You taught us how to love each other, help us to remember to be more

loving. You taught us how to do the right thing, remind us that you are with us, even when we think no one is looking.

We thank you that you didn’t just stay a baby in a cradle but you grew up to be our Savior and died on the cross for our sins.

We thank you that you didn’t stay dead but you came alive and went to heaven, opening a

way so we can go there too, someday.

Thank you for this food and for all our family and friends.

Thank you for everyone who helped make this a great day. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Reprinted with permission from <http://prayer-and-prayers.info/christmas-prayers/happy-birthday-jesus.htm>.

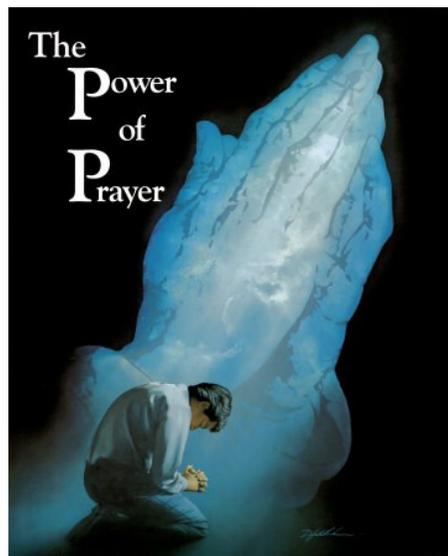
Welcome TECites of TEC 177



On behalf of the entire TEC Community, we would like to welcome the newest TECites of TEC 177. The weekend was held Dec. 3-5, under the direction of Leader Yvonne Sondgroth, and Assistants Erin Kelly and Cindi Loebach.

New TECites include: Rubi Arteaga, Kaylene Becker, Danielle Brandstatter, Megan Cain, Reagan Maly, Shelby Mixon, Hannah Read, MaryCate Smith, Crystalynn Washkowiak and Linda Mahnesmith.

Prayers Needed



Please pray for the Team of TEC 178 and all those TECites and their families who are suffering from illness and other stressors of life.

May God grace them with His healing touch and give their caregivers strength and faith.

Let us also pray for the safety of all travelers during this Christmas Season.

Remember all prayer requests may also be submitted on the Peterstown TEC Website at www.peterstowntec.com.

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Sister Offers Africa Presentation

In a recent interview with The Catholic Post on her three-month stay in Cameroon, Africa, Sister Anne Germaine Picard said, "The poor are no longer just a concept in my head, but in my heart."

While in Africa, Sister Anne Germaine, and Sister Suzanne Stahl, assistant Provincial Superior of the Sisters of Mary of the Presentation's American

Province, taught English to the children in the schools, went to parish meetings, visited prisons where the Sisters minister, and helped to clean seven rooms in a maternity hospital.

The September issue of The Shining Son featured an article about Sister Anne Germaine's ministry in Africa.

Sister Anne Germaine will be offering a presentation to the TEC

Community, and is open to the public, on Jan. 22, from 7 to 9p.m. at the TEC Center Gym.

There will also be a fundraising raffle to help raise money for a water well for the Sisters in Africa.

If you are unable to attend but would like to make a donation, please contact Sister Anne Germaine at 815-910-8035 or by email at sisteranegermaine@gmail.com.

