

December 25, 2018 Christmas



“O St. Regis” sung to the melody of **O Tannenbaum**

O St. Regis, O St. Regis,
Your people are so faithful.
O St. Regis, O St. Regis,
Your people are so faithful.
Not only when the times are good,
The trying times we have withstood.
O St. Regis, O St. Regis,
Your people are so faithful.

O St. Regis, O St. Regis,
Our holy place we call home.
O St. Regis, O St. Regis,
Our holy place we call home.
The greatest gift, our Savior’s birth,
Born to save our planet Earth.
O St. Regis, O St. Regis,
Our holy place we call home.

O St. Regis, O St. Regis,
Our Lord is always with us.
O St. Regis, O St. Regis,
Our Lord is always with us.
Our actions serve to spread His word;
A promise made to Christ our Lord.
O St. Regis, O St. Regis,
Our Lord is always with us.



The 12 Days of Christmas



Legend has it that the Christmas carol - "*The 12 Days of Christmas*" – began not as a secular song, but as a tool to teach the Christian Faith. It can work in the same way today. From 1558 to 1829, persecuted Roman Catholics in England were not able to practice their faith openly, so they had to find other ways, such as music, to pass on their beliefs. Each of the items in "*The 12 Days of Christmas*" has religious significance, although various sources ascribe different meanings to some items. The hidden meaning of each gift was designed to help young Christians learn their Faith. In the first line, "*On the first day of Christmas my True Love gave to me . . .*," the "True Love" represents God, and the "me" is the Christian. In the Universal Church, "Christmas" refers to the 12-day period that begins December 25. This season, take an opportunity to listen to the song anew as a reminder of our Faith. And, save some of the Christmas gifts and open them throughout the 12 days.

Day 1 - The "Partridge in a pear tree" is Jesus Christ Who died on a tree (the cross) as a gift from God.

Day 2 - The "two turtle doves" are the Old and the New Testaments, another gift from God. Some sources say that the turtle doves represent the presentation of Christ in the Temple.

Day 3 - The "three French hens" are Faith, Hope and Love – the three gifts of the Spirit that abide. (1 Cor 13) Another interpretation is that they are the Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Day 4 – The "four calling birds" are the four Gospels (**Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John**) that sing the song of Salvation through Jesus.

Day 5 - The "five golden rings" are the first five books of the Bible (**Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy**), also called the Pentateuch (literally translated – "the Five Scrolls")

Day 6 – The "six geese a-laying" are the six days of creation.



Day 7 – The "seven swans a-swimming" are seven gifts of the Holy Spirit (**Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, Fear {Reverence} of God**).

As well as - the 7 Sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church: Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick, Marriage, Holy Orders.

Day 8 – The "eight maids a-milking" are the eight beatitudes (see Matthew 5: 1 – 12).

Day 9 – The "nine ladies dancing" are nine fruits of the Holy Spirit (see Galatians 5: 22 – 23).

Day 10 – The "ten lords a-leaping" are the Ten Commandments.

Day 11 – The "eleven pipers piping" are the 11 faithful disciples/ Apostles.



Day 12 – The "twelve drummers drumming" are the 12 points/ articles of the Apostles' Creed.



Article 1: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

Article 2: And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

Article 3: Who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

Article 4: He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

Article 5: He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead.

Article 6: He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

Article 7: He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Article 8: I believe in the Holy Spirit,

Article 9: the holy catholic Church, the Communion of Saints,

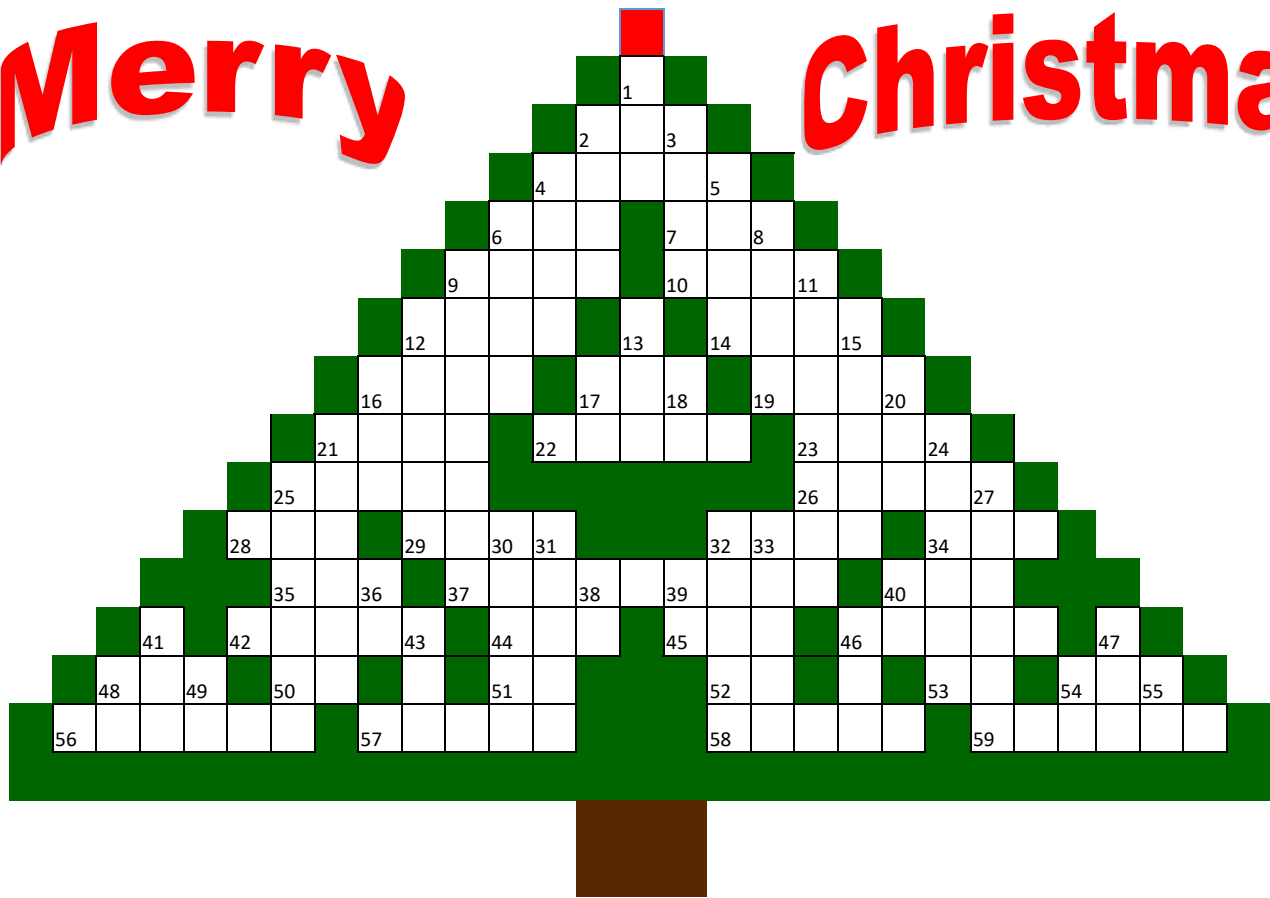
Article 10: the forgiveness of sins,

Article 11: the resurrection of the body,

Article 12: And in life everlasting.



Merry Christmas



ACROSS

- 2) "___ to the World"
- 4) One of Santa's deer
- 6) Santa's sack
- 7) "___ the Season"
- 9) Child favorites for Christmas
- 10) Santa goes ___ your chimney
- 12) See
- 14) Blitzen has big ones
- 16) Castle in Chess
- 17) Forest denizen
- 19) Santa's landing strip
- 21) "The First ___"
- 22) North Pole boss
- 23) LED alternatives
- 25) Steelers goal (briefly)
- 26) Affirmative assents
- 28) Type of overall
- 29) Carolers pride
- 32) Gift identifiers
- 34) Pgh. Pirates org.
- 35) Chi. Bulls org.
- 37) Fear of strangers
- 40) "Honest" president
- 42) Santa delivery aid

- 44) "Lets ___!"
- 45) Lennon's ex.
- 46) Blight
- 48) Hair gel
- 50) Wide shoe size
- 51) ER staffer
- 52) Lawrence, KS. school (initials)
- 53) Samsung rival
- 54) Shade tree
- 56) One of Santa's deer
- 57) Old record material
- 58) Christmas decoration storage area
- 59) Elf title "Santa's ___"

DOWN

- 1) Gift container
- 2) Holding fixtures
- 3) Abominable Snowman
- 4) Saint Drdat Church location (city in Armenia)
- 5) Santa's reindeer count
- 6) Bible AKA "The Good ___"
- 8) Christmas tree topper
- 9) Good gift for Dad
- 11) The study of mountains
- 12) Clay
- 13) 2nd Person of the Holy Trinity
- 15) Feet go here
- 16) Penguin great ___ Francis
- 17) Courtroom VIP
- 18) Alien visitor
- 20) Govt. food watchdog
- 21) Comet does this with a carrot
- 24) Cross or Dove
- 25) Coldest season
- 27) Santa's ride
- 30) One requiring many things
- 31) A knot in wood
- 32) Good toy for boys
- 33) This puzzle is ___ Christmas
- 36) Alcoholics Anonymous briefly
- 38) Overtime (briefly)
- 39) "Ho, Ho, ___!"
- 40) UPI rival
- 41) 2000 pounds
- 43) You can do this on powder
- 46) Melee weapon
- 47) High rugged mountain
- 48) Monopoly collection space
- 49) Switch position
- 54) "___ Cid"
- 55) Not you but ___

Match these Christmas Trees with their respective cities.



A



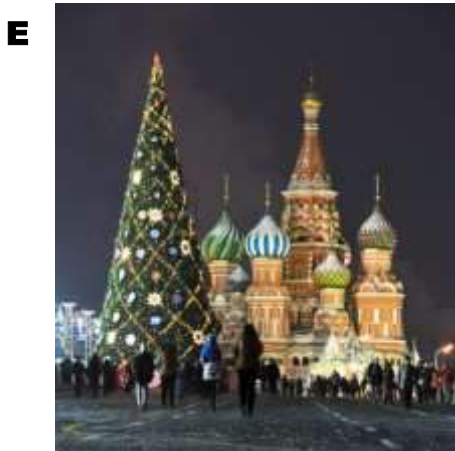
B



C



D



E



F



G

- 1) London, UK ___ 2) Warsaw, Poland ___ 3) Stockholm, Sweden ___ 4) Edinburgh, Scotland ___
 5) Ulsan, South Korea ___ 6) Moscow, Russia ___ 7) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil ___

1B 2F 3G 4A
5D 6E 7C



Unbeknownst to most theologians, there was a fourth wise man, who was turned away for bringing a fruitcake.



Saint Regis Parish



Fr. Dave, Florence, Joyce, Karen, Steve, and Mike extend their most sincere wishes to the St. Regis parishioners for a very merry and blessed Christmas. We are fortunate to work with such a wonderful and devoted congregation. May the peace of Jesus Christ fill your hearts this holiday season. Thank you and God bless.