

this puppy grows and knows your name, Barbie's three story dream house, tooth tunes, and an iPod. I cleaned my whole house and my back yard and my front and my mom's car.

Tanya Peters

Dear Santa,  
I have been nice to Anne, Tevin and Dustin. May I have a Playstation 2 and an X-Box 360. Before I forget, may you get me Cyclops, the game. Thanks.

Shayd Dicks

Dear Santa,  
I want an X-Box 360 and Smackdown vs. Raw 2008, and a football and a new backpack and a Wii and a Nerf football, and a Denver Broncos jersey that says Elway on the back and I will leave milk and lots of cookies. Thanks Santa.

Collyn Auker

Dear Santa,  
I want X-Box, Tracfone phone, Guitar Heroes, flying-v guitar, amp, Playstation 2, Gameboy, laptop, Nintendo Wii. I have been good. I hope I get everything on my list.

Cody Burns

Dear Santa,  
I would like some Magic Treehouse books and a guitar and a remote control car. I have been helping my grandma by helping her weed the garden. I have been helping my sisters carrying stuff. I would like some Littlest Pet Shop.

Jessica Ambrosier

Dear Santa,  
I'm very, very good. For every year, three or four, I'm not sure, but I help pick up the leaves and the sticks. And when my sister was sick I tried to be as quiet as I could be. And now, please may I have a toolbox so I can build

stuff, and maybe a pet snake or Magic Treehouse books. Well, that's all I would want. Thank you Santa if you give them to me.

Annie Mills

Dear Santa,  
I have helped people up in football if they get hurt. I also held the door for my dad. So please bring me an iPod and an X-Box 360 with a game called NFL 2008 football. Also a new cowboy belt with a belt buckle and Wrangler cowboy jeans.

Jace Ruder

Dear Santa,  
I want an X-Box 360 and an X-Box football game call NCAA 2008. And another X-Box game called Smackdown vs. Raw 2008 wrestling game. And a Playstation 3. And a Wii that I can play. And an iPod that I can

listen to. And a laptop. And a phone to talk on. And a rap CD that I can listen to when I am bored. Have a happy Christmas! I hold the door for my mom and brother a church.

Tevin Petrie

Dear Santa,  
I want an X-Box 360, a TV, a Wii, a PS2, a football, a laptop, an iDog, a game 2008 football, a Santa hat, a basketball and I have been doing jobs in my house.

Ryan Johnson

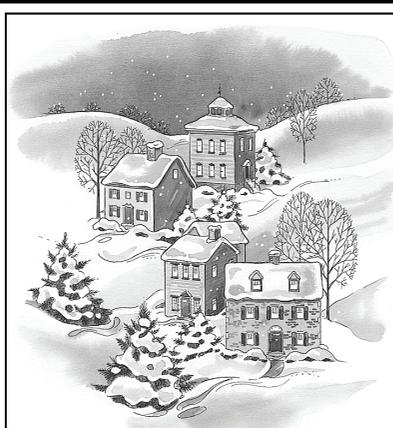
Dear Santa,  
I think I been good because I am helping my parents a lot on the new house and telling the truth. Please can I have a lightning McQueen car that is 8 inches tall and a Nintendo DS, and a remote control semi. Thank you Santa Claws.

Nik Armbrister

*Have A Bright And Beautiful Holiday Season!*

*May your spirits soar and your dreams take wing this holiday season. Thanks for being a part of our life this past year*

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*Shane and Kirsten Baird*



# 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 ASSOCIATION

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P.O. Box 510 — (785) 877-5111

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