

## Merry Christmas!



Ho, ho, ho! It's almost Christmas, and that means it's time for presents--and cookies!

Mrs. Claus has been baking in the Bake Shoppe, trying to make sure I fit in my red Santa suit in time for Christmas. But that won't be a problem! When Mrs. Claus bakes, the entire North Pole smells absolutely delicious.

What are you planning for Christmas? Oh, the elves are all in a tizzy, scurrying here and there, finishing up in the Toy Workshop, helping Mrs. Claus with all the goodies in the Bake Shoppe. And some of the elves are busy decorating the cookies for the main tree in the Crystal Palace. Oh, how it sparkles! They pipe the names of all the elves onto cookies, then hang them from the tree. The Christmas tree just sparkles with them!

Christmas is all about traditions. And that is one of our traditions here at the North Pole, to decorate the tree. What traditions are you celebrating with your family this year? Are you decorating a tree? Baking cookies? I love to help Mrs. Claus in the kitchen. Of course, she doesn't think I'm much help! But Christmas is about doing things together. And traditions are a good way to do that. Toys are fun to receive, but the best presents you can get at Christmas--or any time of the year--is just spending time with family and friends, doing things you love to do. That's really what Christmas is all about.

That, and the cookies. HO, HO, HO! Will you leave some cookies out for me and the reindeer Christmas Eve, if you bake? We get awfully hungry zooming all around the world, delivering presents. You see, the best presents, beside spending time with family, are the ones you make yourself.

Well, I'd better check on the sleigh and the reindeer. They're practicing for our midnight run Christmas Eve. Christmas is just around the corner. Make sure you make time to enjoy the holidays. And have a very Merry Christmas!

Love,

**Santa**

