

THE MESSAGE THIS MONTH

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

This is December. It is the happiest month of the year.

December means Christmas. In December everybody feels the Christmas spirit. The stores have Christmas decorations.

Christmas is the season for gifts.

Everybody likes to give gifts. Children like to receive Christmas gifts. To them Christmas means receiving gifts.

The first Christmas took place many years ago. It was the birthday of Jesus, the Son of God.

Jesus was the gift of God to all men. Jesus taught people how to live happily with themselves and with other peoples. He taught us how to love our fellow men. He taught us how to be kind.

Jesus was the gift of God to men on the first Christmas Day. From that time on people have been giving gifts to one another.

We feel happy when we receive gifts. We should also be happy when we give gifts.

Maria has many friends.

She prepared gifts for every one of her friends. She said to herself: "I'm going to give Christmas presents to all my friends. Then, I hope every one of them will also give me Christmas presents."

Before Christmas Maria gave her Christmas presents to all her friends. Her friends were very happy. They said, "Maria is very good to us. She gave us Christmas presents."

When Christmas came Maria did not receive a single Christmas present from her friends.

Suppose you were Maria, how would you feel? Would you enjoy the Christmas spirit?

What is the meaning of Christmas to you?

—DR. I. PANLASIGUI