



A Christmas Message

December 1978

At Christmas, a world gathers around a crib. Within that crib is a child who is destined to be the sign of new life, new hope, new faith. People from all stations in life came to that first crib almost 2000 years ago. Some arrived there because of an announcement of an angel. Others went chasing stars. But all arrived at this focal point which gave new meaning to their lives. And their lives would never be the same again.

Today, we still go chasing stars which dot a Montana sky and we try to rediscover the meaning of a child and His Mother huddled in a stable. We look for the presence of the child in our daily lives and in the parishes and communities of which we are a part. But once we discover his presence in our own lives and in the lives of others, our lives will never be the same again.

I pray that together we may have the courage and faith this Christmas to go chasing stars and discover the presence of the Lord in the unexpected places within ourselves and others. Have a very happy and blessed Christmas.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style and includes a small cross symbol at the beginning.

The Most Reverend Thomas J. Murphy
Bishop of Great Falls, MT