



Happy Birthday

January 13..... George Wehner, Carol White
 January 14..... Allison Gillespie, Paige Loudin, Bill Maness, Kiera Taylor
 January 15..... Kathryn Hapner, Joseph Natticchioni, Cody Yates
 January 16..... Faith Howard, Richard Shriver
 January 17..... Jon Burke, Leah Robinson
 January 18..... Stan Peery, Al Rumpke, Jon Salyer, Andrew Tomko
 January 19..... Jeffrey Beery (but which one, dad or son? Hmmm)



Cold Weather Behavior...

60 above zero:

Floridians turn on the heat. Minnesotans plant gardens.

50 above zero:

Californians shiver uncontrollably. People are sunbathing in Duluth.

40 above zero:

Import cars won't start. Minnesotans drive with the sunroof open.

20 above zero:

New Mexicans don long johns, parkas and wool hats & mittens. Minnesotans throw on a flannel shirt.

15 above zero:

New York landlords finally turn on the heat. People in Minnesota have one last cookout before it gets cold.

Zero:

People in Miami all die. Minnesotans close the windows.

10 below zero:

Californians fly away to Mexico. Minnesotans dig their winter coats out of storage.

25 below zero:

Hollywood disintegrates. Girl Scouts in Minnesota still selling cookies door to door.

40 below zero:

Washington, D.C. finally runs out of hot air. People in Minnesota let their dogs sleep indoors.

100 below zero:

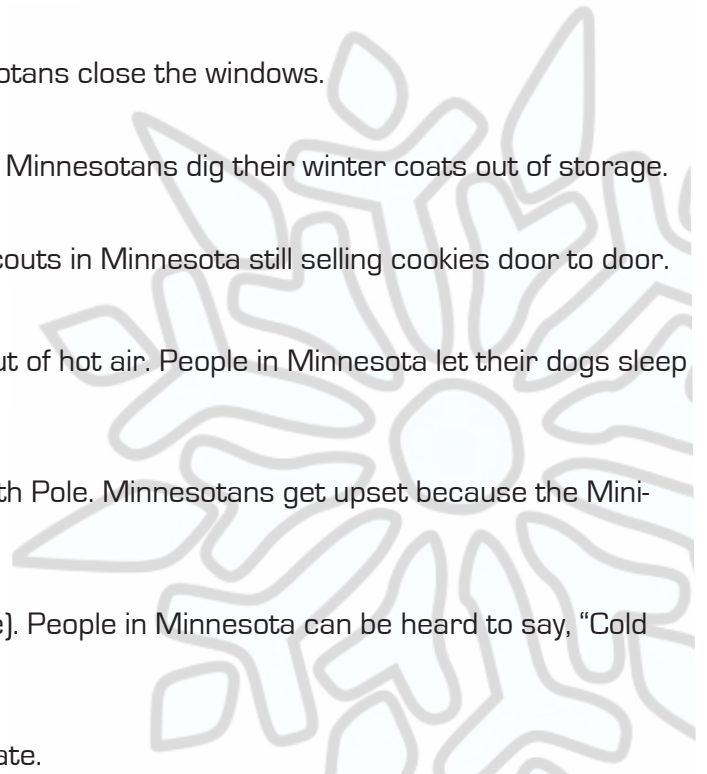
Santa Claus abandons the North Pole. Minnesotans get upset because the Mini-Van won't start.

460 below zero:

ALL atomic motion stops (absolute zero on the Kelvin scale). People in Minnesota can be heard to say, "Cold 'nuff fer ya?"

500 below zero:

Hell freezes over. Minnesota public schools open 2 hours late.





FR. MIKE'S SERMON FOR BAPTISM OF THE LORD

“Martha, please come to my desk and carry this vase of water to the back table of the classroom.” The 3rd grade teacher then rose from her desk and walked behind Martha with a second vase of water for the two bouquets of flowers lying on that back table. As Martha approached her friend Bobby sitting in the back chair near the table, she noticed a puddle of water under his seat. He shot back a glance of “now you know.” He had an accident. He wet his pants. His face turned red with embarrassment. He lowered his head in shame because the teacher who was walking up the narrow aisle behind her would surely see what happened.

Suddenly, Martha trips on something and dumps all the water on Bobby’s lap. The teacher yells, “Martha, how could you be so clumsy? You got poor Bobby soaking wet!” The school called Bobby’s mom for a second set of dry clothes. Martha was forced to apologize to Bobby in front of the class.

When school ended Bobby approached Martha. “I know you faked that trip. Thanks for protecting me.” Martha replied, “I did that once in school. I felt real bad. I didn’t want you to feel bad, too.” (Anyone on water pills knows the same feeling :->)

One of the most quirky things in the Bible is why would Jesus want John’s baptism of repentance? John would pour water over sinners as they confessed their wrongs. But Jesus is God. He never sinned. Why would Jesus demand that John baptize Him?

The reason is this: Jesus took our place. He took upon Himself all our sins. Just like Martha who took the blame and removed Bobby’s shame, Jesus took all our sins, guilt, and shame and had them nailed to the Cross. He took these upon Himself in our place. He took them all away.

There was a law in Tokyo around the year 1900 that no foreigner could take up residence there unless he had a “substitute.” There were natives who hired themselves out for this purpose. If the foreigner broke any law, the substitute suffered the penalty for it, even if the penalty was death.

Jesus did not hire Himself out for His own benefit. He gave freely out of Love for our benefit. So what should our response be to this wonderful gift? I think Bobby says it all, “Thanks.” God will judge us on how much gratitude we show to Him. How does God want us to give Him thanks? The answer can be found in the Book of Acts, “He went about doing good.” When you do good, you make God very happy. May God be “well pleased” with you.

Blessings...Fr. Mike