

Christmas Adverts

A Newly ordained Vicar was booked to do a graveside burial service for a man with no surviving family or friends. And Not knowing where the cemetery was, he made several wrong turns on the way...and got lost. When he eventually arrived he was an hour late.

The hearse was nowhere in sight, but he saw the digging machine was next to the open hole, and the workmen were sitting under a tree eating lunch.

The young Vicar went to the open grave and found it already partially filled..... Feeling guilty because of his lateness.... He prayed loud and preached a passionate sermon, sending the dead man to the great beyond in fabulous style.

Walking back to his car, he said 'thank you waiting gentlemen' 'That's ok Vicar' Fred....replied it was inspiring.... You know I've been burying septic tanks like that one for twenty years and I ain't never seen one given a send off like that before...."

I just Love Christmas ! Every year it just seems to inspire me all over again. There is something wondrous about the Christmas story and that's why I have written a number of stories, Poems & songs about God's amazing gift to us..

These days Many of the big stores have brought out amazing special adverts at Christmas to attract customers... and today we're going to look at a few....

1. The first one is called '**The Martian & The Pigeon**' 3:47

Find it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5kvzX8Sc9g>

What a great story... I felt sorry for the little Martian longing to see his family... but who breaks down and crashes as he tries to get home for Christmas... and is befriended by a helpful pigeon. After searching all the shops in town he despairs of finding the part he needs.

Frustrated he throws the broken bit away... A local teddy knows exactly what he needs & soon our little Martian is on his way home again.

Christmas is a time for families to be together. But that's not always possible. Things go wrong. Sometimes people live a long way off! ... sometimes we're glad they do!

You never know when you will be able help somebody.... It might be a smile or some kind words... an invite to the carol service... because Even Martians want to Get Home to their families at Christmas.

2. Our next video is a LOVE STORY about some folks who a going to visit family for Christmas....**Heathrow Bears**... 2:10

Find it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cheo1P22cUU&t=35s>

This video produced by Heathrow Airport is a love story spanning 50 years. Mr bear leaves his Hat on the plane & its returned by the pretty stewardess.... He buys her a little thank-you gift.... Their eyes meet... and the rest is history as they say... we see their own children & grandchildren... as they meet in arrivals... still obviously in Love & happy to meet family.

When Jesus was born his family had to go on a journey to Egypt... away from their hometown... Because Herod wanted to kill Him... many People in the world today live in fear of war... or face persecution... because they are from the wrong religion, the wrong tribe... in fact for all sorts of things... we need to be grateful for the peace & freedom we are privileged to enjoy.

3. I just like this one.... **'The Snowman & the Snowdog'** 1:09
Find it here: <https://youtu.be/vkljXeYBit0?t=2>

I like this video... because everyone is happy together... kind & thoughtful making sure nobody is left out in the cold.... Not even the Snowman... who gets a new coat.

I'm sure we all try to give people nice gifts at Chrsitmas... *Gifts They'll Always Remember.*
But its very easy in all the excitement of giving & getting presents to forget the greatest gift of all... John 3:16 tells us *'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.'*

Jesus was God's Christmas present to everyone on earth! If You unwrap Gods Present by asking Jesus to come into your heart that will be present you'll always remember.

4. This one is one of the big hits this Christmas... its called **'Moz the Monster'** 2:10
Find it here: <https://youtu.be/Jw1Y-zhQURU?t=4>

I think nearly all of us must have imagined that there was a monster under the bed at some time.... But I'm a big boy now... & I know what its called! A SPIDER !

The monster in this one is friendly and plays with the boy all night so that he falls asleep at school... at football... even his homework! Moz realizes he must go so the boy can sleep... but so that he wont be afraid he gives him a 'Star-Lamp' to help him not be afraid... and though he's not under the bed anymore the boy can still hear Moz is somewhere near watching over him.

Do you know who watches over us as we sleep ? ... no its not 'Moz' ! Does Jesus only watch over boys & girls? He also watches over Grown ups too. So none of us.... whether we are Children or grown-ups ever have to be afraid.... because Jesus is with us.

5. There is an old Scottish rhyme that says this...
From ghoulies and ghosties
And long-leggedy beasties
And things that go bump in the night,
Good Lord, deliver us!

This next film is about what happens when certain bear hears a noise outside his window...

Paddington & The Christmas Visitor. 1.35

Find it here: <https://youtu.be/KfaSxIkLsIE>

I love Paddington.. he cant help being good even if he's sometimes naughty! The man is actually a burglar stealing all the Christmas presents.... Paddington helps him put them all back! And as a result Paddington Saves Christmas.

So as the Video says... 'its Christmas...Lets Spend it well...' and oh yes... you might need more marmalade.!

6. My last video is called '**Sticky Jesus**' 3:56

Find it Here: <https://youtu.be/Jq5VGhLKuik?t=14>

This one is not actually an advert.! But it is so real!.... Everybody has a lot of excitement about Christmas.... Children look forward to the presents. Mum & Dad do their best to get a fab present.... Sometimes on a tight budget.... Hands up?

Does anybody have a nativity at home? Have you ever played with it? Have you ever been told off for touching it? ... just like the man in the film. Like many people He had some unhappy memories of Christmas.

For some people Christmas is a sad time... because someone they loved died around Christmas time... and they get sad remembering them

For others it's a happy time... because their baby was born near Christmas... or they got Married.

Hands up everybody here who was born in a stable! I know a few people who were 'born in a barn' ... because they always leave the door open.!

But I bet the stable Jesus was born in was quite messy! So I'm sure God wont be too bothered if we are a bit messy when we first get to know him. You see... Jesus came so that we could be 'clean' of the mess we sometimes make in our lives.

Jesus came so we could know Him. .. and also help others know him too. So when you meet other people as we come up to Christmas... remember the reason for the Season and with them '**Merry Christmas.**'