

Christmas Celebrations

I LOVE CHRISTMAS. I still look at the holiday with the wonder of a child. For the entire month of December, I still do believe in the magic of Jolly Ol' St. Nick but still marvel at the wonder of the true meaning of the holiday. I even have my sister wrap my presents and I do still snoop (ok, I admit it). After getting off work at 2 on Christmas Eve, the immediate family and their kids opened presents and had the first of three feasts throughout the weekend. What a haul! The highlight of my haul were two Scene-It games. I had asked for the rather awesome looking *Star Trek* edition the moment I heard about it and submitted a question to the makers of the game when it was being developed. I also received a pleasant surprise. I had picked up the Simpson's edition for my nephew just after Thanksgiving. I unwrapped the one of my own for Christmas. I have played it with some friends and ADORE IT!

Midnight Mass (well, 11PM mass) was beautiful as usual. The past few years singing "Silent Night" at Communion have been really difficult. I am immediately taken back to the four Christmas concerts in high school singing the carol by candlelight. I can still see Emily behind the piano. I then went home and caught my sneak-in viewing of *A Christmas Story*.

Christmas Day was feast number two and a day typically set aside for watching movies people had received. We were treated to *Santa Buddies* courtesy of Alex. I was exhausted and slept through half of it.

More fun and merriment to come with the Swary family Christmas.