

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Christmas has come and gone for another year and I sincerely hope that you each had a very Merry Christmas! Although it was not as we normally spend it, we are so blessed to be here on this earth. We were able to see the Star of Bethlehem and now when we say "I have seen His Star in the East"; we really have seen it. Some of our members may have spent Christmas alone, but remember you are never alone, God is always with us. Those of you that were fortunate to have gotten snow, I am so jealous, we do not get that much in my area.

This time of year, some of us have wonderful memories of Christmas and others sad memories. I have had some down moments lately and I would never want my letters to make anyone unhappy. Recently, while watching a Hallmark movie based somewhat on the Wizard of Oz, I realized that I need to be more positive when I feel alone and that the loved ones I have lost are my angels and will always be with me.

In our letters we have asked that you please contact us when you feel lonely, sad or just need someone to talk to. I know this is a hard thing to do because I do not take my own advice, I do not want to be a burden to anyone, but a very special Eastern Star Sister always seems to know and sends me a text which lifts my spirits tremendously. We have such wonderful members.

I would like to be there for you in the same way-to send you a text or call you because I know you need to hear a friendly voice (hope my voice is friendly) of someone who cares. Again reach out if or when you need that certain friendly voice.

Christmas I was able to spend it with my grandchildren. It is so awesome to watch a small child open their gifts with excitement and enthusiasm. When Violet came to us, she rarely said anything and now she has the deepest expressions on her face when she tells me things. Brody is wired up and too sit still, not happening. What a blessing they both are, Violet is into Unicorns and Brody loves dinosaurs. There is no where I would rather be than with children at Christmas.

2020 has been a year that we all can't wait to say goodbye to. As you ring in the New Year, I wish you good health, happiness and prosperity. I look forward to the day that we are once again given permission to meet again. It will be such a blessing to see all your smiling and happy faces once more.

"Sometimes we have to let go of the picture of what we thought life would be like and learn to find joy in the story we are living". Let us all look to 2021 with faith and hope to meet again n person.

We, the Grand Officers of New Mexico are so blessed to have all of our members in our lives. I know I feel blessed every time I hear your voice or see you on our Zoom meeting. I have so enjoyed those meetings; hope those that have attended have enjoyed them as well.

I may have written this before, but I really like it: "May your troubles be less, your blessings be more and nothing but happiness come through your door".

Happy New Year Sisters and Brothers!
Love always,
Christel AGC

