

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE - DEC. 11, 2011

# Reflections

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## 'A FEW THOUGHTS FROM MY HEART...'

BY REV. BROTHER JOHN GAUDREAU

Black Friday has passed and there is still plenty of time to wade into the waves of Christmas shoppers. Probably by now you have read or heard about the violent outbreaks among “holiday” shoppers across this great land on the day after Thanksgiving. There was gunfire, Tasers being used, mace being sprayed...and this was being done by those seeking special bargains. Oh, did I mention the fistfights and the “to the floor” scuffling?



Well Christmas, the time of Peace on Earth, is soon to arrive and I have an invitation for each of you who plan to search for that special something to give to those loved ones you cherish. My mother made this observation to me when I was just a boy and I’ve tried to follow her guide ever since.

When you approach the counter to seek help finding something or perhaps to pay, when the clerk asks you, “paper or plastic” or “cash or credit”, pause for a moment and ask them how they are doing. How long have they been working? When was their last break? You will be surprised how they react. Some may just pursue the sale, but most will have the scales fall from their eyes and will welcome for a brief time that you are thinking of them.

Yes retail is a service industry and they are trained to treat the customer as always being right. What if the customer is kind, thoughtful and sensitive? What if that customer is you? My brothers and sisters, this is not the “Holiday” season; it is Advent leading us to Christmas. You won’t make the news but I can assure you, you will make someone’s day. Let’s be instruments of Peace and Joy.

Interested in submitting your own Reflection for the RMCUCC to use? contact us:

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