

BELIEVE

THE GREAT LITERARY PROJECT

OUR GOD IS HERE.

Welcome to Believe Magazine!

We have been waiting for the final product to arrive for so long! With everybody working together, sharing great experiences, and making memories and new friends (at least for me...I'm new here!) we've been able to create a piece that we're proud to share with you.

As you know, this is our first publication. The theme for our magazine is Our God is Here. God really is here, in each and every one of you. Our mission statement is to provide fun, God-centered literature, all united in faith

Mrs. Lowing, the junior high Language Arts, English, Vocabulary, and English teacher, was the one who first came up with this FABULOUS idea. "I think that the team of writers is beautiful, and I'm very impressed with their great literary project," she told us.

Our staff includes:

- Gracie , age 9, 4th grade.
- Emily age 9, 4th grade.
- Luke, age 9, 4th grade.
- Erin age 9, 4th grade.
- Coletta , age 10, 5th grade.
- Lauren , age 11, 5th grade
- Katharine , age 12, 7th grade.
- John , age 11, 5th grade.
- Anna , age 10, 5th grade.

We hope that you enjoy our first publication! You can contact us through our e-mail address: klowing@stpaul-school.org.

Sincerely,

Katharine

Editor

Believe Magazine.

A Star is Born!!!

by Emily

Several months after the return of Mary, to Nazareth, Joseph brought Mary, his promised wife, to live with him. Joseph knew from the message of an angel that Mary carried within her the Lord of heaven and earth Who in time would be born of her. Mary's heart and all the thoughts of her mind were fixed on God and the great blessings which had come together. The months passed quietly and serenely in their modest home.

And then one day the peace of the town was disturbed. Caesar Augustus, the great emperor of Rome, through his governor Cyrinus, announced that a census would be made. For it, each citizen was to go to town of his birth

and register there. It did not matter that traveling was inconvenient to Mary. God's will was expressed through the exact demand of the law. In obedience, then, to the imperial decree, Joseph and Mary gathered together a few necessities for the journey and set out. After weary traveling of four or five days, they reached Bethlehem. Joseph immediately sought for lodging, but there was none to be had. There was no room for them in the inns.

Night had already fallen when Mary and Joseph found shelter in a cave. Here in the midst of the silent night Mary brought forth the Babe Who was Christ the Lord. Mary knelt in deepest adoration before her Son Who was the great God of heaven and earth. Joseph joined Mary in silent prayer. God had come, a tiny Babe, to live among men. The word, the Promise of God the Father, was made Flesh and dwelt among us.

Theola, Sister Mary. The Catholic Children's Bible: Regina Press. New York, New York: 1983.

The Stolen Gold By Anna

In a small town there was a very rich girl named Candace whose parents were the wealthiest people in the world. She also was very selfish about her gold. She would never in a million years give someone her gold. She would not spend her gold on anyone but herself.

Candace's parents were undercover detectives. They lived for their work.

Let me tell you a little about Candace. She was the most popular person in her school. She was tall, with long blond hair. She was the richest person in the world, plus she was only ten years old. Isn't that awesome?!!!

One day, while she was at school, someone snuck into her house, and stole 1/3 of the gold that she had at her house. The other 2/3 of it was buried around her house. When she got home, she found only 2/3 of her gold left in the ground. She sat sobbing for two hours. When her

parents got home, they found her sobbing and asked, "What's the matter?"

"Someone stole 1/3 of my gold," Candace wailed.

Her parents said, "Well then we are on the case of the stolen gold!!!"

As they looked throughout the house, all they could find as evidence was a notebook with the initials T. E. T. C. on it. Oh no, oh no, oh no! That is the most dangerous and scary group of robbers in town!!!!!!

AAHHHHHHHH!!!!!!!!!!!!!! When they opened the notebook to see what was inside, they got sucked in.

What Candace and her family didn't know was that this all was a trap. It was a whole different group of robbers that were trying to steal Candace's gold. They were trying to trap Candace and her family. Candace waited and waited inside the notebook until finally, the group of robbers came.

The group of robbers talked to each other and said, "Now that we have Candace and her family, we can easily find where the rest of the gold is hidden."

Candace yelled at them. "You'll never find out where I keep my precious little babies who are hidden in a secret place right around here, and are in the ground.

Oh no, I just told you where the gold is hidden. The address is 2928 Blackberry Lane. That is the house where I keep my gold. Why did I tell you that?

Ahhhhhhhh!"

The head robber said, "I put a truth spell on you so that you can't lie. We are wizards, and the darkest of all, I might add. You will tell us what we want and then we will steal the rest of the gold."

As soon as they heard where the gold was, they left. But when they got there, there wasn't any gold. That was because in that town, word travels fast. As soon as Candace's school heard that they were trapped, they went and moved the gold to a secret location because they knew exactly where the gold was kept.

When the robbers got back, they yelled at Candace for not saying the correct location where the gold was at. One of the thieves pulled Candace and her family out of the notebook to make them their slaves forever and ever.

When Candace did not come to school the next day, her friends came to her house and found the thieves lying on the couch watching T.V. The thieves told Candace and her family to go and capture her friends. When Candace saw that it was her friends that they were supposed to be capturing, the spell was broken because her love for them was too much. The robbers went and yelled at Candace and her parents for not capturing them.

Candace's friends called the police immediately. When the police saw the robbers yelling at Candace and her family, the police grabbed them as quickly as possible. As the police grabbed them the thieves lost their power. The police asked Candace if she wanted to talk to the robbers. Candace said yes.

When she got to the robbers she said, "You can either choose to go in jail for five years and tell me where you put the gold after you stole it, or you can go in jail for as long as you live and not tell me where you put the gold."

The head robber answered back, "Never, ever, will we tell you where we took the gold after we stole it. I don't care if I have to stay in jail for my life. I would rather do that than tell you where the gold is hidden."

"Well, then I guess you will have to go to the worst jail ever invented, the fire jail.

That is your only other choice," said Candace, "or you could tell me where the gold is hidden and be off on your way to jail for just five years. Your choice -I don't care either way."

"Well, when you say it that way, there is a bag under the rug in your attic that has the gold that we stole. The easiest way to get to the attic is to jump on the trampoline that is directly under the attic door and jump into the attic.

Please don't hurt me," the head robber said very scared.

Candace had a change of heart and thought that it would be better for her to give needy people her gold than to keep it all for herself.

The charities said thank you so much for the gold. The charities gave kids in Africa all the school supplies that they needed. The robbers did end up going to jail but

not the fire jail and they only had to go in jail for five years.

8 questions. The artist who has illustrated 24 children's books, Michael Glenn Monroe, will now answer some questions.

Coletta

How did you know you wanted to be an artist?

Michael was ten when he knew he wanted to be an artist. He was really good at painting. He taught himself how to draw.

Did anyone inspire you to be an artist?

Robert Bateman, a wildlife artist and environmentalist, inspired Michael. His parents also inspired him. Michael's mom inspired him by bringing him to the forest to look for animals for her classroom. Michael's dad inspired him by teaching him how to draw many different animals.

Did you like your art class when you were in elementary school?

Michael did enjoy art class. He made many different art projects including paper mâché, painting, drawing and much more.

Snowflake Suncatcher

Materials:

1. CD (silver iridescent)
2. Blue or white acrylic paint
3. Sponge or sponge brush
4. 6 inch paper doily (look for ones with overall design)
5. Ribbon
6. Tape (blue painter's tape, if available)

Instructions:

1. Using small pieces of tape, affix the doily to the CD.
2. Paint through the doily with sponge, using a straight up and down tapping motion (**not** back and forth brushing motion).
3. Remove doily and let dry.
4. Repeat on other side of CD.
5. Thread ribbon through hole in CD and tie a knot at top of CD.
6. Hang near a window to catch the light.

Polar Bear Handprint

Materials:

1. White, washable paint
2. Blue construction paper
3. Black marker

Instructions:

1. Paint the palm of your hand white.
2. Make a handprint on the paper.

What's your favorite art material to work with?

Michael likes to work with ebony paints and acrylic paints.

What's your favorite thing to draw?

Michael likes to draw wildlife. His favorite thing out of nature to draw is songbirds.

How was your experience with ArtPrize?

Michael entered The Sharing Tree in 2009 ArtPrize. He thought ArtPrize was fun and memorable.

How many books have you illustrated?

Michael has illustrated 24 books including *A is for Ark*, *Noah's Journey*, *I Saw It in the Garden*, *Buzzy the Bumblebee*, and many more. His favorite one was *A Wish to Be a Christmas Tree*. His favorite part was drawing the Christmas tree's face.

What's your favorite part of being an artist?

Michael likes when he finishes his paintings and books and he likes to go to schools and teach kids who want to learn.

- Using fingers and white paint, make some snow on the ground and snowflakes in the air. Also, you might add a fingerprint for a tail on the bear's body.
- When dry, use marker to outline the bear, draw in a face and claws.

Book Reviews

Percy Jackson and the Olympians Series

Review by Emily

Percy Jackson is a boy who is usually up to mischief. He is always on a quest that can help Mount Olympus. These are very action-packed books. I recommend these books for kids 9+.

Book Review: Scat by Carl Hiaasen By Gracie

Scat is my favorite book in the whole world. It is so action-packed and full of comedy elements. I also recommend Flush by Carl Hiaasen. It is hilarious as well and all the more action-packed. I would recommend Mr. Hiaasen's books for ages 9+.

Artemis Fowl Series

by Luke

The Artemis Fowl Series is about a young Irish twelve-year-old boy who is a criminal mastermind and millionaire. Here is a small portion of the last book in the series, Artemis Fowl: The Time Paradox. "When Artemis Fowl's Mother catches a life-threatening illness, his world is turned upside down. The only cure comes from an animal that is extinct." Can he save his mother in time? Read the book to find out!

Life at M.S.U.

by Erin

Student Name: Christine O'Driscoll

Age when student began and ended: 18-22

Age when senior year started: 21

Age when received degree: 22

What student studied: Psychology

By Katharine

To Kill a Mockingbird

by Harper Lee

***** (out of 5 stars)

To Kill a Mockingbird is an old classic. It's definitely for more mature readers (approximately age 12 and older) because it does involve racist words and comments and other mature dialect. This book involves a family in Macomb, Alabama in the early and late 1930's. It also involves the charge of a big crime of a black man against a white woman. I am not exaggerating when I say that this is one of my favorites. Definitely a must-read for teens and tweens (in other words, 12-year-olds.)

Black Beauty by Anna Sewell

***** (out of 5 stars)

Once again Black Beauty is an old classic. This book is an autobiography of a horse. It tells the struggles of his early life, and how he goes on through the years. If I were to rate this, it would definitely be five out of five stars!

The Giver by Lois Lowry

Once again The Giver is a book for mature readers. I honestly don't know how to explain this book, other than it's very adventurous and overall a great book.

Favorite subject: Criminal Psychology

Student's favorite subject was about: Criminal minds and the way they worked and the legal process

Roommate: Barbie Beckering

Job: Criminal Justice Department, Waitress at Bennigans, Psychiatric hospital for teens

Favorite place to eat at M.S.U: Michigan State Dairy Store (Flap Jacks)

Scariest moment at M.S.U: Car accident

Happiest moment at M.S.U: Getting degree

Saddest moment at M.S.U: Working with abused women

The day that made you angry: Having messy roommates

Little Brothers

by Erin

Little brothers are so neat!

They run up and down the street!

They laugh they laugh and play and
jump around!

They make me laugh cause they act like
clowns.

Shrimp

By Gracie

Shrimp, Shrimp, Shrimp

Coconut, Bacon Wrapped, Beautiful Shrimp

Makes my life greater

Oh me, Oh my, Shrimp!

The Letter C

by Gracie

Cuckoo clocks with cherries on top

Chocolate candy cops and ops

Chiming cats with corn and cooties

Cello coca-cola chicken coop

Catholic Central Cougars Rock

I like c and copy cots

Kirby the Worm

My name is Kirby and I am a worm
I have several children and they like
to squirm

In

Out

And out of the house

They're so very small

They all look like one mouse

Where ever they travel, they go in a
pack

To stay in the yard is something they
lack

One day they were gone

Oh where did they go

I search and I search

I can't find them

Oh no

Then I looked up and I saw two big
birds

I saw there my kids

I said this is absurd

I guess they deserved it

Just leaving our home

I loved you so much

Mick, Bob, Kelly, and Jo

Good luck in the stomach

How I loved you so much

I'm sorry those birds had to you for lunch

by anonymous

How to say "Good day. I live in Paris, France" in German. by Luke
Guten tag. Ich lebe in Paris, Frankreich.

Questions for the Principal

By: Coletta

Coletta: What's your favorite part of being a principal?

Mrs. Salva: My favorite part of being a principal is being with the students. I especially enjoy working with the teachers to plan and implement new ideas and projects for our school.

Coletta: How long have you been a principal? Have you been a principal at any other schools?

Mrs Salva: I have been a principal for 14 years. I was a principal at SS. Peter and Paul for 13 years before coming to St. Paul's.

Coletta: Are you ever nervous being the principal?

Mrs. Salva: I get really nervous, initially, when I have to get up in front of people. Once I get started I'm okay, but I find it uncomfortable.

Coletta: Do you enjoy making decisions as a principal?

Mrs. Salva: I do, especially when they are for the benefit of the students and the school.

Coletta: Has anything embarrassing happened to you when you were principal?

Mrs. Salva: Something embarrassing.....I was at a school-wide parent meeting and I had to introduce the teachers. I did okay until I got to my 8th grade teacher and I couldn't remember her name. So I kind of stood there until she told me her name. Now I make it a point to have all of the teacher's names in front of me when I have to introduce them at a parent meeting.

Coletta: Were you a teacher before you were a principal?

Mrs. Salva: I was a teacher at Muskegon Catholic Central where I taught theology and then I was a teacher at St. Thomas for 12 years.

Coletta: What's your favorite part about being a principal at St. Paul?

Mrs. Salva: My favorite thing about St. Paul's is the passion that the people have here for our school and parish. I appreciate the strong connection between the Parish and the school because that connection makes things more cohesive. In short it's just a nice place and I enjoy being here.

RECIPES

Chocolate Muffin Recipe

Ingredients

- ½ bag of Mini chocolate chips
- 1 box of chocolate cake mix
- 1 can of pumpkin

Mix the ingredients together. Spoon into mini-muffin tins. Bake at 350° for 20 minutes or until a tooth pick comes out clean

No Bake chocolate oatmeal cookies

Ingredients

- 2 cups sugar
- ½ cup cocoa
- ½ cup butter

Bring the above ingredients to a rolling boil for one minute. Remove from heat and add ½ cup

peanut butter and three cups quick oatmeal; stir together and drop on wax paper with tablespoon.

Peanut Butter Corn Flake Cookies

Ingredients

½ cup Karo Light Syrup

½ cup sugar

Heat above ingredients to a boil. Remove from heat. Add ½ cup peanut butter and 4 to 6 cups corn flakes. Drop by bunches on wax paper.

Snickers Doodles

Ingredients

1 cup shortening

1 ½ cups sugar

2 eggs

1 tsp. vanilla

2 ¾ cups sifted flour

2 tsp. cream of tartar

½ tsp. salt

Mix ingredients. Roll into balls the size of small walnuts. Roll in mixture of 2 tbs. sugar and 2 tbs. cinnamon; you may add more if needed. Place about 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 8 to 10 minutes at 400°

The Secret Weapon

by Lauren

Camillia Fink was dribbling the ball down the soccer field. The crowd was cheering, teammates were shouting, and everyone was counting on her. It was game point and Camillia was her team's secret weapon who they used at the end of every game or if they were losing.

"You can do it Camillia! Dribble right through them!" Camillia's teammates shouted. Camillia was so confident she could win this, she almost forgot about the other team's secret

weapon. Martha Feldman. She was the team's biggest, meanest, most powerful defender. Camillia dribbled closer and closer to the strong Martha Feldman. She dribbled past every midfielder around until suddenly she ran right into Martha. Camillia was terrified. Martha was such a hard kicker. Camillia just wanted to run and hide. Right then, Martha kicked the ball as hard as she could, knocking her foot right into Camillia's face. Camillia fell straight to the ground, blood all over her mouth and nose. Her parents and teammates

came charging over toward her.

"Camillia! Are you all right?" cried her dad.

"Of course she's not all right! Look at her!" cried Mom.

"We better get her to a hospital." said one of Camillia's friends, Margo.

"Margo's right." agreed Coach Lunder.

In minutes an ambulance arrived at the soccer field. "Is she going to be all right?" wondered Dad.

"I don't know. She may need stitches," said one of the paramedics.

"Um, hello, the game!" Martha said rudely.

“Yeah, she’s right. We do have to get on with the game,” agreed the referee in a much nicer way.

So the game had gone on, though Camillia’s team had lost, sadly for the first time. The team had good effort but that wasn’t enough to stop Martha Feldman.

At the hospital, Camillia lay in bed, doctors giving her a numbing shot so she wouldn’t feel them giving her the stitches. Camillia’s three friends walked in.

“Hey Camillia.” said Margo.

“How’s she doing?” asked Aleisha.

“Is she getting stitches?” asked Cynthia.

“She’s doing great. She has a black eye and she’s going to need stitches, but she’ll be fine,” said the doctor. The three girls nodded.

“Hey guys.” Camillia smiled.

“Sorry about that Martha Feldman,” said Margo.

“Jeez, that girl is a monster,” Cynthia said shaking her head.

“And the way she acted when she kicked you,” said Aleisha.

“It’s ok guys,” started Camillia.

“No it’s not! We lost because of her and she sent you to the ER.” shouted Cynthia.

“Girls,” said Mom. “It’s time for Camillia to get her stitches.”

“Good luck, Cam.” Margo waved goodbye to her friend.

“I’ll need it!” said Camillia.

Fifteen minutes after the stitches were put in, Martha Feldman arrived in Camillia’s hospital room.

“Camillia, you have a visitor.” said a nurse.

“Martha?” Camillia wondered, staring at the pale girl.

“Are you okay, Camillia?” asked Martha.

“Yeah, thanks, Martha. The stitches don’t feel too bad now,” replied Camillia.

“I’m really sorry. It wasn’t on purpose. I was just scared of you. I didn’t know I would kick you in the face. I’ve heard a lot of rumors about you being the best and strongest player.” Martha stared at the floor.

“Really? I felt the same way. I’d heard the same

rumors about you,” said Camillia.

“Oh. Wow. I guess we’re both star players, huh?” Martha said.

“I guess. Maybe in the fall we can sign up for the same team. Well, anyway, it’s time to get out of here. I better get home.” Camillia got off the hospital bed.

“That would be fun! Well, see you tomorrow in the cafeteria. Oh, and sorry I cost you the game,” Martha said.

“Don’t worry about it. Bye!” Camillia waved as Martha left the room. Camillia’s parents walked in.

“I’m glad you’re friends with Martha now, Camillia.” Mom told her.

“Whoa, whoa, whoa. Acquaintances. Not friends,” Camillia stated.

“Well we’re glad you’re *acquaintances* with her,” Dad said.

And in the end, Camillia and Martha became good *friends*. The two girls then played on the same soccer team. And they won every game, every season, every year.

Burj Khalifa

by Luke

The Burj Khalifa, known as the Burj Dubai before its inauguration, is a skyscraper in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and the tallest man-made structure in the world. The cost to construct it was \$1.5 billion dollars. Its exterior is made of aluminum and textured stainless steel. The tower was designed by Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill, who also designed the Sears Tower and John Hancock Building in Chicago.

Why Don't You Try Piano!

by Emily

Piano is a great instrument and activity to do anytime! It's one of the most popular instruments in the world! It helps you strengthen your joints and fingers and gets them on the move. It's also fun to even do on an electric piano. You can also do a little performance for your friends and family too! You can make little fake tickets for admissions! You can also pretend you're a famous musician and play some of their music and act like them!

Happenings in St. Paul

By: Katharine...Proud Newbie of the St. Paul Family.

First of all, on behalf of everyone here in the St. Paul Parish and School community... Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We hope that 2011 brings you many blessings.

Did you see all of those pets in the gym? They were part of the Pet Blessings Community Prayer Service. A prayer was said, songs were sung, The Scripture was read, and the pets were blessed with Holy Water. This was done in honor of The Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi. He is the Patron Saint of All Animals. What a great thing to do for our St. Paul's family.

We would like to give our sincerest thanks to everyone who helped make the Halfway to St. Paddy's Day celebration such a success. It was a BLAST! All the entertainment was very good! Thank you for taking the time to ensure that this celebration was the best it could be.

Another thank-you we would like to make is to those who helped tremendously with the Pails for Haiti/ Christmas in October project. I am positive that the people of Haiti appreciate your great effort to help them. The simplest of things could mean the world to them. Once again, thank you so much.

And... did you enjoy your donuts?! The Donuts with Dads was a BIG HIT! Warm donuts, steamy coffee (cream and sugar, anyone?) Everyone enjoyed it!

Don't forget that the SPAuction is on February 11, 2011. This year's SPAuction proves to be just dandy! That reminds me... the theme this year is WESTERN y'all! Kids...remind your parents!

That's all happening around St. Paul's. And here's what's happening...in your neck of the woods.
God bless,

The *Believe Magazine* Staff

No Bake Wreath Cookies

1/2 Butter

4 cups of mini marshmallows

1/2 teaspoon almond extract

4 cups of corn flakes (or and other cereal)

1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

Red hots

Directions

1. Microwave marshmallows and butter on high for two minutes. Stir, then microwave on high for two minutes more, then stir once again.

2. Add extracts and mix quickly, then add cornflakes. Drop by spoonfuls in clumps on greased wax paper and decorate with 3 red hots each.
3. Once cooled, use lightly greased fingers to put cookies on tray or platter.

Then.....

Enjoy!

Dear Harmony

Dear Harmony,
I have an incredible lizard at home named Liechtenstein. I care for him very much. This is where my problem comes in. I do not want to leave him home and my mother says I cannot bring him to school. I miss him terribly throughout the day. What can I do?
Lonely Days

Dear Lonely Days,
It's true you cannot take a lizard to school. Since you miss him so much perhaps you could get a camera and tape him while you're gone. At school you could take a picture of him or a stuffed animal lizard. Hope this helps,
Harmony

Dear Harmony,
My cubby is a mess. When I want to find my boots, I find my mittens. When I need my backpack, I end up with my boots!
Help me if you can,
Messy in the Hall!

Dear Messy in the Hall!,
I think you should first of all take EVERYTHING out of your cubby. Then take everything that should not be in your cubby, somewhere else, then put everything in nice and neatly. Ta-d, a soon you'll be able to find everything!
Have fun cleaning,
Harmony

Dear Harmony,
My hands always get very cold at recess. I can hardly stay outside the whole recess.
Can you help me,
Cold in the Snow

Dear Cold in the Snow,
I'm sorry your hands are so cold during recess. I recommend getting super fuzzy gloves. If this does

not work get glove heat warmers.
Stay warm,
Harmony

*If anyone would like to put in a question, please give them to Ms. Lowing and I, Harmony will get them.
Thank you!*

True or false dog questions Anna

1. Was the first animal to go in space a dog named Laika?

True – False

2. Should a person never punch a dog facing him/her?

True – False

3. The Beagle and Dachshund are the noisiest dogs.

True – False

4. A lost Dachshund was found swallowed whole in the stomach of a giant catfish.

True – False

5. The Akbash dog and the Basenji are the quietest dogs.

True – False

6. The oldest dog on record was an Australian named Bluey who lived 29 years and 5 months. In human years that is more than 160 years old.

True – False

7. The most popular dog in the U. S. is the Golden Retriever.

True – False

8. Dogs in a pack are more likely to chase and hunt than a single dog.

True – False

A Pogo Stick

by Lauren

A pogo stick he said to buy
A pogo stick and pudding pie
Sounds easy enough
I'll make one for him
'Cause everyone knows that "made" presents win
I went in my yard
Got a stick and a spring
I glued them together
This is a strange thing
A pogo stick...
I brought it to him
He really disliked it
The nerve of him!

Marty's Christmas Adventure

By John

It was two days before Christmas.
Santa's elves were very busy making toys.
The penguin's job is wrapping the toys.
Every day of every year the elves make toys
and the penguins wrap toys. Noel is one of
the elves that makes the toys. Marty is a
penguin and Noel's best friend. Noel knows
that Marty wants to do more than spend all
of his time wrapping toys, but he also wants
to make Santa happy.

Santa said, "Okay, everyone stop working
for one minute. We are a little bit ahead of
schedule, so I am going to ask one of the
elves to check to make sure that the kids get
what they want for Christmas."

Several elves answered, "Can we just
read the Christmas lists the children sent
us?"

Santa replied, "I would but my head
elf recycled the Christmas lists."

The head elf said, "I thought that
boxes full of Christmas lists had last year's
Christmas lists!"

Santa said, "No worries, we can work
together to figure things out!" Santa called
out to Noel and said, "Would you want to

see if the children get what they want for
Christmas?"

Noel said, "Y-yes, I would love to!"

Noel is the kindest and most helpful elf in
the North Pole. He is so excited and happy
that Santa asked him for help. Noel really
knows everything there is to know about
toys. He also understands Marty penguin
like no other elf does. He knows that Marty
would love to help Santa deliver toys too.

He and Marty work hard every day together
and they want to please Santa and make kids
happy too!

Then Marty said, "Can I go with Noel?
He is my best friend!"

Santa said, "I am so sorry Marty, but
this is an elf's job."

Marty said, "Okay Santa," with a sad
look on his face. Then, all the elves and
penguins went back to work to make sure
presents were ready in time for Christmas.

When everyone was done with their work,
Santa said to Noel, "I am going to need you
to watch and sort of spy on the kids, so they
get what they want for Christmas." Santa
then left to go check his naughty and nice
list. Noel went to get two reindeer and a
small sled to travel on to visit all the kids in
their houses. When nobody was around,
Marty jumped into the small sled and started
to hide himself. When Noel was ready to set
off to complete his duty, he had no idea that
Marty was hiding on the sled. When Noel
spotted his first house he landed on the roof
very carefully so no one could hear him on
the roof. When he went down the chimney,
Marty jumped out of the small sled and
followed him. When Noel got to the bottom
of the fireplace Marty crashed down,
landing right on top of Noel.

Noel was surprised and said, "Marty,
what in the world are you doing here? Get
off of me, you flightless bird. I AM BEING
SUFFOCATED!!!"

Marty replied, "Look, Noel, I am
sorry I landed on you, but I am sick of

wrapping toys everyday for the rest of my life. I just want to have one Christmas run before going back to spend the next entire year wrapping more toys. You are my very best friend, Noel, and you are going to need all kinds of help. Santa or no Santa, I have to help you to make sure Christmas is saved for all the kids.”

Noel is really happy to see his best friend Marty. He has a really big job now, and he needs Marty to help him out.

They both set off going house to house finding secret wishes from all the kids. Things were going smoothly until they reached the last house, where a sweet little girl named Annie lives. She has always wished and dreamed for a soft stuffed animal penguin. When Noel and Marty reach her house, Noel asks Marty to watch out and see if any one wakes up. Marty has done this job at every other house without trouble. When Marty was on his way to the stairs to be a lookout, he bumps into a little table and knocks over a small glass vase that tumbles over and smashes into pieces on the floor. Annie wakes up and Noel hears him.

Noel whispers, “Hey, I hear footsteps, Marty, and we need to quickly hide!” Noel quickly hides under a chair.

Marty goes under the Christmas tree acting like a toy. When Annie gets down the stairs, she looks all around. She spotted under the tree the stuffed animal penguin she always wanted most in the world!

Annie said, “Cool, Santa came early this year!” She ran to the tree and picked up Marty and gave him the hardest hug she could. She squeezed him so hard that Marty burped! Annie laughed and said, “Cool, he makes noise, too, and I love him!”

Noel doesn’t know what to do as he sees Annie go back upstairs hugging his best friend. As she walks to her bedroom. Marty says to Noel while she is passing by, “Please help me, Noel!”

Annie says, “This penguin is perfect and he makes cool noises, too!” Annie takes Marty into her room and sets him on her bed. She asks, “Do you want some Christmas cookies?” Annie picked Marty up and hugged him again. She says, “What gives? This toy used to make noise earlier.” Annie hugs him even harder! Marty said, “I love Christmas cookies and hot chocolate!”

Annie said, “Great, then I will go and get some.”

When Annie leaves for the kitchen, Noel runs up the stairs and into Annie’s room. Noel gasps, “Marty, you’re okay! Let’s get out of here!” Marty sees an attic door in Annie’s closet. They opened it and went up to the attic, climbed out a window, and they were back on the rooftop. Marty is very glad to be back with his best friend!

Marty says, “I am really glad you came back to get me, but I am also going to miss Annie. Let’s make sure she gets a talking stuffed penguin this year.”

Noel says, “I was really worried that I was not going to see you again, and I needed to go back to get you because we are a great team, and we are best friends! I guess we are finally done so let’s gather the wish list. “Now, on Dancer, on Dasher.” They only have two reindeer. . . and off to the North Pole they go!

When they return to the North Pole and into Santa’s workshop, everyone cheered and shouted, “Hurray, hurray, HE did it!”

Santa says, “You mean THEY did it!”

Marty jumped out of the sleigh and went up to Santa and said, “I am very sorry Santa. I should have listened to you and stayed here.”

Santa said, “Apology accepted and maybe I was wrong about you.”

Santa told Marty, “You make me happy and proud. You did a great job! I am

going to let you come with me to help deliver presents every year at Christmas!”

Marty said, “REALLY, THANK YOU SO MUCH, SANTA!”

Noel shouted, “Three cheers for Marty. Hip-hip hurray, hip-hip hurray, hip-hip hurray!”

Noel and Marty were both so happy that Santa was pleased with their work!

They both got to go with Santa on Christmas Eve!

They all left to deliver toys in time for Christmas. The first house they delivered to was the last house Marty and Noel were at, Annie’s. Marty proudly put a soft stuffed animal talking penguin under her Christmas tree. They traveled to all the other houses and all the other kids got their toys, too!

Marty was happiest about Annie getting her special penguin toy!