

## Christmas Pause

*In the middle of the frantic activity of the Christmas rush it is important to just stop for a moment and reflect on the Christmas story and what it really means.*

God of eternity,  
In the last minute rush of Christmas shopping  
we pause to consider what money cannot buy

In the excitement of wrapping the presents  
we pause to listen to the story that lies beneath the paper

In the busyness of cooking and entertaining  
we pause to remember those who have no place to go

In the choosing of trees and putting up of decorations  
we pause to pray for those who find Christmas a difficult time

In the singing of carols and costumes of nativity plays  
we pause to think of what lies behind our customs and traditions

In the letters to Santa and hanging up of stockings  
we give you thanks for your gift of yourself in the birth of a baby.

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