

Across

1. The biblical birthplace of Jesus.
3. Many of us get them whether we've been naughty or nice.
6. Families have their own.
9. Poor bird. Twice in one year?
10. Synagogue services can be led by a cantor, a member of the congregation, or by this more familiar Jewish scholar or teacher.
12. None are perfect, but be with them if you can over the holiday season.
14. Prettying up the house for the holidays. Prettying up the Christmas tree.
17. Coal eyes and a carrot nose.
18. Some are funny, most keep you warm, but "ugly?" You be the judge.
19. Often not included, leaving frowns on little girls and boys.
21. A plateful for Santa; he can't eat just one!
22. Mother.
24. An ancient and truly spiritual city located on a plateau in the Judaeen Mountains between the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea. This Holy city is one of the world's foremost pilgrimage destinations. One of the oldest cities in the world.
28. Shake up this little magical world in your hands creating a gentle snowfall. Watch your child's eyes light up with delight.
30. The menorah holds how many candles?
32. "Not the buttons! Not my gumdrop buttons!" Poor little tasty guy made of what Christmas treat?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FpBJih02aYU>
34. It is traditional to eat fried foods on Chanukkah because of the significance of oil to the holiday. This is one of the top 10 favorites.
38. (Three) Wise Men or (Three) Kings, were, in the Gospel of Matthew and Christian tradition, a group of distinguished foreigners who visited Jesus after his birth, bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and _____.
41. Also spelled "Hanukkah," the Jewish festival of rededication, also known as the festival of lights.
43. The actor who portrayed George Bailey in It's a Wonderful Life, one of the oldest and beloved Christmas movies.
44. Traditional flavor for these "canes" or "sticks."
45. Some are elaborate and accompanied by music. It's fun to drive around and see everyone's Christmas _____.
46. His nose wasn't red from too much mead.
47. Filled with jelly or custard, these doughnuts are covered in powdered sugar. A Hanukkah treat!
49. He didn't steal nothin'.
51. Used to decorate tree-tops, but also the beacon for the three wise men.
52. How many days is Hanukkah celebrated?
53. Be careful not to overdrink at one of these office thingamajigs.

Down

2. The King sings Santa Claus Is Back in Town. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4FVvAMSTeHs>
3. With a motto of "Courage and Loyalty," the Pontifical Swiss Guard is the oldest standing army in the world who swear an oath to defend and protect who?
4. A "white" Christmas is blanketed with this.
5. Jewish place of worship, but also used as a place to study and for community gatherings.
7. "Hanukkah" literally means this in Hebrew.
8. It's a bird, it's a plane! No, it's Santa's _____.
9. Not just for kids. Objects of play.
11. Songs like "Joy To The World" sung in groups. Spreading cheer.
13. An intoxicating stovetop simmer that evokes fond memories.
15. Smooch trap.
16. When evergreen, the unending circle of life; when holly, Christ's crown of thorns.
20. Santa's helpers.
23. Not just for gifts; don't forget a yellow one in honor of our troops.
25. Kris Kringle.

26. When many attend a Midnight Mass.
27. This American Jewish all-male a cappella group based at Yeshiva University is noted for their 2010 Hanukkah song "Candlelight" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qSJCSR4MuhU>>Has a fun beat!
29. Where many of us find our presents in the wee hours of the morning. Under the _____.
31. Mountain goats wear them, and they jingle too! Sockpuppet Cow ;)
33. Traditional yuletide drink saturated with booze.
35. Keepsakes and personalized, glass or wooden, these make your tree magical to behold.
36. Annual Christian festival celebrating Christ's birth.
37. Make sure you stock up on this before wrapping all of those presents! Or else you'll be in a sticky situation.
39. Often called the Festival of Lights, the holiday is celebrated with the lighting of the _____ , traditional foods, games and gifts. The _____ is traditionally a seven-branched candelabra. For Chanukah one lights a Chanukeah, which has eight branches and a ninth called a Shamash (which is lighted first and used to light the rest).
40. A gambling game played with this square top.
42. Love fills you up when you watch these little ones on Christmas morn.
48. Messengers of the gods; agents of divine will and its execution on earth. Heavenly wings made with snow.
50. A symbol of God's love and sacrifice.