Celebrate Xmas

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The answer to the meta is what X replaces

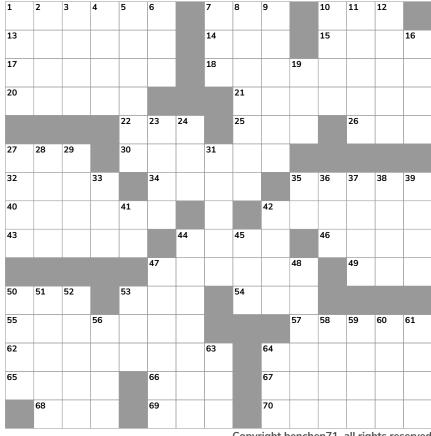
ACROSS

- 1 Plant that is used at Xmas to engineer awkward kissing opportunties
- 7 Prefix meaning 'egual"
- 10 Public vehicle
- 13 Jujitsu relative
- 14 Chest bone
- 15 Xmas drink made with rum or brandy
- **17** One of the Wayans
- 18 Da Vinci or DiCaprio or a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle
- 20 Finish by
- 21 Bitter criticism
- 22 Belly
- 25 Sorta
- 26 JPEG alternative with a controversial pronunciation
- 27 US federal purchasing org.
- 30 Christen with oil or water, perhaps
- 32 Spanish greeting
- 34 What you hope to find inside an Xmas turkey
- 35 Nicole Kidman's other half, ___ Urban
- **40** Former male student of a school or college
- 42 National drink of **England** (including a serving suggestion)
- 43 Xmas character based on a bishop with a penchant for secret gift-giving, informally
- 44 Apportion

- 46 Fossil fuel
- **47** Some people prefer this on their Xmas pudding instead of custard
- 49 Spanish gold
- **50** Dye container
- 53 Fall back
- 54 Zeta follower
- 55 Popular alternative to a star on Xmas trees
- 57 Arthur Miller's salesman, Willy ___
- 62 "As God is my witness!"
- 64 "Stranger Things" actress, ___ Ryder
- 65 Prophet
- 66 East Berlin was its capital (abbr.)
- **67** Odor-reducing plumbing fittings
- 68 Works in a gallery
- 69 Understand
- 70 Festival that Jesus attended in John 10, celebrated around the time of **Xmas**

DOWN

- 1 Error
- 2 Property claim
- 3 Barely managed, with "out"
- 4 "30 Rock" actress, ___ Fey
- 5 The Voice of the Civil Rights Movement
- 6 Eternity
- 7 Offline, briefly
- **8** What you do a lot of panning for gold



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- 9 Instrumentalist who helps tune an orchestra
- 10 Person asking for money or food
- 11 Disassemble
- 12 "Me also"
- 16 Game with clubs and caddies
- 19 To the ___ degree
- 23 Well ventilated (but expressed negatively)
- 24 "Excusez-!"
- **27** Give up the ____ (die)
- 28 Answer, for short
- 29 German-based supermarket chain
- 31 Deduce
- 33 Start of a 26 letter series

- 35 Bout ender, for short
- **36** And so forth (abbr.)
- 37 "Me also"
- 38 Pull apart
- 39 Circle of light in many paintings of The Nativity
- 41 "I agree"
- 42 Robert De Niro and Al Pacino movie directed by Michael Mann
- **44** Frequent collaborator of Jody Hill, Danny ___
- 45 Concert souvenir, for short
- 47 One of these took down the Titanic
- 48 Big hit for Courtney Love's band, Hole

- **50** Composer of the "Chariots of Fire" theme
- **51** On the bring
- 52 Babel construction
- **53** Clean air org.
- 56 Sassy
- **58** About .62 mi.
- 59 Person with a tonsure, probably
- 60 "two turtle doves, ___ partridge...'
- **61** Lead singer of the band Sixpence None the Richer, Leigh ___
- 63 Uno + due
- **64** City in China that was mentioned in a lot of news broadcasts at the beginning of 2020