

Christmas Message

ACROSS

- 1 Ceremonial splendor
- 5 "Surely you ___!"
- 9 Popular eye-care prefix
- 13 Popular dry white wine
- 16 Winter comment
- 17 60
- 18 Baby "boeuf"
- 19 "Siddhartha" author
- 20 Light bulb unit
- 22 Noise
- 23 Ice cream giant
- 25 Advantageous to all
- 27 Place for a crime
- 30 Sine ___ non
- 32 Speakers' hesitations
- 33 Go-___
- 34 Apr. addressee
- 35 In their time, very sleek cats
- 38 Serpent's tail?
- 39 Has more troops than
- 41 "Alley ___!"
- 42 A captain of the Enterprise
- 44 Cutting tool
- 45 "Ohio" group, initially
- 46 Rx instruction
- 47 Imitate

- 48 The mating game
- 49 Cities marked for destruction
- 51 A familiar voice on your phone
- 53 A long, long way to run, rumor has it
- 54 Beano brother
- 56 It has the beat
- 59 N.Y.P.D. employee
- 61 Mortgage holders, often
- 64 Genevieve and Jeanne, for short
- 65 "It's clear to me"
- 66 "Bye!"
- 67 Retired speedsters that are making a comeback: Abbr.
- 68 1914 battle line

DOWN

- 1 Loan figure: Abbr.
- 2 Long, drawn out expression of realization (and NO the meta does not have to do with the strings of letters that are there)
- 3 Filly's mother
- 4 Current
- 5 "___ Wales", Eastwood character

The answer is the Christmas message implied by the meta. **DrTom**

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- 6 S.A.S.E., e.g.
- 7 Falling flakes
- 8 1943 battle site
- 9 "No duh!": Abbr.
- 10 Incline
- 11 What the Beatles "Ticket to Ride" was for
- 12 "So ___ down most hurriedly and joined up with the John Birch Society..." (Dylan lyric)
- 14 Since, in Spain
- 15 Abominable Snowman
- 21 Flanged fasteners
- 24 Two of four or three of nine, for short
- 26 Crooked
- 27 Bypass
- 28 "Ooh, ooh, please Mom"
- 29 Classic toy for budding engineers
- 31 Paper containing the names of all the states
- 34 Birth control device
- 35 Split ___, New Zealand rock group
- 36 A long, long time
- 37 1974 C.I.A. spoof film with D. Sutherland and E.Gould
- 39 Cat ___, the eternal pet choice
- 40 Cool drinks
- 43 A hand
- 45 A sweeping feature on a stately home
- 47 Orgs.
- 48 Sara's last name in "A Little Princess" (1995), or a Cheshire railway town
- 49 Target of NORAD
- 50 When repeated, a fish
- 52 "For ___ and turn..." ("Tainted Love" lyric)
- 53 A rock in some decisions
- 55 The way to spell Christmas when you want to reduce your letter count
- 57 Reverent seats with an irreverent sounding name
- 58 'What's Hecuba to him, ___ to Hecuba' (Hamlet)
- 60 "Do you know where your children are?" is one: Abbr.
- 62 Creature with impressive limbs
- 63 Damascus' land: Abbr.