



Teaching Others Christmas 2025

With the Christmas season upon us I am having our coordinators share the typical Christmas celebration they have in the countries where they serve.

Papua New Guinea - Paul Wolff

In Papua New Guinea, the Solong believers begin preparations the week before Christmas by going fishing and smoking all the seafood for a Christmas day feast. They meet together on Christmas morning for worship, reading the Christmas story and performing dramas where the women and children dress up as Bible characters and reenact the first Christmas and many other Bible stories. The day is filled with laughter, rejoicing, singing and dancing. Then, the whole community shares a feast of pork, fish, rice, greens, cassava and sweet potato with plenty of coconuts to drink.



Uganda - David Kimera

Here in Uganda the Christmas season begins the 23rd of December, to enter the Christmas mood. Homesteads are thoroughly cleaned, and the grass is removed, to welcome the newborn Christmas Child. Then everyone, but especially the children, receive new clothes for Christmas day.

On Christmas day the women wake up very early in the morning and prepare a good meal for Christmas breakfast. Christmas stories are shared, and those who can afford animals like goats and pigs, slaughter them and share the meat with neighbors as a sign of God's love who gave us His son to save us.

After the breakfast, we all prepare to go for Church worship service while the Christmas meal is left on the stove cooking. We share and preach the Christmas message during the worship service and afterwards we return to our decorated homes to have our meal.

We share gifts with others, and on Christmas evening, we visit friends or family and enjoy fellowship together.

Angola - Gustavo Bolenue

Christmas in Angola is a vibrant celebration that combines Christian faith with local traditions and culture. It's a national holiday, and people come together to mark the birth of Jesus Christ with joy and festivities.

Many Angolans attend Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve and special services on Christmas Day, which are central to the holiday's observance. Churches are beautifully decorated with lights, nativity scenes, and Christmas trees, creating a festive atmosphere.

Families gather for special meals, often featuring traditional dishes like funge (mashed baked cassava or maize), pirão (Brazilian porridge), moamba de galinha (Angolan chicken stew), and bacalao (Dried salted codfish). They also exchange gifts, especially among children, and enjoy music, singing, and traditional dancing. Christmas feasts typically include local ingredients like cassava, corn, and palm oil, as well as Portuguese-influenced dishes like bacalao and bolo rei cake (Portuguese Christmas cake).

Benin Republic - Galbert Agongnonsa

Christmas in Benin is an amazing celebration. It has become a national Celebration by both Christians and non-Christians. It includes a distribution of toys and presents to the kids. During the Celebration, we Christians go to Christmas night gathering in churches, but even non-Christians come together to mark the birth of Jesus Christ with joy and festivities.

Many members of different churches attend Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve and special services on Christmas Day, which are central to the holiday's observance. Churches, Houses, streets and landmarks are beautifully decorated with lights, nativity scenes, and Christmas trees, creating a festive atmosphere everywhere in town. After church, families gather for special meals and musical performances are everywhere. Children in Caleta caravane, perform Caleta dance, singing, and traditional dancing. Christmas feasts typically include local ingredients like cassava and pounded yam With Cow meat or goat meat. Christmas clothing is very important here in Benin. All parents, poor and rich, are expected to dress their children with new clothing. In our houses, the decoration is extraordinarily nice with Christmas trees and lights. Young people organize football matches in the afternoon. Christmas day in Benin is a vibrant and brilliant celebration period in Benin Republic.



Sierra Leone - Moses Zombo

Christmas in Sierra Leone is like no other time of year. The capital city is largely empty as residents travel to their hometowns in the villages and small towns. It is a time of reunion for every community. All localities celebrate with sports, football, dance, and people share gifts and food. Carols are sung from door to door in the weeks leading up to the day. Christians are in the minority. But no time matches the joy of Christmas.

We have many more Christmas stories from India, Liberia, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Zambia and Burundi but space doesn't allow them all here. You can see all the Christmas stories at the following link: <https://www.teachingothersafrica.org/toa-coordinators.html>

We thank God for all of our team; for those on the “front lines” - the country coordinators, faithful teachers, hardworking students, sponsors who donate funds to keep coordinators on the road and especially for all the prayer warriors!

May every one of us experience the joy of God’s indescribable gift very deeply this 2025 season and beyond!

Paul and Robina, Bob and MaryLee