On this Thankful Thursday, I am especially grateful for the sounds, sights, and smells of Christmas.

Bright colors of red and green flicker on a pine tree filled with ornaments new and old, a train (sometimes the monorail) circles the nativity village, scented candles fill the air, carols play to the heart's content, outdoor lights entertain the cat, church bells ring across the street, frijoles, yuca y lechón adorn the table on Noche Buena, *surrounded by the spirit of those we miss.* Hugs, kisses, coquito y café, a time for family, friends, and hope…all courtesy of a Savior. For it is He we celebrate. For it is thanks to Him we can.

"It came without ribbons! It came without tags! It came without packages, boxes or bags!"… *Then* the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! "Maybe Christmas," he thought, "*doesn't* come from a store. Maybe Christmas… perhaps… means a little bit more!" ~Dr. Seuss, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*

Wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas. And remember, "Christmas is forever, not for just one day, for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away."



God bless.

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