

Christmas ideas provided by Isabelle Délèze:

Here are a few examples of what I do to bring more Christmassy mood in my correspondences with my pen pals. Until now it has always been accepted in those states: CA, IL, FL and TX.

I usually send many **X'mas cards** all along December.

- an **Advent calendar** at the end of November
- a **card** with a X'mas tree, one with candles, one with the Magis on their way, one of the Christmas night (crib, Jesus, Marie and Joseph, shepherds, etc..)
- any **card** that I like about this particular time of the year
- I choose a nicely decorated **Christmas' writing paper** or write on the back of festive wrapping paper or I draw Christmas patterns myself
- I also send small **Christmas gift labels** - without the golden thread of course - for special messages
- I send a **Christmas paper napkin** that my friends use as a table mat on Christmas Day - Not Accepted in all prisons, namely IL and FL!
- I send each a **book**, a **2016 small calendar** (without any metallic part) and **pictures**
- I also send a spiritual message about Christmas.

If you are in contact with some of your pen pals' family members or friends or other pen pals of his, you could write a **joint card**. Start well in advance!

I would for example start writing a card, forward it to one of his friends or family members with a note asking to forward it to its final destination. Very appreciated.

And of course, all my family members, friends who would happen to be around on Christmas Day would, if they wish so, sign a card for my pen pals.

Underneath are pictures of an **angel** that I bought but that could be made on any kind of stiff paper. One could draw on it if stickers are not allowed.

The size of this oval angel is about 17cm in width and 14cm in height. The "cuts or openings" on each side to fix the wings are about 3-4 cm long. Hope it helps.

