Dayton Community Invited to UD's Christmas on Campus
DAYTON, Ohio — On Dec. 8 each year, the University of Dayton cancels classes and closes offices so that students can “adopt” local children and senior citizens for an evening of Christmas activities ranging from a carnival to caroling.

Members of the Miami Valley community are invited to the Christmas On Campus celebration at UD Tuesday, Dec. 8. Christmas On Campus each year is held on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a day of spiritual meaning for the Society of Mary, the Roman Catholic teaching order that founded UD in 1850. Each year about 1,000 children from the Dayton area take part in the festivities.

The celebration has spread throughout the nation this year, with UD alumni from New York to San Francisco taking the tradition to their hometowns. Christmas Off Campus events include toy and food collections, holiday parties for children in hospitals and homeless shelters and supporting housing rehabilitation projects.

Opening festivities on campus will take place at 6 p.m. in Kennedy Union Plaza, with the arrival of Santa Claus, the lighting of the Christmas tree by Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., president of UD, a live nativity scene and Christmas carolers.

Continuous entertainment is slated from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., including a performance by the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company and ’Twas the Night Before Christmas by UD Studio Theatre. Additional activities include music, model trains, making Christmas ornaments, giant puppets and Christmas stories.

The Christmas On Campus concert at 8 p.m. in the Immaculate Conception Chapel will feature the University Chorale and Chamber Singers. A Christmas Mass with a poinsettia procession will be held at 10 p.m. in the Frericks Center.

For more information on Christmas On Campus, call (513) 229-4114 or 229-3372.

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