



Christmas is my favorite holiday because we celebrate the birth of Jesus, and we spend time together as a family. This year is extra special because it is my baby sister's first Christmas.

As a family we decorate shortbread cookies cut into holiday shapes with colorful icing and sprinkles. My mom covers the dining room table with paper, so we don't make a mess. It looks like a frosting and sprinkle explosion when we're done, but the cookies are delicious.

We also make ornaments for our tree. Last year we dried oranges and made ornaments from them. It is fun to look at all of the ornaments we have made over the years.

Since Christmas is when we celebrate Jesus's birthday, we give gifts. We've made presents like paintings, picture frames with pictures of me and my sisters, or fun scrunchies. I really like being surprised by the gifts my sisters and I give each other.

This year is extra special because of my baby sister Marigold. After she was born, she was in the NICU and had open heart surgery. It made me feel sad and scared, and our family was apart for 11 weeks. She is the sweetest baby, and our family gets to be together because her heart is better. This will be the most special Christmas because it's Marigold's first Christmas and we get to make these memories together.

All in all, this is what Christmas means to me— making special memories together with my family.