

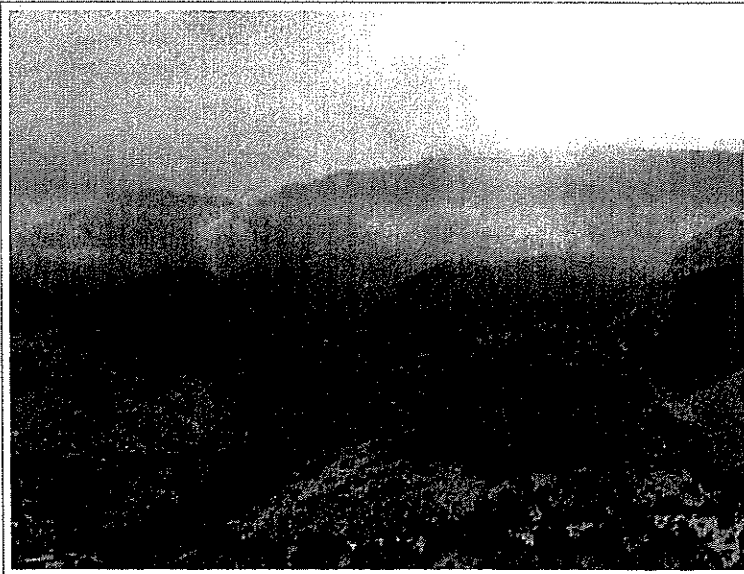
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Intentional Disciples

A group blog devoted to the baptismal call, spirituality, gifts, vocations, ministry, work, history, theology, evangelization, formation, bad jokes, and pastoral support of lay Christians seeking to live their faith in the 21st century. Sponsored by the Catherine of Siena Institute www.siena.org.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2009

Forgiveness in Colorado Springs: This Beautiful City



The women's group to which I belong distributed [Merry Christmas buttons](#) after Mass last weekend and they went like hotcakes. 500 buttons were gone before the first third of the congregation left the sanctuary after the 9:30 am Mass. A number asked me for several more to take home to family members who weren't able to attend Mass because of the snow.

The societal pressure to turn the traditional "Christmas season" into a "winter holiday" is clearly a hot spot with many here. Even though in Colorado Springs, the community climate is largely pro-Christmas. *Anyone else seeing pro "Merry Christmas" buttons or paraphernalia being distributed in your parish?*

(I've seen floats in the city's Christmas parade in the past that featured *live* hard core fundamentalist preaching. I wondered at the time if that didn't really cross the line even in this town where religion is famously visible in the public square. The same behavior would have sparked a

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Ronald Murray, father of the gunman was interviewed on a February Focus on the Family spot. He said that the relationship between the two families "shows the love of God to bring and reconcile people together."

Davie Works put simply in a way that takes my breathe away. They aren't looking for anything but friendship from the Murrays. *"They don't owe us anything."*

Your son kills my daughters. *But you don't owe us anything.* The sort of forgiveness that hits me in the gut, that touches all the inner aches of old wounds, that makes me just stop and exhale for a moment.

This town may be a media by-word but it is also a town where the Christian faith is *lived*. In remarkable ways.

posted by Sherry W @ 9:46 AM [0 comments](#) [links to this post](#) 

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