

AN AMERICAN LTC HEALTHCARE CHRISTMAS EVE

By Chaplain Paul 193 & Chat GPT

'Twas the nightmare before Christmas,
In countless Long Term Care Facilities across the land,
Not a CNA could be found,
With a change of diapers in hand.

Meanwhile, the RNs were living it up, singing carols,
Laughing and sipping cocoa at their stations.
Bright call lights flickered urgently,
As patients groaned in desperation.

Then at midnight, what did we hear?
The faint cry of a patient:
“Thank God Chaplain Paul is near!”

And what did we see, shining so heavenly bright?
Chaplain Paul at the door,
With his loyal dog Sunny,
A very welcomed sight!

With such a clatter, we heard his call,
Holding staff accountable—
“Now take care of these patients, one and all!”

The staff blinked in disbelief—
**“What’s this? Someone who truly cares?
About these poor souls abandoned,
suffering in torment and despair.”**

Then Chaplain Paul reached deep
Into his big, purple, blue, and red sack,
Handing out stuffed animals,
Spreading the Peace, Love, and Joy of Christ to those who lacked.

And slowly, the staff began to see:
It’s not about *Me, Myself, and I*, or a paycheck earned—
It’s about **compassion, love, and kindness**,
For all, these lessons must be learned.

The love of Christ Yeshua shone that night,
In every gift, every prayer, every light.
For one day, it will be *our* turn to be suffering all alone in the dead of night
To hope for **Compassion, Kindness, and Love**

that we shouldn't have to desperately fight to earn so let's all fight to make American Long Term Care better, lessons learned.

**Merry Christmas to all,
And to all a Good Night!**

Scriptures of Reflection

- *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you."*
—John 14:27
- *"Love one another as I have loved you."*
—John 13:34-35
- *"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you."*
—John 15:9-17

**"What is needed is a realization
that power without love is
reckless and abusive and that
love without power is
sentimental and anemic. Power at
its best is love implementing the
demands of justice. Justice at its
best is love correcting everything
that stands against love."**

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



John 15:9-17 ⁹ “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷ This is my command: Love each other.