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Season's Greetings for a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year from Todd, Julie, Justin, Timothy, Nathan ... and Vanilla Bean and Sox!

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The Zasada Family

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Basic Information

Networks: Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana
 Sex: 1 Female, 4 Males, 2 neutered males
 Birthday: May 23, 1998
 Hometowns: Bloomingdale (Julie & Vanilla Bean), Calumet City (Todd), and Cedar Lake (the boys & Sox)
 Relationship Status: Married
 Religious Views: [Roman Catholic](#)

Personal Information

Activities: Going on retreats, watching movies, visiting Great Wolf Lodge in Wisconsin Dells, taking Grandpa Dude to the doctor, running ministry meetings, swimming and relaxing in our backyard, building LEGO models, playing trains, screaming, yelling, whining, sarcasm, walking the prayer trail and story hours at The Shrine of Christ's Passion
 Interests: Vacations (not that we've had too many this year), budgeting, exercise, White Sox, Fantasy Football, home decorating, remodeling, LEGOs, Thomas the Really Useful Engine
 Favorite Music: [Lifhouse](#) (new album is out 2/2/10), [Bob Rice](#) live in Steubenville
 Favorite TV Shows: Thursday nights on NBC, [The O'Reilly Factor](#), [Noggin](#), [PBS Kids](#), [HGTV](#), [ESPN](#), [Comcast Sports Net](#)
 Favorite Movies: Anything we bring home free from the library.
 Favorite Books: Todd & Julie completed "[Read Through the Bible](#)" this year and that didn't leave much time for other books. Mom & Justin read [The Borrowers](#) series as well.

Favorite Quotations: "To get something you never had, you have to do something you never did." - Unknown
 "You simply cannot get enough of what you don't really need." - Matthew Kelly
 "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." - Joshua 24:15
 "Baaaaaaaacon" - Jim Gaffigan
 About Us: We are an 11-year old family of five with 2 cats. We can't believe that we've been in Cedar Lake for 5 1/2 years now. We normally get the itch around year 2 - but we've finally found a winner in our little gray ranch and look forward to finally finishing the basement trim and shower in 2010. Not sure our neighbors agree since they both moved this year! We happily paid off our consumer debt in 2009 and look forward to tackling Baby Step 3 of Dave Ramsey's FPU program next.

Contact Information

Email: If you have received this card, you'll know this information already.
 Address: Ditto
 Phone: Ditto
 Website: www.MyZasada.com (BRAND NEW so it's still under construction)

Education and Work

Grade School: The boys are doing well in their 2nd year at St. John the Evangelist. Justin is in 3rd grade, Timothy is in 1st grade, and Nathan is in his last year of preschool.
 Employer: Todd is celebrating his 17th year with [NB Coatings](#) this month. After a large reorganization this year, we are thankful that Todd not only has a job but received a promotion as well.

Julie is about to begin her 3rd year at [St. John the Evangelist](#). She's also continued her "hobby" work designing websites for local non-profits and teaching computer skills to friends.

Groups

Member of: [Arrested Development is the best show since Seinfeld!](#), [University of St. Francis Alumni](#), [Worldwide Marriage Encounter](#), [Retrouvaille - Hope for Your Marriage](#), [Natural Family Planning - Couple to Couple League](#), [Chicago White Sox](#), [Fantasy Football](#), [Franciscan University of Steubenville](#), [The Office](#), [Parks and Recreation](#), [Crown Financial Ministries](#), [Dave Ramsey Fans](#), [Financial Peace University](#)

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Justin Richard Zasada is enjoying 3rd grade. My favorite part are the field trips to the Children's Museum in Indianapolis to see the King Tut exhibit and the LEGO workshop at school building motorized race cars. I had to help my classmates figure out how to build their models. My favorite trip was to Great Wolf water park and the Howling Tornado was the best ride. I am currently rebuilding my hovercraft from the LEGO Creator set. Other sets that I have built this year are my mini-helicopter, a mini-excavator, and the Propeller Power airplane. My brother Timothy and I worked together to build the new LEGO Creator Family House. I'm getting ready for my first Reconciliation in February 2010 and my first Holy Communion in September 2010.

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Timothy Joseph Zasada recently turned 7 years old. My friends gave me several LEGO sets, including Agents and Dr. Disaster in his helicopter. The best part about being in first grade was the classroom Christmas party. I like going to Grandma Krieger's house because she has video games. I liked building "Leafy" the snowman yesterday but he broke because it was too warm. I like to watch movies like Scooby Doo and Star Wars. I watched all of them with my dad and brothers. I like to watch The Andy Griffith Show and The Munsters on MeTV. Barney is my favorite on Andy Griffith. Eddie is my favorite Munster. I can read books all by myself. Green Eggs and Ham, The Foot Book, The Cat in the Hat and Jesus in the Temple are some that I have read recently.

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Nathan Todd Zasada loves Thomas the Train. My favorite engine is Percy. I have new bedding and window treatments with Thomas on them. The Great Discovery is my favorite Thomas movie. Track Stars is another favorite Thomas movie. I like to go for visits to Grandma Dearest's house to play with my cousins and watch movies. I like to go to Grandma Krieger's house to eat snacks and chocolate granola bars. I like to play with Grandpa Krieger too. He roughs me up. I like to go to Grandpa Dude's house to play with trains and cars on the mountain and to eat cookies. I like when Grandpa Sowiak comes to visit and takes me to Cedar Lake for picnics. I like to go downstairs at Uncle John's house. Miss Vickie from Parents as Teachers teaches me words like "see" and "can" and "the" and "I" and "A."

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Todd & Julie Zasada were happy for the opportunity to renew our wedding vows on our 11th anniversary while on a Matthew Kelly retreat in Milford, Ohio.

We took our first family vacation to Wisconsin Dells and never left the Great Wolf Lodge. The boys enjoyed every square inch of the water park. Nathan stayed close to mom while Justin, Timothy and dad tried out all the water slides and tube rides. They've been asking when we are going back for 6 months now...and they have to wait 6 more months until June 2010!

We also celebrated financial milestones this year: cutting up all the credit cards and paying off the van 2.5 years early courtesy of all the tips gleaned from Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. Both efforts have afforded Julie the opportunity to scale back her responsibilities at the parish and spend more time at home with Nathan in 2010 before he heads to all-day kindergarten in the fall.

Home improvement projects were at a minimum as we worked our financial plan. Todd fixed some crumbling retaining bed walls in Julie's flower gardens and we still owe Grandma Dearest some grout and trim work. Julie is hopeful that less time at the office will leave time to repaint the basement. But no matter the color of the walls or the condition of the flower beds, the door is always open to visitors. We hope to welcome you in our home in 2010.

And after a rough season, Todd won't be bringing home the Fantasy Football trophy this year.

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