

## Christmas celebrations peak in Bethlehem

*by UPI*

JERUSALEM -- Palestinians celebrated Christmas Eve Monday, marching through the streets of Bethlehem playing drums and bagpipes. Palestinian Christian children celebrated by wearing festive costumes as they gathered outside the Church of the Nativity the day before Christmas, the Voice of America reported Monday. With the city's Manger Square decorated with Christmas trees and colorful balloons, the celebrations were set to culminate with midnight mass at the Church of the Nativity.

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