"A Christmas Gift to the World!"

Use the article to find the answers to the clues below.
Then decode the secret message. :-) Frohe Weihnachten!

Name _____
Datum _____ Kl. ___

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1. The huge enjoyment that Germans get out of the Christmas festivities turns even the strictest "dieter" into a "snack snatcher" or ___ (in German).
2. Young men dress up like these to scare little children into being good (2 wds).
3. This is a "Christ Child Market" with brightly lit booths selling all kinds of Christmas goodies (in German).
4. This universal symbol of the season is clearly a German creation (2 wds).
5. Among the legends of the origins of the Christmas tree, one states that this man found the twinkling stars behind the trees beautiful, cut a tree down, and put candles on it in his house.
6. During which war did the first Christmas tree appear in America?
7. Who started the fashion of having a Christmas tree in England in 1841?
8. Complete the excerpt: "Despite the predominately happy character of a German Christmas (St. Nick), there are enough villains, ___, and spoilsports hovering over the holiday to scare the wits out of suggestible young children.
9. The German St. Nicholas rides through the countryside on a white pony carrying two bags: One full of presents if you've been good, and one full of ___ if you've been bad.
10. *Hans Muff, Knecht Ruprecht,* and *Krampus* are all ugly creatures that make up a line-up of Christmas ___ that would frighten the strongest youngster. Sometimes they bring you presents—sometimes they TAKE them!
11. *Krampus* carries a ___ on his back just in case he decides to take naughty kids away with him! >:-)
12. The Christmas season begins on November 30—St. ___'s Night.
13. December 6 is St. ___'s Day.
14. In Westphalia children leave ___ notes on the windowsills for the Christ child, telling him what they want for Christmas.
15. On December 31, restaurants serve this kind of fish because it's supposed to be lucky.
16. The first "Angel Doll" was made by a ___ father, honoring the memory of his beloved daughter.
17. Traditionally, the ___ of the family decorates the Christmas tree secretly and alone.

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