

CHESTERFIELD # 111 NBC #279
DIRECTOR:.....JACK WEBB
WRITERS:.....JOHN ROBINSON
MUSIC:.....WALTER SCHUMANN
SCRIPT:.....JEAN MILES
SOUND:.....BUD TOLLEFSON &
WAYNE KENWORTHY
ENGINEER:.....RAOUL MURPHY
ANNCR. #1.....GEORGE FENNEMAN
ANNCR. #2.....HAL GIBNEY, NBC
CASE:....."THE BIG LITTLE JESUS"
REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:
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RELEASE DATE: TUESDAY, DEC. 21, 1951
SPONSOR:....CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES
AGENCY:.....CUNNINGHAM-WALSH
COMMERCIAL-SUPERVISOR:PETE PETERSON
TECHNICAL ADVISORS:
SGT. MARTY WYNN:.....L.A.P.D.
SGT. VANCE BRASHER:....L.A.P.D.
CAPT. JACK DONOHOE:....L.A.P.D.

Agency
Curry & Trinch

"THE BIG LITTLE JESUS"

CAST

SGT. JOE FRIDAY.....JACK WEBB
OFF. FRANK SMITH.....BEN ALEXANDER
FATHER ROJAS.....HARRY BARTELL
MR. FLAVIN.....RALPH MOODY
CAPTAIN BARNARD.....WALTER SANDE
JOE HEFFERMAN.....BILLY CHAPIN
CLERK.....HERB VIGRAN
CLAUDE STROUP.....JIM GRIFFITH
PACO MENDOZA.....JOE CARIOCA, JR.

DRAGNET RADIO
December 21, 1954

FIRST COMMERCIAL

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Fenneman: ~~Been~~ checking over your Christmas list? Chances are you've found there are a lot of people you'd like to give "more than just a card". Well, here's an idea for you - Chesterfield Christmas cartons. Yes, for every smoker on your list - to those you'd like to give "more than just a card" make it Chesterfields. Look for the carton painted by the famous Saturday Evening Post cover artist, Stevan Dehano, with the scene that captures the Christmas spirit - "Going Home for the Holidays." Your neighborhood dealer has them in regular and kingsize...and he's open right up to Christmas for your convenience. Remember, in the whole wide world no cigarette satisfies like Chesterfield. So for that Christmas morning smile of satisfaction, give Chesterfield - the "Home for the Holidays" gift carton.

See your dealer today.

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1 MUSIC: DRAGNET SIGNATURE
2 FENN: (EASILY) Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are about
3 to hear is true.
4 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL UNDER
5 GIBNEY: Dragnet is brought to you by Chesterfield, made by
6 Liggett and Myers, first major tobacco company to give
7 you a complete line of quality cigarettes.
8 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR
9 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned
10 to Burglary Division. You get a call that an important
11 piece of religious art has been stolen from the oldest
12 church in Los Angeles. There is no lead to the identity.
13 of the thief. No apparent motive. Your job....get him. 43
14 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR

48 → 1/36

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 GIBNEY: Dragnet, the documented drama of an actual crime. For
3 the next thirty minutes, in cooperation with the Los
4 Angeles Police Department, you will travel step by
5 step on the side of the law through an actual case
6 transcribed from official police files. From beginning
7 to end...from crime to punishment....Dragnet is the
8 story of your police force in action. 2/100

9 MUSIC: UP TO SEMI BUTTON AND FADE ON SUSTAINED CHORD

10 SOUND: JOE'S STEPS ON CORRIDOR. SLIGHT ECHO AND CORRIDOR B.G.

11 JOE: It was Wednesday, December 24th. It was cold in Los
12 Angeles. We were working the day watch out of Burglary
13 Division. My partner's Frank Smith. The boss is
14 Captain Barnard. My name's Friday. I'd gone across the
15 street to buy some stamps for some Christmas cards I
16 was sending out, and it was 9:15 A.M. when I got back
17 to Room 45....(SOUND: DOOR OPEN)...Burglary. I sat
18 down at a table in the squadroom and started addressing
19 some cards. Frank came in carrying some packages. 2/25

20 SOUND: JOE WALKS INTO THE ROOM. THE DOOR CLOSES BEHIND HIM.

21 B.G. CHANGES. HE TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS AND SITS DOWN
22 AT A TABLE. HE TAKES SEVERAL ENVELOPES OUT OF HIS
23 POCKET AND PUTS THEM ON THE TABLE. AS HE DOES THIS, WE
24 HEAR THE DOOR OPEN AND FRANK COMES IN. WE HEAR THE
25 RUSTLE OF CHRISTMAS PAPER AS HE DOES SO.

1 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) HI, Joe.
2 SOUND: FRANK COMES ON MIKE AND DROPS SEVERAL PACKAGES ON THE
3 TABLE
4 FRANK: Working on your Christmas cards, huh?
5 JOE: Yeah.
6 FRANK: A little late, aren't you?
7 JOE: I was going to send 'em Monday...but we had that shake
8 out.
9 FRANK: You oughtta get married, Joe.
10 JOE: Yeah?
11 FRANK: Only system. Faye does all this stuff for me. Laundry.
12 ...mails cards....only system.
13 JOE: It might help.
~~14 FRANK: You got a big stack there.
15 JOE: I oughtta cut down the list. Look at this.
16 SOUND: HE LIFTS ENVELOPE
17 JOE: Upholstery shop.
18 FRANK: Yeah?
19 JOE: They send me a card every year. I never get anything
20 upholstered.
21 FRANK: Faye and I oughtta go over our list...cut off a few
22 names. (PAUSE) I brought in your present. Want to open
23 it now?
24 JOE: No, I'll wait.
25 FRANK: I always open a couple the day before.~~

1 JOE: Why?

2 FRANK: Puts you in the spirit ahead of time. I opened Phil's
3 this morning.

4 JOE: Who's he?

5 FRANK: Faye's brother in Denver. He gave me a magazine. One
6 of those funny ones.

7 JOE: Whatta ya mean...a comic book? 3/00

8 FRANK: (PEEVISHLY) No....one of those funny ones...You know.

9 JOE: No, I don't, Frank.

10 FRANK: Well, some of the pages have holes in 'em. You look
11 through and there's a picture on the next page.

12 JOE: I've seen those on the newsstand.

13 FRANK: They have cloth pasted in.

14 JOE: Cloth?

15 FRANK: In the ads. If you want to buy a suit....they have a
16 sample right there.

17 JOE: You mean you can feel it?

18 FRANK: Reach right out and feel it. There was one for two
19 hundred dollars.

20 JOE: A suit?

21 FRANK: Sure. The cloth comes from Scotland.

22 JOE: What's it made out of....solid gold? 3/30

23 FRANK: No...they've got a special kind of goat over there.
24 Real smooth.

25 JOE: Not a goat....a sheep.

1 FRANK: Well, it's a special kind of sheep then. Because a
2 suit costs two hundred dollars.
3 JOE: (SMILING) You gonna get one?
4 FRANK: I told Faye. She said, "Wear the sample." (PAUSE)
5 Anything doing?
6 JOE: Fanning and Pryor were in on that market hold-up.
7 FRANK: They come up with anything.
8 JOE: A pound of air....Nothing else.
9 FRANK: I hope it stays quiet. I've got more shopping to do.
10 JOE: I finished.
11 FRANK: What'd you get Anne?
12 JOE: A stationery set. Some paper and envelopes....leather
13 binding.
14 FRANK: (TO A SICK CHILD) Joe, you'll never learn.
15 JOE: What's the matter? 4/20
16 FRANK: No woman wants a stationery set. Get her something
17 personal.
18 JOE: It's got her initials on it.
19 FRANK: No.....no.....you want something more sentimental....
20 romantic.
21 JOE: What'd you get Faye?
22 FRANK: It's different in her case.
23 JOE: What'd you get Faye?
24 FRANK: A sewing machine.
25 JOE: That's romantic.

1 FRANK: Well, it is in a way....

2 JOE: (CONTINUES) Why didn't you buy her a catcher's mit?

3 SOUND: THE TELEPHONE RINGS

4 SOUND: JOE PICKS UP RECEIVER

5 JOE: (INTO PHONE) Burglary....Friday (A PAUSE) Yes?.....Yes

6 this is the right department.....(A LONGER PAUSE)...

7 We'll be down, Father. You can tell us about it there.

8 Goodbye.

9 SOUND: JOE HANGS UP RECEIVER. WE HEAR HIM GET UP FROM CHAIR

10 JOE: The Old Mission Church. They've had a theft.

11 FRANK: Collection money?

12 JOE: A statue of the Child Jesus.

13 END SCENE 1

1 JOE: Frank and I checked out of the office and rode over to the
2 church at the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Main. The old
3 Mission Plaza Church...founded in 1781...the year Los
4 Angeles became a pueblo. The outside was typical early
5 Spanish design complete with mission arches. It was made
6 of adobe and painted white. They called it The Queen of 5/100
7 the Angels. The padres from down in Mexico built it. The
8 devout Mexicans in town still attended services there.
9 10:05 A.M. Frank and I crossed through the courtyard. It
10 used to be the old stable but the Spanish Priest changed
11 all that when it became a mission. Stone masons paved the
12 stable floor and made it a courtyard. They planted grape
13 vines, trees and flowers. A young priest crossed the
14 courtyard to meet us. He had been sitting on a stone bench
15 reading his morning prayers, as priests have done here for
16 172 years. We asked for Father Xavier Rojas, who had 7/100
17 communicated with us. We were told he was inside. We
18 entered a side door. The church seemed to glow with the
19 hundreds of votive candles flickering on both sides of the
20 altar and at the shrines throughout the church. It was
21 empty except for a few people praying. Surrounding the
22 main altar were several old oil paintings in gold frames.
23 The air was heavy with the scent of Advent flowers. We
24 found Father Rojas up near the sanctuary looking at the
25 Nativity scene. He told us about the crib. It was a 6/100
26 seventy-dollar duplication of the scene at Bethlehem. The
27 parishioners had taken up a collection for it thirty-one
28 years ago. It was put up every year on December 22nd and
29 taken down after the Holy Season. It was beautiful....
30 except that one of the shepherds had lost an arm, a sheep
31 was cracked...and the Infant Jesus was missing. Father
32 Rojas lead us into the sacristy.

1 ROJAS: I'm sorry to bother you men.
2 FRANK: It's all right, Father.
3 ROJAS: Especially now.....the holiday season.
4 JOE: (SMILING) We cash our checks, Father. Wanna tell us
5 what happened?
6 FRANK: Or what you think happened? 6/30
7 ROJAS: I discovered the statue was missing right after the
8 six o'clock mass.
9 FRANK: Did you say the six?
10 ROJAS: Yes. I started over to the rectory and stopped by the
11 crib.
12 JOE: Was the statue there before mass?
13 ROJAS: I don't know. But it was there last night.
14 JOE: How late is the church open?
15 ROJAS: All night.
16 JOE: You leave it wide open....so any thief can walk in?
17 ROJAS: (QUIETLY) Particularly thieves, Sergeant.
18 (BEAT)
19 JOE: You say it was there last night, Father.....how late?
20 ROJAS: Ten or eleven o'clock. We had confessions.
21 FRANK: No one saw it after that?
22 ROJAS: One of the altar boys....he says it may have been there
23he thinks it was.
24 JOE: Did he see it?
25 ROJAS: He's not sure.

1 JOE: What's his name? 7/00

2 ROJAS: Pardon me. Here's the schedule, over there. You'll
3 find the names for every mass.

4 SOUND: FRANK MOVES OFF MIKE AND STOPS

5 JOE: Was there a big crowd at the six o'clock mass, Father?

6 ROJAS: Not too many. Seven's the big one...people on their
7 way to work.

8 JOE: Did anyone stay after mass? Did you notice?

9 ROJAS: Not especially. I came back here, took off the vestments.
10 I suppose it was ten or fifteen minutes before I went
11 back in the church.

12 JOE: It was empty then?

13 ROJAS: No. People were coming in for the seven o'clock.

14 SOUND: UNDER ABOVE. FRANK HAS RETURNED AND REJOINED THEM.

15 FRANK: Are these the altar boys....James Courneen and Joseph
16 Heffernan?

17 ROJAS: That's right...Joe's the one who mentioned it might have
18 been there.

19 JOE: Did you check with the other ~~other~~ priests, Father? 7/30

20 ROJAS: Before I called you. None of them knows anything about
21 it.

22 FRANK: Just for a check on the pawnshops...how much is the
23 statue worth?

24 ROJAS: In money?

25 JOE: That's the point in pawnshops, Father.

1 ROJAS: Only a few dollars. We could get a new one...but it
2 wouldn't be the same. We've had children in the parish..
3 ..they've grown up and married. It's the only Jesus
4 they know.

5 FRANK: We understand.

6 ROJAS: ...and we've had children who died. It was the only
7 Jesus they knew. So many of the people who come here
8 are simple people. They wouldn't understand, Sergeant. 8/00
9 It would be like changing the evening star.

10 JOE: We'll do our best, Father.

11 ROJAS: That's why it would mean so much to have it back for
12 the first mass on Christmas.

13 JOE: That's not very long, Father.

14 FRANK: (LOOKING AT HIS WATCH) Less than twenty-four hours.

15 JOE: If anything turns up here...you know where to get in
16 touch with us.

17 ROJAS: Yes. (SIGHS) It's sad, isn't it?

18 JOE: How's that?

19 ROJAS: In so short a time men learn to steal.

20 JOE: Yes, but consider us, Father.

21 ROJAS: Us?

22 JOE: If some of them didn't....you and I'd be out of work. 8/25

23 END SCENE 2

1 JOE: 10:50 AM we notified pawnshop detail. Frank and I
2 checked out the two altar boys. The first one...James
3 Courneen..said he knew nothing bout the missing statue.
4 The second one...Joseph Heffernan...was not at home..
5 His Father said he had a part-time job. He'd have him
6 get in touch with us after lunch. By 11:30 A.M. we'd
7 run out of book procedure...We had a man to find...our
8 only clue: He'd been to church. 11:33 A.M. We checked
9 the phone books for the names of religious stores in the
10 area. Two of them were closed. We tried the third.
11q When we got there, the only person in the store was an
12 elderly man, sitting by a table. In front of him was
13 a large, beautifully-carved chess set.

14 SOUND: DOOR OPENS. SMALL TINKLE BELL. JOE AND FRANK ENTER THE
15 STORE. DOOR CLOSES BEHIND THEM, WITH BELL. THE TWO
16 OFFICERS WALK INTO THE STORE AND STOP.

17 JOE: We're police officers. My name's Friday...This is my
18 partner, Frank Smith.

19 FRANK:
& (EXCHANGE "HELLOS")

20 FLAVIN:

21 FLAVIN: Pleased to see you. Caught me in the middle of a big
22 chess match.

23 BEAT

7/00

1 FRANK: Where's your partner?
2 FLAVIN: Up in San Jose. We've been playin' for years. 9/30
3 JOE: Same match?
4 FLAVIN: No. Just two or three months on this one. What I meant
5 was, we been playin' different matches for years.
6 JOE: I see.
7 FLAVIN: You know...we do it through the mail. I send him a
8 move, then he sends me one.
9 FRANK: Must keep you on your toes.
10 FLAVIN: Except during holidays. The mail gets all fiddles up.
11 That's no good.
12 JOE: I guess not.
13 FLAVIN: Slows things down and that's no good. I like to catch
14 him off guard.
15 JOE: You Mister Flavin?
16 FLAVIN: How'd you know? We never met.
17 JOE: Your names on the window out front.
18 FRANK: Mister Flavin, we checked the other two religious stores
19 in this neighborhood...they're closed.
20 FLAVIN: This is the best one anyway. Fifty percent European
21 items.
22 JOE: We're checking the stores around the Mission Church.
23 FLAVIN: For what?
24 JOE: Statues of the Child Jesus. Do you have one we could
25 look at? 10/00

1 FLAVIN: Sure.

2 SOUND: HE STANDS UP FROM TABLE AND HIS STEPS FADE. WE HEAR
3 HIM STOP. THEN HE RETURNS.

4 JOE: No. A larger one.

5 FLAVIN: You don't want a larger one...unless for a church....
6 that's where you want a larger one.

7 JOE: Could we see it please?

8 BEAT

9 SOUND: WE HEAR HIM FADE OFF AGAIN AND FADE BACK ON. HE PLACES
10 HEAVY PIECE OF STATUARY ON COUNTER.

11 FLAVIN: It's not my due to butt in...but unless you live in a
12 big place, this'll make your livin' room all akilter. 12/30

13 JOE: Do most of the people who go to the Mission Church trade
14 here?

15 FLAVIN: Good many of 'em. Especially the kids.

16 JOE: Why kids?

17 FLAVIN: More religious. Check on yourself...see if kids aren't
18 more religious than you.

19 JOE: Might be so.

20 FLAVIN: That's what's wrong with the world. Oh, I don't mean
1 you're wrong with it. Everybody.

2 JOE: Yes sir. Can we stick to the point, Mr. Flavin?

3 FLAVIN: Sure, a lot of people from the Mission Church come in
4 here.

5 JOE: Do people ever come in and sell back a religious article?

1 FLAVIN: Like a prayer book or rosaries?
2 JOE: Yes.
3 FLAVIN: Second-hand, you mean?
4 JOE: Yes.
5 FLAVIN: Not since I ever been around. It's silly.
6 JOE: Why?
7 FRANK: Why?
8 FLAVIN: People don't have religious articles so they can get
9 rid of 'em. They have 'em so they can have 'em. *11/00*
10 FRANK: But if a man had a statue and wanted to sell it, he'd
11 come to a place like this?
12 FLAVIN: Sure, but he wouldn't want to sell it.
13 JOE: He would if it was stolen.
14 FLAVIN: No, sir...if a man was to steal a statue...he'd be
15 crazy or something like that. The only place he'd want
16 to go is where crazy people are.
17 JOE: You may be right, Mr. Flavin.
18 FLAVIN: I don't know what you fellas are lookin' for...but if
19 it's somebody who stole a statue...he's crazy and you
20 won't find him. You won't find him as long as you live...
21 or in a million years.
22 JOE: Well, that shbuld cover it. *11/23*
23 END SCENE 3

1 JOE: We checked religious stores as far out as Van Ness.
2 We asked the same questions. The owners gave us the
3 same answers, but none of them were as encouraging as
4 Mr. Flavin. Frank and I had lunch and reported back to
5 the office. It was 1:30 P.M. when we started into the
6 squad room. The captain was just coming out.
7 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK ENTER BURGLARY SQUADROOM. SQUADROOM B.G.
8 JOE &
FRANK: Hi, Skipper....Hello, Captain.
9 BARN: I checked for you in the lunchroom.
10 JOE: We've been on that theft down at the Mission.
11 BARN: (A TRIFLE BRUSQUELY) We may get some action on the
12 Patterson case.
13 JOE: They locate him?
14 BARN: They think he's on the bus from Sacramento.
15 JOE: That means the police at Bakersfield.
16 BARN: (SHORTLY) We'll wait and see.
17 SOUND: BARNARD FADES OFF AND WE HEAR DOOR OPEN 12103
18 HEFFER: (OFF) ~~Are~~ one of you fellows Sergeant Friday?
19 BARN: (OFF) He's in there, son.
20 HEFFER: (OFF) Thanks.
21 SOUND: HEFFERNAN FADES ON MIKE. STOPS "
22 HEFFER: Are one of you fellas Sergeant Friday?
23 FRANK: He is.
24 HEFFER: I'm Joe Heffernan. My father said you wanted to see me.
25 JOE: Oh, yeah. Sit down, son.
26 SOUND: THE BOY SITS DOWN

1 JOE: You didn't have to come in. A phone call would've
2 worked.

3 HEFFER: My father said to get on over. He said any kid that
4 uses phones is lazy.

5 FRANK: We want to ask you about this morning.

6 JOE: You served six o'clock mass?

7 HEFFER: Yes, sir. I'm senior boy. So I get the six.

8 FRANK: You're senior...and you take the early trick?

9 HEFFER: Yes, sir. That way, if you receive communion, you get
10 to have breakfast sooner. 12/30

11 JOE: Father Rojas says you think the statue was there
12 before mass.

13 HEFFER: I didn't look. But I have a feelin' it was there.

14 FRANK: A feeling?

15 HEFFER: You know....how you have a feelin' about something,
16 but you're not sure.

17 JOE: Did you stay around long after mass?

18 HEFFER: I put out the candles...hung up my surplice.

19 JOE: How long would that take?

20 HEFFER: About five minutes maybe.

21 JOE: Did any of the people at mass stay on?

22 HEFFER: Some of them always do. Especially ladies.

23 JOE: Oh?

24 HEFFER: Maybe they don't finish up on time. Or else they start
25 new prayers.....I don't know.

1 FRANK: So when you left...there were still some women there?
2 HEFFER: No, sir...that was at first. After I went back to the
3 sacristy there was just this one man. 13/00
4 JOE: What man?
5 HEFFER: He comes to six o'clock all the time.
6 JOE: Do you know his name?
7 HEFFER: No, sir. But he works down on Olive. He's a painter.
8 Where they paint signs.
9 FRANK: Could you describe him?
10 HEFFER: What?
11 FRANK: Can you give us a description of the man. Tell us how
12 he looked?
13 HEFFER: Sort of medium....he was wearin' a suit that didn't
14 match...
15 JOE: Didn't match?
16 HEFFER: You know...different pants than coat.
17 FRANK: How about his age?
18 HEFFER: Oh, he was pretty old.
19 JOE: Take a guess.
20 HEFFER: About forty maybe. There's nothin' particular about
21 him.
22 JOE: Then why'd you notice him?
23 HEFFER: I've seen him before....and the bundle, I guess.
24 JOE: The bundle? 13/30

1 HEFFER: Out in front...I saw him when he was comin' out. He
2 had this bundle...and then almost dropped it.

3 JOE: How large a bundle?

4 HEFFER: It's hard to say...

5 JOE: (INTERRUPTING, IMPATIENTLY) Come on, son....was it
6 large or small....The size of the statue?

7 HEFFER: About that big. Yes, sir.

8 END SCENE 4

9 JOE: We located the sign shop. The suspect didn't work there
10 any more, but we discovered his name was Claude Stroup. 14/00
11 We found out where he lived. 2:25 P.M. we arrived there.
12 It was a hotel for men. Mostly old men, mostly down-and-
13 outers. It was called The Golden Dream.

14 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO HOTEL LOBBY, FOOTSTEPS ON THIN
15 CARPET....FOOTSTEPS CONTINUE AND STOP

16 JOE: Police officers. We're looking for Claude Stroup.

17 CLERK: I hope Claude didn't get in any trouble.

18 JOE: So do we. Is he in?

19 CLERK: No. He's got Room 307. You can check if you like.

20 FRANK: We'll take your word.

21 JOE: Were you on this morning.

22 CLERK: Huh?

23 FRANK: Did you have the early shift?

1 CLERK: We don't have shifts. My uncle owns the place. I'm
2 the shift.
3 JOE: Did Stroup spend ~~last~~ last night here? 14/30
4 CLERK: Yeah. Came in about eleven.
5 JOE: When did he leave this morning?
6 CLERK: Around six. Maybe before.
7 JOE: Did he come back after?
8 CLERK: Eight o'clock or so. Then left...Supposed to be back
9 at ten...then pulls this trick.
10 JOE: What trick?
11 CLERK: Our program. He knows the other fellas need him.
12 FRANK: Program?
13 CLERK: Here at the hotel. Every Christmas we have a program.
14 Put up a tree, and sing. They're mostly old fellas...
15 singin' like that makes 'em remember back when they were
16 kids. Then Jimmy Finn comes on.
17 JOE: Jimmy Finn? 15/00
18 CLERK: He shares number 409. His family once had a lot of
19 money, so he tells the fellas about ~~it~~ it. Stories about
20 Christmas...how they had this big log and his
21 grandfather used to start it up...and after dinner
22 everybody turned over his place and there underneath
23 was a twenty-dollar gold piece. A brand new one.
24 JOE: When Stroup came in this morning...did he have a bundle?

1 CLERK: I didn't see him come in.
2 FRANK: You said you saw him.
3 CLERK: I saw him go out after. But not come in.
4 JOE: When was that?
5 CLERK: Eight. If you want to look for a bundle....I could give
6 you his key.
7 JOE: We don't have a warrent.
8 CLERK: It's all right....I know about police. It's all right
9 with me.
10 JOE: It's not with us.
11 CLERK: I didn't mean that. I just meant it was all right with
12 me.
13 VOCAL: OFF WE HEAR 3 MEN SINGING "GOOD KING WENCESLAUS" SLIGHTY
14 OFF KEY.
15 JOE: They were 3 old men. We couldn't tell how much better
16 they'd have been with stroup singing the fourth part but
17 somehow you didn't care. This was Christmas at the golden
18 dream and it sounded fine.
19 CLERK: This is the last rehearsal. They got most of the songs
20 down pat.
21 FRANK: Sounds pretty good.
22 CLERK: That's why it's a shame Claude isn't here. He's tenor
23 and they need him to make it sound just right.
24 JOE: Does Mr. Stroup have a job?
25 CLERK: No, sir. He used to have jobs....but not so much lately.
26 JOE: Did he say where he was going?

1 CLERK: No. He should've. The fellas need him.
2 FRANK: Well, here's our card. When he comes in, will you call
3 us?
4 CLERK: Sure. And not say anything to him?
5 JOE: That's right.
6 CLERK: I hope it's nothing' serious for Claude. A fella's
7 troubles oughtta be over.
8 FRANK: Troubles?
9 CLERK: Away back...it wouldn't count now.
10 JOE: Tell us anyway.
11 CLERK: I don't know much about it..
12 JOE: (SWIFTLY) As much as you know. Now c'mon. *16/30*
13 CLERK: It was somethin' back where he used to live...he robbed
14 somebody or something.
15 JOE: What else?
16 CLERK: That's all...It was a long time ago..away far back. But
17 he forgot it all...the robbin' and everything.
18 JOE: No not quite.
19 CLERK: Huh?
20 JOE: He remembered it this morning. *16/44*

END SCENE 5

17/12

1 JOE: We went back to the office and ran Stroup's name through
2 R. & I. If he'd been booked anywhere, we had no record
3 of it. At least not under that name. 4:15 P.M. Pawnshop
4 Detail reported back. No object resembling the statue of
5 the Child Jesus had been turned in 4:18 P.M.

6 SOUND: BURGLARY SQUADROOM B.G. DOOR OPENS. CAPTAIN BARNARD FADES

7 IN

8 BARN: (OFF) Friday....Smith.

9 JOE: Yeah, Skipper?

10 BARN: I just got word. Patterson's on the Sacramento bus.

11 FRANK: I thought Bakersfield had it.

12 BARN: Uh-uh. (NO) They were supposed to confirm. They did.

13 Hop over to the station.

14 JOE: What about Fanning and Pryor?

15 BARN: They're still out.

16 JOE: They'll be back soon. When does the bus arrive?

17 BARN: Six o'clock.

18 JOE: There's plenty of time for them to make it.

19 BARN: There's more time for you.

20 FRANK: We're still on that theft.

21 BARN: Can't it wait?

22 JOE: No.

23 BARN: What is it? A ten...fifteen dollar statue?

24 JOE: When's the price determine a case?

1 BARN: I realize it's a church statue, but that doesn't give
2 it priority.
3 FRANK: It's important to them, Captain. Joe and I promised
4 to get it back.
5 BARN: What have you got on it?
6 JOE: Nothing much.
7 BARN: Then why were you so big-hearted?
8 SOUND: THE TELEPHONE RINGS. JOE PUNCHES BUTTON AND PICKS UP
9 RECEIVER
10 JOE: (INTO PHONE) Burglary...Friday speaking. (PAUSE)
11 When? (PAUSE) No...don't say anything.
12 SOUND: JOE REPLACES RECEIVER
13 JOE: Claude Stroup just walked into the hotel. He's our
14 suspect, Captain.
15 BARN: Nobody's leaked to him?
16 JOE: No.
17 BARN: He'll keep. You can run him down tomorrow.
18 JOE: It'll be too late then.
19 FRANK: They need it for the first mass in the morning. It's
20 kind of a big thing for them.
21 BARN: I'm sorry. I can't juggle details around so you can
22 get a statue back. If there's time later on, we'll
23 do our best.
24 JOE: Yes, sir.
25 BARN: You better get over to the station.

1 JOE: Yes, sir. Would you call Father Rojas over at the
2 Mission?
3 BARN: Why?
4 JOE: Tell him we're too busy to work on that statue.
5 FRANK: But we'll do it later...tomorrow...or when we get a
6 chance.
7 BARN: Why can't you call him?
8 JOE: We better get over to the station.
9 FRANK: If Patterson's on that bus we don't want to miss him. 18/30
10 (BEAT)
11 BARN: All right. I'll call him.
12 (BEAT)
13 JOE: C'mon, Frank. Let's go.
14 FRANK: Right.
15 SOUND: THEY WALK TO DOOR AND OPEN IT. CORRIDOR B.G. IN
16 BARN: (LITTLE OFF) Joe?
17 JOE: Yeah.
18 SOUND: BARNARD FADES IN AND STOPS.
19 BARN: I can send Fanning and Pryor over. You might as well
20 stay on that other thing.
21 JOE: (GENTLY) Whatever you say, Captain.

END SCENE 6

MIDDLE COMMERCIAL

19/30 → 20/10

DRAGNET ²¹
DECEMBER 24, 1954

(REVISED)

SECOND COMMERCIAL: 19/00

FENNEMAN: Planning a change to king-size? King-size Chesterfield is America's best cigarette buy.

GIRL: Yes, king-size Chesterfield is America's best cigarette buy. In most places, you pay the same price per package for king-size Chesterfield as for all regular size cigarettes. 19/15

19/30
FENNEMAN: Of the three brands that have been leaders in this country for over 30 years, only Chesterfield is made in king-size, and only Chesterfield gives proof of highest quality....low nicotine ... with the taste you want and the mildness you want. A refreshing smoke every time. Yes, king-size Chesterfield is America's best cigarette buy.

GIRL: Remember, in most places, you pay the same price per package for king-size Chesterfield as for all regular size cigarettes. You get the most for your money. 19/45

FENNEMAN: Each king-size Chesterfield gives you up to six more puffs per cigarette. One - two three - four - five - six more puffs per cigarette. That's 120 extra puffs per pack. Always remember this - in the whole wide world, no cigarette satisfies like Chesterfield. 20/10

1 JOE: 4:43 P.M. We arrived at the Golden Dream Hotel. The
2 Desk Clerk was right....Claude Stroup looked like a
3 man who'd had his troubles at bargain rates.

4 FRANK: You Mr. Stroup?

5 STROUP: Yes, sir?

6 FRANK: We're police officers. We'd like to talk to you.

7 STROUP: I didn't do anything against the law...Honest, I didn't
8 do anything against it....

9 JOE: You haven't been accused.

10 FRANK: Wanna take you downtown.

11 JOE: C'mon, we'd like to talk to you....

12 SOUND: JOE TAKES A STEP AND STROUP COMES IN FAST

13 STROUP: (COMIN IN FAST) No, sir...I'm not goin'...I'm not
14 goin' anywhere and I'm not gonna talk to anybody.

15 JOE: You're half wrong already.

16 END SCENE 7

17 JOE: 5:15 P.M. We returned Stroup for interrogation. He kept
18 his word. He refused to talk. 6:05 P.M. Frank called
19 Faye...told her he'd be a little late. Stroup didn't
20 move for a whole hour. He sat and stared but he didn't
21 talk. 6:40 P.M. We got a final report from Pawnshop
22 Detail. The shops were closed....there was no statue.
23 Stroup still hadn't talked.

24 SOUND: BURGLARY SQUADROOM B.G. LATE AT NIGHT. NOT TOO FRANTIC.

25 FRANK: Dark out.

- 1 JOE: Yeah...gets that way earlier every day.
- 2 (PAUSE)
- 3 SOUND: WE HEAR JOE WALK ACROSS THE ROOM TO STROUP AND STOP.
- 4 (BEAT)
- 5 JOE: Don't you ever want to go home, Stroup?
- 6 STROUP: If I was to talk...you wouldn't let me go.
- 7 JOE: That depends on what you'd say.
- 8 STROUP: I'd say it wrong....and I wouldn't get home.
- 9 JOE: You won't this way, either.
- 10 STROUP: I'd like to go...~~you~~ can bet on that. (BEAT) This
- 11 is the seventh year we had the program...and I never
- 12 missed a one. Not a single one.
- 13 SOUND: FRANK JOINS JOE AND STROUP
- 14 FRANK: (FADING ON) Why don't you tell us what happened, Stroup.
- 15 STROUP: How would I know you'd let me go?
- 16 JOE: You wouldn't.
- 17 STROUP: (WEARILY) I might as well, anyway.
- 18 JOE: What happened?...from Mass on?
- 19 STROUP: Well, there was Mass...I came out and started down toward
- 20 the hotel.
- 21 JOE: Back up.

21/30

1 STROUP: (STUMBLING ON UNCOMPREHENSIVELY) I left my stuff at the
2 hotel and then I picked up George's car. I didn't steal
3 it. He said I could have it any time I wanted...only
4 this time I didn't ask him. I took it and started out.
5 I shoulda asked. But I just didn't. I went over to
6 Grand Avenue for the Christmas bulbs...fellow over there
7 sells 'em second-hand. It was comin' out of the lot
8 that I did it.

9 JOE: Yes? 22/10

10 STROUP: The bumper must have caught the other car. It didn't
11 leave too big a dent, but there was this long scratch.
12 I got out and tried to wipe it with my handkerchief...you
13 know, spit on it like...only it didn't do no good. I didn't
14 think anybody saw. I don't know how you fellows found
15 out about it.

16 BEAT

17 FRANK: I'll check auto records.

18 SOUND: ~~FRANK OFF~~

19 JOE: Mr. Stroup, we didn't bring you down here to talk
20 about that. 22/30

21 STROUP: You didn't?

22 JOE: No. There's a statue missing from the Church...a statue
23 of the Child Jesus.

24 STROUP: You mean I took it?

25 JOE: You took a bundle out of Church.

1 STROUP: Yes, sir. That was my other pants...for the program
2 tonight. I had a place sewed up and there was a button
3 off. You can check. But I wouldn't take a statue.
4 JOE: I don't think you would either.
5 FRANK: He's clear at Auto Records.
6 STROUP: You mean it's all right?
7 JOE: Goodnight, Mr. Stroup.
8 (BEAT)
9 SOUND: STROUP GETS UP. WALKS SLOWLY TO THE DOOR OF THE CORRIDOR
10 AND OPENS IN. CORRIDOR B.G. IN.
11 STROUP: (FROM DOOR) Goodnight...Merry Christmas.
12 SOUND: DOOR CLOSES. CORRIDOR B.G. OUT.....JOE SLUMPS INTO CHAIR.
13 FRANK: Where to?
14 JOE: We could stay and work on it tonight.
15 FRANK: It wouldn't do any good, Joe. We won't find it,
16 JOE: I don't think so.
17 FRANK: No point in kidding that Priest...build his hopes up.
18 JOE: Yeah. We might as well tell him now.
19 SOUND: JOE STANDS UP AND TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS AND STOPS
(BEAT)
20 JOE: (ABSENTLY) Merry Christmas.
END SCENE 8

23/50

23/50

1 JOE: 7:27 P.M. We found Father Rojas. Frank told him how
2 it was....that we couldn't get the statue back by
3 morning....but that we'd keep trying during the week....
4 He said he understood. We told him we had to get on.

5 SOUND: CHURCH IN B.G. JOE, FRANK AND FATHER ROJAS WALKING IN
6 CHURCH. OFF MIKE WE HEAR THE DOORS TO THE CHURCH OPEN
7 AND PACO MENDOZA ENTERS, PULLING A WAGON BEHIND HIM. 24/00

8 JOE: As Frank and I started to leave, the doors at the main
9 entrance to the church opened. (BEAT) It was a good
10 200 feet away. It was hard to be sure but it looked
11 like a small boy drawing a bright red wagon behind him.
12 (BEAT) When he got closer you could see he was no
13 bigger than a pint of milk. He was a luminous eyed
14 little Mexican boy with a face as young as yesterday.
15 The Priest seemed to know him. 24/00

16 ROJAS: Paquito.

17 JOE: In the back of the wagon was the missing statue of the
18 child Jesus. He picked it up gently and walked up to
19 the Priest.

20 PACO: Padre Rojas.

21 JOE: He just stood there looking up at Father Rojas.

22 ROJAS: It is Paco Mendoza, Sergeant. He is a boy from the parish.

23 JOE: Ask him where he found it.

24 ROJAS: (TO BOY) Donde lo encontraste?

25 PACO: (ON VERGE OF TEARS) No lo encuentre...lo cogi...esta
26 manana. 24/00

27 ROJAS: (TO JOE) He says he did not find it. He took it.

28 JOE: Why?

1 ROJAS: (TO BOY) Por que?
2 BEAT
3 PACO: (CLOSE TO TEARS) Todos los anos Paquito rezo por un
4 camincito rojo. Este ano Paquito le rezo al nino Jesus.
5 Yo prometiu al nino Jesus el primer viaje en mi
6 camioncito.
7 ROJAS: He says all thru the years he has prayed for a red wagon.
8 This year he prayed to the child Jesus. He promised
9 that if he got the red wagon, the Child Jesus would have
10 the first ride in it. 25/30
11 PACO: (TEARFULLY) Vendra el Diablo para llevara Paquito?
12 ROJAS: He wants to know if the devil will come and take him to
13 hell?
14 JOE: (QUIETLY) That's your department, Father.
15 SOUND: FATHER ROJAS KNEELS BESIDE THE BOY.
16 ROJAS: No el Diablo. Jesus Ama a Paquito mucho. 76/02
17 JOE: We crossed over to the Sanctuary. With the help of
18 Father Rojas, the small boy replaced the Infant Jesus
19 in it's right place...the crib in the Nativity Scene.
20 Frank and I could have been wrong but the small plaster
21 statues seemed to approve. Mary, Joseph, the Wise
22 Men, Gaspar, Melchior, Balbizar, the old shepherd, the
23 young shepherd, the peasant...they all seemed to approve.
24 ROJAS: Vuelve a tu casa, Paquito.

- 26/30
- 1 JOE: The priest told the boy to go home. He took hold of
2 his wagon and started the long walk out of the church.
3 (BEAT) There wasn't much we could say. There wasn't
4 much to say. We just stood there and watched him go.
5 Half way up the aisle, he turned and looked back.
6 Then he went on out. 27/00
- 7 SOUND: PACO TAKES WAGON OUT THROUGH DOORS. DOORS CLOSE BEHIND
8 HIM.
- 9 FRANK: I don't understand how he got the wagon today. Don't
10 kids wait for Santa Claus anymore?
- 11 ROJAS: It is not from Santa Claus. The firemen fix the old
12 toys and give them to new children. Paquito's family...
13 they are poor.
- 14 JOE: (QUIETLY) Are they, Father?
- 15 MUSIC: THEME 27/00

2/1/5

1 FENN: The story you have just heard is true. The names were
2 changed.

Comic

2/1/52 →

29/00

DRAGNET RADIO
December 21, 1954

CLOSING COMMERCIAL

28/32

WEBB:

Friends, It's not too late to get plenty of Chesterfield Christmas cartons for your friends. They're all wrapped and ready to give - cost so little - give so much pleasure. Perfect for your last minute shopping problems. You can get 'em at your dealers. He'll be open right up to Christmas. And speaking of your dealer - may I personally say to him... to all the one million three hundred thousand retail dealers... and the more than six thousand wholesale distributors -- Merry Christmas. Merry Christmas from the makers of Chesterfield and L & M's, the Liggett & Myers Tobacco Company - and from all of us on Dragnet. Now - goodnight to all of you - and have a very happy holiday.

29/45

29/00

END PAGE

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 THEME: UNDER

3 GIBNEY: You have just heard Dragnet -- a series of authentic
4 cases from official files. Technical advice comes from
5 the office of Chief of Police, W.H. Parker, Los Angeles
6 Police Department. Technical advisors: Captain Jack
7 Donohoe, Sgt. Marty Wynn, Sgt. Vance Brasher. Heard
8 tonight were: Ben Alexander, _____.

9 Script by _____.

10 Music by Walter Schumann. Hal Gibney speaking.

11 MUSIC: THEME UNDER...CONTINUES

12 FENN: Watch an entirely new Dragnet case history each week on
13 your local NBC Television station. Please check your
14 newspapers for the day and time. (BEAT) Chesterfield
15 has brought you Dragnet, transcribed, from Los Angeles.
16 (FATIMA HITCH HIKE)

DRAGNET RADIO
DEC. 29th 1954

²¹
HITCH-HIKE...L & M

- 1 ANNCR: This is it!
- 2 ^{29/05} L & M is best - stands out from all the rest!
- 3 L & M stands out for flavor. The pure, white miracle tip
- 4 draws easy. You enjoy all the taste. L & M stands out
- 5 for effective filtration. L & M's got everything! It's
- 6 America's best filter-tip cigarette. **And for Christmas,**
this is it! L & M Filters in the distinctive holiday carton - the perfect gift
for all the filter-tip smokers you know.

^{29/30}