

THE EXCALIBUR GUIDE TO LO-BUDGET GIFTS

Christmas shoppers, look no further. In these hard economic times, Yuletide shopping can be a traumatic experience. With that in mind, *Excalibur's* Paul Pivato has compiled a list of unique gift suggestions that are sure to satisfy the most demanding of tastes without gouging the pocket-book. So, without further ado, here are four seductive items you won't want to miss. Happy shopping!



Car John. Doesn't it bug you when you're driving home and all of a sudden you have the uncontainable urge to urinate and you can't pull over in time, and you end up wetting yourself? Well, now here's the "Car John™," a tasteful present sure to come in handy. Consisting of a small bottle, funnel, and hose, the "Car John™" provides instant relief during those all-too-common emergency situations. There are detailed instructions on the bottle:

- 1) Place personal hose in Car John™
- 2) Let Go!
- 3) Replace cap securely
- 4) Relax!

The perfect gift for loved ones at only \$5.99. Fits all male connections.

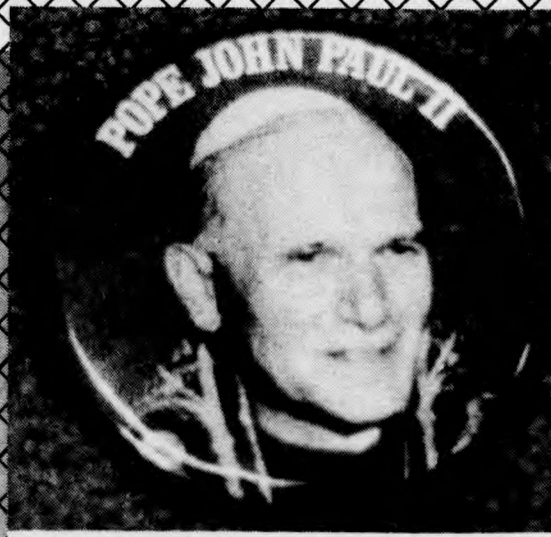


Wall Plaque. This lovable wall plaque souvenir of Toronto, is just the thing for out-of-town relatives and art connoisseurs. It has a je-ne-sais-quoi beauty, and the black plastic is unquestionably authentic. Great in the kitchen, living room, or even storing away. The archetypal Canadian moose, sandwiched between the CN Tower and City Hall, is an obvious reference to the large moose herds found wandering about the city. Although it lacks a Mountie, the souvenir plaque is a must for those concerned about the Canadian identity crisis. A steal at \$3.99.



Instant Fireplace. Tired of those dark and cold winter nights spent longing for that fireside feeling you could never afford? Here's a comely item that's sure to be a source of unending joy for the whole family. The instant fireplace is also an ideal gift for pseudo-eccentric friends who eat dried fruit and believe that life is meaningless.

Unfortunately the fireplace lacks the crackle-snap-pop sound effects of burning wood, but it will still fool most people. Buying it also avoids the spiritual/moral dilemma of killing cellulose life. Although a tad expensive at \$9.99, it's a hot seller. Get yours today!



Pope Button. For those on your gift list vexed by the commercialism of Christmas, a Pope Button is the perfect thing. Looking very Popish, John Paul smiles serenely at his adoring fans. A trifle at \$1.29, the button is sure to be appreciated by lapsed Catholics and punk rockers alike.

This button will undoubtedly help make the Pope the biggest celebrity since Brooke Shields and Wayne Gretzky. A must-have for the Pontiff's upcoming Toronto visit.