

Watching a movie can be a pleasant way to relax, especially during the holiday season. The library's DVD collection is just the place to find a holiday film, whether you want to watch a holiday classic without all the commercials or an animated feature to share with your children. Plus, you can pick the time that fits best into your schedule!

Perhaps you want to start with some classics:

"A Christmas Carol" starring George C. Scott is one of my favorite film versions of Charles Dicken's classic tale. "Scott gives a powerful performance as Ebenezer Scrooge in this timeless story that also stars Susannah York and David Warner."

Miracle on 34th Street

"The real Santa is hired by Macy's to play the department store's Santa in the Thanksgiving Day parade, but has to prove in court that he is who he says he is." You can either watch the "colorized" version of the 1947 motion picture starring Edmund Gwenn and Maureen O'Hara or the more recent version starring Dylan McDermott and Elizabeth Peters.

White Christmas

"Two song-and-dance men (Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye) team up in show business after the war. Joining forces with a sister act (Rosemary Clooney and Vera Ellen), they trek to Vermont for a white Christmas. The read adventure starts when Crosby and Kaye discover that the inn is run by their old army general who's now in financial trouble."

Holiday Inn

"Jim Hardy (Bing Crosby) leaves showbiz to run an inn that is open only on holidays. A former partner, Ted Hanover (Fred Astaire), joins him and the two find themselves competing for the affections of the same lovely lady (Marjorie Reynolds)." The film features 13 holiday songs by famed composer Irving Berlin, including "White Christmas" – one of the most popular recordings in music history.

Or maybe you would enjoy from the Hallmark Channel Holiday Collection, "A Very Merry Mix-Up" "Shop owner Alice (Alicia Witt) is nervous to meet her future in-laws at Christmas, especially because he is arriving ahead of her new fiancé, Will (Scott Gibson). But when she meets her future brother-in-law (Mark Wiebe), an unexpected romance comes calling and Alice must decide if her "Merry Mix-Up" will actually turn out to be her destiny." We have this as a stand-alone DVD, and also included in a four pack which includes "The Christmas Ornament," "Hitched for the Holidays," and "Come Dance with Me.

Fans of Acorn TV will like "Murdoch Mysteries: Once Upon a Murdoch Christmas." We offer two different DVDs, each described by The Globe and Mail (Canada) as "smart, fast-paced fun and sweetly satisfying."

Family titles include, among others: "The Polar Express", "A Christmas Story," "Shrek the Halls," "Santa Clause" (1,2 and 3) and another personal favorite, "Prancer." "A wounded reindeer and a precocious 8-year-old girl form an everlasting bond in this tender holiday drama about true devotion and friendship."

The younger set may enjoy Jim Hensons' "Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas" or "Thomas and Friends: Ultimate Christmas" or "Diego Saves Christmas" which features the title story and "Pepito's Penguin School."

This is just a sampling of your choices. We also have the excellent foreign film "Joyeux Noel," "based on the true story of three armies in the bloody trenches of World War I and the miraculous Christmas Eve truce they unexpectedly forge."

And when you stop by, check out our Movie Binge Boxes, which include three movies and popcorn!

Happy viewing!