Up-Close-and-Personal Computers

Valentine’s Day used to mean mailboxes stuffed with cards, love in the form of big pink and red envelopes from family and friends near and far.

Snail-mail valentines in 2012? Not so much. With e-mails and Facebook posts a click away, even your Grandma may not take the time to buy a card, find a stamp, and run to the mailbox.

Today, the most personal Valentines are greetings via Skype. The videoconferencing hub has become the go-to for sending love across the miles. It’s faster than a greeting card and more personal than an e-mail blast, and it provides the chance to see your loved one face-to-Webcam.

So, Skype a little love to someone this week. With over 700 million users on the service, and with Webcams standard on most new computers, 2012 is finally the year of the up-close-and-personal computer.

Discussion Questions
• Retro red envelopes or up-close-and-personal computers? Do you prefer getting mail on Valentine’s Day? Or are modern greetings just as good?
• Sometimes, efficient can also mean impersonal. What are the drawbacks of Skype? When does it seem impersonal?
• Jesus understood how important touch is to humans. Think about His ministry. When did He touch people? How was this powerful?
• God gave us Baptism and Holy Communion as sacraments. What do you touch in these? What happens in these sacraments?