

# St. Gabriel Parish

# The Messenger

Religious Instruction December 2024 Newsletter



## And the winners are ...

Thank you to all the families who participated in the first Mission Possible Family Challenge.

Congratulations to a Grade two WHPS student and a grade 5 LTIS student and their families for winning our Advent & Christmas gift bag!!

Didn't get drawn this time? Don't despair! Your submissions will be brought forward for our next draw which will take place the week of February 19th! Continue to check our upcoming newsletters for more Mission Possible Family Tasks. Check the reverse of this newsletter for your December challenge.

## Coming soon!

We are excited to announce that Saint Gabriel Parish will be celebrating a youth mass once a month starting in January 2025!! More information coming in our January newsletter as to how your child could get involved and be an active participant!



## What's Going On?

There are many exciting events taking place at St. Gabriel's Church for our families. Take a gander! Mark your calendar! All are welcome!

### Join us for our special Christmas Masses!

#### 'Simbang Gabi'

A Filipino Christmas Tradition

Dec. 15-23, 2024

Mon. - Fri. 6 pm

Sat. and Sun 5 pm

#### December 24th - Christmas Eve

Boyle - 7:30 pm

Athabasca - 9:30 pm

#### December 25th - Christmas Day

Athabasca - 10:00 am

Boyle - 12:00 pm



# Advent Family Activities

## Starlight Cookies

Looking for a great Christmas gift idea that also commemorates Mary and Joseph's Journey to Bethlehem?? Check out this site for making Cookie Mix Gift Jars as a family!!

[Starlight Cookie Mix Jars](#)



## Family Advent Angels.

Randomly assign your family members as secret "advent angels" to each other. The goal is for each person to perform acts of kindness and service (in secret) for the person to whom they've been assigned.

Source: [10 Family Advent Traditions to Try This Year - Ascension Press Media](#)



## Mission Possible: December Family

Complete the task below and return this slip to the school office by December 11th. Your submission will be added to the draw for the chance to win a Family Gift Basket!

*Christmas time is filled with many rituals and traditions that are often passed on from generation to generation. From our traditional foods, to our decorations, to special activities - many rooted in family history. Something as simple as what a family puts at the top of their Christmas tree!*

*What do you put at the top of your tree and why?*

*At the top of our tree we put a \_\_\_\_\_ . This symbol represents*

Child's first name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gr. \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this slip to school by December 11th for a chance to win the Family Gift Basket which will be drawn the week of February 19th.

"Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem.  
May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man."  
Pope Francis