

# THE TRUE GIFT

DUE JANUARY 15, 2025

## Prayer Challenge:

During the Month of December we focus on Advent. If you don't have a family Advent wreath, take a few minutes to think about the central themes of Advent.

1. **Hope** – Reflecting on the hope of Christ's coming, past and future, and God's promises of redemption and everlasting life.
2. **Peace** – Embracing the peace that Christ brings into the world and seeking peace within our hearts and relationships.
3. **Joy** – Rejoicing in the anticipation of Jesus' arrival, especially celebrated on the third Sunday (Gaudete Sunday).
4. **Love** – Remembering God's love for humanity in sending his Son and reflecting that love to others.

## SCRIPTURE CHALLENGE

### Gospel

#### [Lk 2:1-14](#)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled.

This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria.

So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town.

And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son.

She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock.

The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear.

The angel said to them,

“Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord.

And this will be a sign for you:

you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:

“Glory to God in the highest  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

## Upcoming Dates

*Class times: 5:30-7:00pm*

- **December 18 Service Night (Sign-up NOW!)**
- **December 22 Youth Mass at 10 am/Trees, Treats and Trivia 11-12:30**
- **January 15 Class (with Stay and Pray from 7-8)**

## Questions of Faith?

We are preparing for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. How do you keep Christ in the center of your life during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season? What is your FAVORITE holiday tradition and why?

## Service Challenge:

As we prepare for Christmas, I would challenge you to shop for those in need. There are SO many amazing charities in our area that need help! Please consider purchasing a toy or two for a child in need instead of something you might choose for yourself. Pray for the recipient before placing it in the donation box.

## Gratitude Corner:

Christmas is a time filled with traditions. This month, reflect on how your family prepares for and celebrates the greatest gift God has given our world—His Son, Jesus Christ. Make a list of 10 traditions or things you look forward to most during the Christmas season!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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**IMAGINATIVE PRAYER:** Quiet your heart and your soul. Read the passage, see the words. Read it again, but this time enter into the story and answer the following questions.

Where did you place yourself in the Gospel? Were you Mary and Joseph heading up to Galilee—what were you feeling on the way and when you were turned away? Were you one of the shepherds—how would you have felt and responded to the angels? Or if you were an observer what were you seeing and feeling as all of this was happening?

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## Questions of Faith?

Who did you choose to ask your Questions of Faith? \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*10<sup>th</sup> graders should ask their sponsor the questions, if possible\*\***

**Sum up their response below and tell how it impacted you.**

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## Service Challenge:

Where did you choose to donate your gift, how did you feel shopping, knowing that YOU were going to make Christmas morning EXTRA special for another child. That YOU were going to be the reason for their joy?

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## Gratitude Challenge:

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