

St. Gilbert Religious Education Program
Parent Letter #5
November 15, 2026

Dear Parents,
This is an exciting time of the year. I hope and pray that you take time with the children to talk about Thanksgiving and all the blessings that we have. It is a significant day to say a prayer of thanks.

The first grade students have open house for the parents at 9:30 am on Sunday. They will say their prayers, sing songs, and report on one of the lessons in the book. Parents wait for me outside the Multi-Purpose Room and we will go over together.

Preschool and Kindergarten students will gather next Sunday, Nov. 22, for a Thanksgiving Feast. The students will sing songs, learn about the Pilgrims and Indians and the first Thanksgiving, and tell why they are thankful. Refreshments will be served.

Just a reminder that you can make tuition payments through the website GiveCentral. (There is a link on the Religious Education Website.) If you are having a hard time making the payments talk to Lisa and we will try to help. If you would like to assist someone who cannot make their payment, put the money in an envelope and label it St. Gilbert REP Tuition Assistance.

On Sunday, December 13 at 9:30 am, Preschool through Grade 6 will gather in the Multi-Purpose Room for Christmas Caroling and the dramatization of the Nativity by Grade 3. Parents and grandparents are invited to join us.



Grade 2 students are invited to participate in a play at the beginning of the 3:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass. Forms will be sent home with the students at the beginning of December. There will be a practice that I will tell you about later. If you would like to have your son/daughter participate, come to the practice.

If students (fourth grade and up) want to be a part of the choir for the Christmas Eve, 3 pm Mass, simply practice the songs (Christmas Carols) at home and then be here by 2:15 pm on Christmas Eve to practice before Mass. It would help if you call my office and leave the name of the student and grade level so we can prepare the materials ahead of time – email me.

All parishioners are invited to take a tag from the tables or Christmas trees in the Church lobby and fill the request for gifts this Christmas for the less fortunate. It is part of the Giving Tree Ministry.

Remember that the International Fest is Sunday, November 15 beginning at noon. This is a family event with reasonable prices for ethnic foods. There is also activities for the children and entertainment for all. Come and join us.

May you and your family have a Blessed Thanksgiving. God bless!

Sr. Donna



A PARENT'S THANKSGIVING PRAYER

For sticky jelly fingers and chocolate-smeared cheeks, we thank you, Lord.
Wads of gum we snip from hair, petrified graham crackers we find under cushions of the couch, remind us that our children have more than enough to eat.

For crayon scribbles on hardwood floors and beds stripped bare for pillow forts, we thank you, Lord.
Little dinner mints of toothpaste that dot the bathroom sink,
Legos that cut into the bottoms of bare feet,
Remind us that our children have the luxury of a place to rest and play.

For these kids you've given us, O Lord, and the ones you haven't,
for the ones who know plenty and the ones who haven't much,
we thank you, Lord, and ask for your divine protection.
Hold them always in your love.
(written by Mary Lynn Kendrickson)

If the only prayer you say in your whole
Life is "thank you," that would suffice.
Meister Eckhart



A special thank you to all who participated in this fundraiser especially those who asked their relatives and friends to participate. ***The money will be used for special student activities including scholarships.*** The products will be delivered to the classroom next week for those who participated in the fundraiser. Thanks for your cooperation.