

Bible Study -

Companion to the Sunday
Readings by Gwen Meding.

Starts November 27th at 11am in the meeting room at the church.

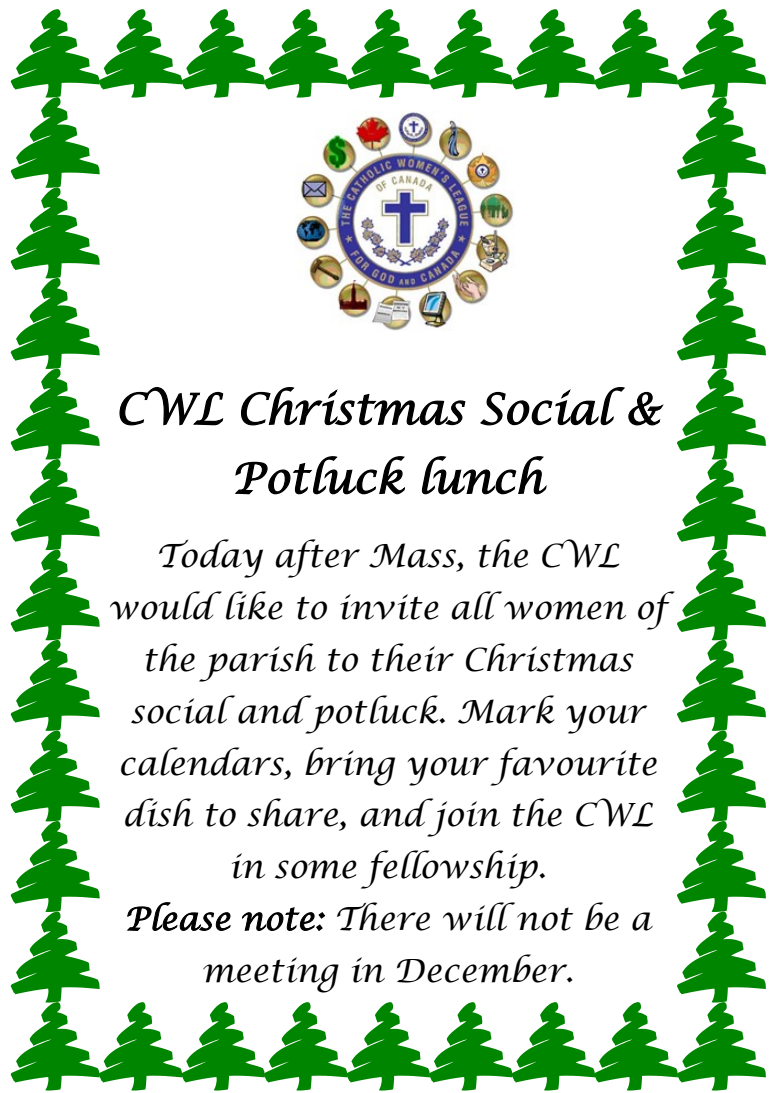
Runs weekly with review of meeting times in January 2025.

Contact Vaune McKee for more information.

(780) 213 - 4166

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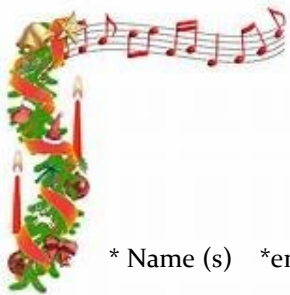
Everyone is welcome!



CWL Christmas Social & Potluck lunch

Today after Mass, the CWL would like to invite all women of the parish to their Christmas social and potluck. Mark your calendars, bring your favourite dish to share, and join the CWL in some fellowship.

Please note: There will not be a meeting in December.



Calling all singers and musicians!

Join the Christmas Choir for St. Gabriel's!

Please register with the office at officeathabascastg@dostp.ca

Please include:

* Name (s) *email *phone number *your availability to rejoice on Christmas Eve and/or Christmas Day choir.



Collection envelopes for 2025 are now available at the church entry.

*****PLEASE NOTE*****

A gentle reminder that to ensure your donations are properly recorded for you tax purposes please remember:

- Only use the current year envelopes.
- Only use envelopes with your name/number.
- Don't have a donation envelope number?

Please contact the office to receive envelopes or

- use the **PINK** guest envelopes.



SIMBANG GABI 2024

ST. GABRIEL PARISH, ATHABASCA

DECEMBER 15-23, 2024

MON- FRI 6PM

SAT & SUN 5PM



JOIN US FOR A POTLUCK AFTER MASS
Bring a dish to share

"Simbang Gabi" a Filipino Christmas tradition, it is a series of nine (9) dawn masses, the mass starts as early as 4:00 a.m. It begins on December 16 and ends on the midnight of the 24th of December, which is the midnight mass.

This tradition was introduced by the Spanish friars to allow the farmers to hear mass before going to the fields early in the morning. Simbang Gabi is also known by its popular Spanish name as the Misa de Gallo, or "mass of the rooster."

In the olden days, the church bells start ringing as early as three o'clock waking people up so they can get ready for the four o'clock dawn mass.

Today, the tradition of Simbang Gabi continues whether you live in the city or in the province, although it is celebrated in new ways. Most churches are decorated with colourful lights and beautiful parol lanterns to welcome the church goers.

The Nativity Scene or "Belen" is displayed in preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. It shows Baby Jesus in a manger with Mother Mary and St. Joseph. There are shepherds and farm animals. A complete scenario of the Belen includes the three wise men carrying their gifts to Infant Jesus and the star of Bethlehem that guided them in their journey.

Shortly after the mass, traditional delicacies awaits the church goers and are sold in stalls right outside the church, Favourites like bibingka, puto (rice cakes), puto bungbong, suman sa pasko, suman saibos and usually served with tea or coffee. Hot pandesal (breakfast roll) are also very popular.