Our Lady of the Annunciación Roman Catholic Parish is a people of living faith rooted in the Gospel, centered on the Eucharist and led by the Holy Spirit.

We are inspired by the example of Mary to continue the mission of Jesus Christ by ministering to all.

Annunciation Parish Website: www.annunciationparishabq.org

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The third Sunday of Advent known as Gaudete Sunday. Guadete, translated from the Latin antiphon for the opening of this Mass, meaning “rejoice”, is taken from St. Paul’s Letter to the Philippians 4:4-5 “Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice...The Lord is near.” Yes, we rejoice as we know the nearness of the Lord’s coming, not only at Christmas, but even in the mysteries of our daily lives. In today’s gospel, St. John the Baptist sends his disciples to Jesus as they want to know if Jesus is the one for whom they had hoped. In Mt 11:4-5 Jesus points out that “the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.” Yes indeed there is reason for rejoicing as we know that Jesus brings forth the Kingdom of God into our midst. Do we give thanks for Jesus’ coming to us in our history and mystery? Do we prepare patiently for Jesus’ return at the end of time as St. James suggests, in James 5:7-10, with firm hearts that do not complain about one another but rather serve one another out of love? Let us bring forth the Kingdom of God by our actions and we will truly welcome the Lord Jesus into our midst.

REV. PETER MGENDWA

Father Peter Mgenda, a priest of the Diocese of Mbeya in Tanzania, has been assigned as a parochial vicar to Annunciation Parish effective immediately. Father worked in parishes and schools and the seminary for many years, having been ordained in 2003. As Father Peter has just arrived in America, having never left Tanzania before, please extend him your warmest and most gracious greetings. Welcome to Our Lady of the Annunciation Parish, Father Peter!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Our annual Penance Service for Advent here at Annunciation will be held this Monday, Dec. 16th at 7:00 p.m. in church. There will be about a dozen priests on hand to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with you in order to better prepare for Christmas. Please come and take advantage of this opportunity to find the true peace of Christmas deep within your soul.

SAINT FRANCIS AWARD

I am pleased to announce that this year’s recipient of the Archbishop’s St. Francis Award for Annunciation Parish is Maria Ruíz. As a longtime parishioner, Maria has been involved in many ministries including religious education, Communion ministry, sacristan, church environment, hospitality and much more. Thank you, Maria, for your gracious service and witness to the face of Christ in the world, making Jesus known and loved by your example. Congratulations on this recognition of your service and may God bless you abundantly!

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Thanks to all of you who have completed your pledge to this year’s Annual Catholic Appeal. We are coming to the close of this year’s appeal and pray that everyone can complete their pledge. As we have already reached the archdiocesan goal, all that is collected now will come right back to Annunciation for our own parish projects. May Our Lord bless you for your generosity!
PARISH LIFE & PASTORAL OUTREACH
RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS
Sr. Navya Guan, RRCJ, Director
nguan@annunciationparishhqb.org
Mary Agnes Sain, Administrative Assistant
299-9111

This Week's Meetings/Activities
Dec 16 Monday
Marianites Community Visits to the Sick & Homebound
Marianites Retreat
Divine Mercy Christmas potluck
Dec 17 Tuesday
St. Vincent de Paul Society
Dec 19 Thursday
Sunday Readings Reflection
Consolation Ministry Christmas Social

Catholic Charities
Giving Tree
THANK YOU! To all parishioners who donated gifts for the "Giving Tree" of Catholic Charities. Your Christmas spirit of generosity added to the joy of the children who requested the gifts. God Bless all your intentions!

Women of Grace
FIND YOUR PURPOSE... FEED YOUR SOUL
We will begin the weekly Women of Grace Study Program, "Full of Grace: Women and the Absoluted Life" on January 10, 2020 through April 3, 2020. Two sessions will be offered in St. Francis Hall at 7:30 and 8:30 PM on Thursdays. Discover the gift of authentic femininity, discipleship of life, and God's awesome purpose and mission for you in the world today.

Consolation Ministry
The Rosary following the 7:30 Mass on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month is led by the Consolation Ministry for the sick and homebound of our parish. Family and friends. There will be a potluck dinner on Dec 23rd for the beseech group. Call the Parish Office for details.

Religious Education Programs
Religious Education & Sacramental Preparation

The shepherds welcomed Jesus
Fill in the spaces with the missing words to find the message the angels gave to the shepherds.

Highest * God * Glory

Mary
LECTIONARY READINGS: Monday, December 16th, 2019 — Saturday, December 21st, 2019

MONDAY: Advent Weekday  
Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a  
Mt 21:23-27

TUESDAY: Late Advent Weekday  
Gn 49:2, 8-10  
Mt 1:1-17

WEDNESDAY: Late Advent Weekday  
Jr 23:5-8  
Mt 1:18-25

THURSDAY: Late Advent Weekday  
Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a  
Lk 1:5-25

FRIDAY: Late Advent Weekday  
Is 7:10-14  
Lk 1:26-38

SATURDAY: Late Advent Weekday; St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church  
Sg 2:8-14  
Lk 1:39-45

MUSIC & LITURGICAL MINISTRY
Dr. Jane Smith, Director   298-9636  
Rose Marie Vigil, Administrative Assistant

MINISTRY & MUSIC HAPPENINGS

MUSIC
Children’s Christmas Choir Rehearsal: Monday, December 16, 4:00-4:45 pm, in the church
Cantor Rehearsal: Thursday, December 19, @ 6:45 pm, in the church
Parish Mixed Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, December 19 @ 7:30 pm, in the church
5:30 PM Music Ensemble Rehearsal: Before Mass @ 4:15 pm in the church

MINISTRY
The Children’s Nativity Play will be presented as a prelude before the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass. We still need angels, shepherds, and stable animals for our play!

Our last rehearsal will be held Saturday, December 21 @ 9:00 am in the church. Please call the Liturgy Office, 298-9636, for more information, or to sign up your child.

Liturgical Ministers: The holidays—and Holy Days—are fast approaching! If your plans for this festive season make you available to serve at our special Masses, please turn in the purple form you received a few weeks ago. Additional Forms are available in the Adornment Room and the Parish Office. Thank you for your service!

The church will be decorated for Christmas on Monday, December 23, starting at 10:00 am. Help is needed to set up trees, place flowers and arrange the Nativity figures. Children are welcome, but must be supervised and must be old enough to really help.

Please keep the sick and homebound of our parish in your prayers.

Anointing of the Sick: Wednesday, December 18, 2019 after the 8:30 AM Mass
The Liturgical Minister Schedule Annunciation Parish Website: www.annunciationparishabq.org/litschedule.html

Men: do you want to experience your faith in a masculine way? If you answered yes to this question, then you are invited to check out THE KING’S MEN. This exciting masculine faith formation program has opportunities for you to gain a deeper understanding of your Catholic faith in a masculine modality. Please join our band of brothers in seeking a development in our God-given roles as leader, protector and provider. A weekly formation meeting is taking place every WEDNESDAY at Sangre de Cristo Catholic Church from 7:00-8:30 pm. For questions, contact TKM.Annunciation@gmail.com or visit The King’s Men-Annunciation Facebook page.