Our Lady of the Annunciation 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

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

Today’s liturgy takes us right into the Light of Christ. The gospel text from John 9:1-41 reveals Jesus’ encounter with the man born blind from birth. Just before healing the blind man, Jesus says, in JN 9:5, “While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” Jesus then fills the blind man with light and vision, a miracle testifying to what He had just said. Many rejected this healing because they were blind to the goodness of Jesus. So who is really blind and who can really see? Perhaps we have physical sight but lack spiritual vision. This is the time to ask Jesus for the depth of true spiritual insight. As we find ourselves in a Lenten penance of fasting from public worship in the Mass it may seem like an extended Good Friday. We are challenged to go deep within our souls in order to find the Holy Spirit calling us to spiritual communion with the Lord in the divine indwelling. Yes, the Light of Christ still shines through the soul living in communion with so many Holy Communions over the years that we are now called to live out the gift of Jesus with thanksgiving and be the light of the world for the Jesus said in MT 5:14, “You are the light of the world. Then Jesus adds in MT 5:16, “In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

Now more than ever, everyone is called to live out the priesthood of the faithful people of God. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains this well: (CCC #785) Jesus Christ is the one whom the Father anointed with the Holy Spirit and established as priest, prophet and king. The People of God of God participates in these three offices of Christ and bears the responsibilities for mission and services that flow from them. (CCC #778) On entering the People of God through faith and Baptism, one receives a share in this people’s unique, priestly vocation: “Christ the Lord, having taken from among men, has made this new people ‘a kingdom of priests to God, his Father.’ The baptized, by regeneration and the anointing of the Holy Spirit, are consecrated to be a spiritual house and a holy priesthood.” Rise up and shine, O People of God, and let the world know that Christ lives among us!

**PRAYING UNDER THE CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS**

While all public worship in the Archdiocese is temporarily cancelled, Annunciation Church will remain open daily for private prayer and devotions from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Here are some prayers I recommend for families and for individuals: 1. Lectio Divina: read and meditate on a Bible passage for the day. 2. Pray a Holy Hour in Church. 3. Pray a Litany. 4. Pray a Rosary. 5. Pray a Chaplet of Mercy for the sick and the dying. 6. Invoke your angel and the saints. 7. Make a Spiritual Communion. See the bulletin insert for a Spiritual Communion Prayer as well as a Prayer for the Sick. Here is another version of a Prayer for Spiritual Communion adapted from the Armed Forces Prayer Book:

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer You praise and thanksgiving. I remember your dear Son, Lord Christ, I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive You today in the physical presence of my community, I beseech You to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from You. May I live in You, and You in me, in this life and the life to come. Amen.

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

The Parish Budget for Fiscal Year 2019 (7/1/19 - 6/30/20) is based on the giving of our faith family for Fiscal Year 2019. The portion of our budget contributed in envelopes, checks and loose cash is $1,768,000.00 or $34,000.00 per week. Contributions for the 36th weekend of the fiscal year were $10,039.00. In the 36th week of our fiscal year, our budgeted goal for ministry programs and ordinary operating expense is $1,285,000.00 and our collections are $1,339,598.00. Thank you for your continuing generosity.

May God bless you in your sacrificial giving. Lord, help me move from comfort to sacrifice.
PARISH LIFE & PASTORAL OUTREACH
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
Sr. Nency Guan, FDC, Director
nguan@annunciationparishbq.org
Mary Agnes Sain, Administrative Assistant
299-9111

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus’ pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father’s will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.
We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.
—Pope Francis, Prayer for Protection during the COVID-19 Pandemic

THIS WEEK’S MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES

Due to the current COVID-19 Pandemic, all meetings, scheduled events and activities have been canceled until further notice. Please be charitable toward your neighbors, especially the elderly and medically vulnerable, and stay at home and follow the directions of our local authorities to prevent the spread of the virus. Please pray for the relief of all those suffering during this difficult time, for the healthcare workers on the frontlines, and for our leaders. This is a time for great charity toward others by each doing our own part to take seriously social distancing and self-quarantining for the health of our whole community. During this time, our Lenten Spirituality and faith in God’s goodness can be offered for the health & good of the world. God bless you all.

Prayers for RCIA Elect & Candidates
Please continue to keep our Elect and candidates in prayer as they prepare at home with guidelines to study, reflect and pray to prepare to receive the Sacraments of Initiation.

CONSOLED (Grief) Ministry
On the 1st Tuesday of the month after the 3:30 PM Mass, this ministry gathers to pray the Rosary for the deceased parishioners and loved ones of our parish. The Consolation (Grief) Service every 3rd Tuesday at 3:30 PM in St. Barbara Bellus Hall. The program is called “Seasons of Hope.” Meetings are postponed until further notice. For details, please call the parish office at 209-9111 or Jim Twombly at 220-7297.

Sunday Readings Reflection
Is a great opportunity to prepare for the readings in the Sunday liturgy. Materials for reflection/discussion are provided. We will use the Missalette for the Sunday readings. It is held on Thursdays at 9:30-10:30 AM in St. Francis Hall. Meetings are postponed until further notice.

Marianites
Attend the Monday 8:30 AM Mass together and meet afterwards to pray and bring Holy Communion to the sick and homebound. Please consider joining this important ministry. Meetings are currently postponed until further notice.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary Religious Education (Pre-K-5th grade)
Middle School Religious Education (6th & 7th grade)
& Confirmation Program (8th, 9th or 10th grade)

At this time, ALL Religious Education Program activities are suspended until further notice for the health and safety of the community.

Covid-19

These are challenging times. I would like to encourage all families to take time to read the Sunday readings together or pray the Stations of the Cross as a family. Take time as a family to pray for those who are vulnerable and those who are already sick, pray for the healthcare workers on the frontlines, and our leaders who are having to make difficult decisions. Read the Bible and meditate on the lives of the saints who also faced challenges with deep faith in God’s goodness. Also, enjoy being a family at home. Watch a good movie with good values. Relax, re-charge, and enjoy each other’s company at home and help your neighbors in need — Lilah

Lenten Rice Bowls

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

CRS Rice Bowls

faith.action.results.

Please continue to remember to add your spare change to the CRS Rice Bowl. CRS helps both the local community and the poor around the world who are disproportionately affected by difficult times. More information will follow regarding when this collection will be taken up. More info on Lenten resources at www.crsricebowl.org

RETURN TO GREAT LOVE

A Biblical Walk through CHRIST’S PASSION
with Edward Sri
Coming Wednesday Evening this Lent.
Meetings are currently postponed. Please watch this page for information on rescheduled dates.

Growing with God

Loyola Press is offering a free Coronavirus Lession for your classroom that teaches them how to protect themselves & others and also how to pray and support our neighbors in need.
https://www.loyolapress.com/faith-formations/covid-safety-and-affairs,

Ministry of Mom Support (MOMS)

Meetings are postponed until further notice. Pray for your fellow moms and offer support by reaching out by phone or email. Offer to drop needed items off on the porch of a neighbor or family in need.

5th Sunday Rosary

Unfortunately, there will not be a formal gathering to pray the Rosary. Instead, pray a Rosary on this coming 5th Sunday at home. There is much to pray about in the world today.

5th Sunday Rosary

The Ascension Chapel is closed due to the pandemic.
Assigned Adorers are still able to sign in and pray daily at the Church between 8 AM - 6 PM in front of the Tabernacle. You are under no obligation to come if you are sick or know someone sick, or older than 60 or have chronic health conditions. Maintain 6 foot distance from others praying in the Church.

The ORIGINAL IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

A special presentation by Divine Mercy Expert & director Daniel D’Silva at Annunciation.

***Currently POSTPONED***
Continue to watch this bulletin for information about when this exhibition and presentation will be rescheduled.
LECTIONARY READINGS: Monday, March 23rd — Saturday, March 28th, 2020

MONDAY:  St. Turibuis of Mogrovejo, Bishop; Lenten Weekday
Is 65: 17-21  Jn 4:3-54

TUESDAY:  St. Oscar Romero, Bishop & Martyr; Lenten Weekday
Ez 47:1-9, 12  Jn 5:1-16

WEDNESDAY:  THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
Is 7:10-14; 8:10  Heb 10:4-10  Lk 1:26-38

THURSDAY:  Lenten Weekday
Ex 32:7-14  Jn 5:31-47

FRIDAY:  Lenten Weekday
Wis 2:1a, 12-22  Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

SATURDAY:  Lenten Weekday
Jer 11:18-20  Jn 7:40-53

MINISTRY & MUSIC HAPPENINGS

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

MUSIC

Cantor Rehearsal:  NO CANTOR REHEARSAL until further notice
Parish Mixed Choir Rehearsal:  Please wait for information regarding rehearsals
5:30 PM Music Ensemble Rehearsal:  NO REHEARSAL This Week or Next Week

Lord, who throughout these forty days, For us did fast and pray,
Teach us to overcome our sins, and close by you to stay.
And through these days of penitence, and through your Passiontide,
For evermore, in life and death, O Lord!  with us abide.

MINISTRY

“The annual observance of Lent is the special season for the ascent to the holy mountain of Easter.  Through its twofold theme of repentance and baptism, the season of Lent disposes both the catechumens and the faithful to celebrate the Paschal Mystery.  Catechumens are led to the sacraments of initiation by means of the Rite of Election, the Scrutinies, and catechesis.  The faithful, listening more intently to the word of God and devoting themselves to prayer, are prepared through a spirit of repentance to renew their baptismal promises.  ”
[Ceremonial of Bishops, 249]

Please keep the sick and homebound of our parish in your prayers.
Anointing of the Sick:  Wednesday, April 22, 2020 after the 8:30 AM Mass (Please note date change)
The Liturgical Minister Schedule Annunciation Parish Website:  www.annunciationparishabq.org/litschedule.html

WHAT DO YOU MEAN I CAN’T SEE?

Psalm 23:
He I am, my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;
beside restful waters he leads me;
he refreshes my soul.
His guides me in right paths
for his name’s sake.
Even though I walk in the dark valley,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side
with your rod and your staff that give me courage.
Only goodness and kindness follow near all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.
Amen.

CONFIRMATION II
March 22
Home Lesson
FACEBOOK: Annunciation YOUTH

FORMED—Watch great Catholic content
1. Go to formed.org/signup  2. Select your parish
3. Register with your name and email address
4. Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED

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