

213 E 5th St.
Frankfort, KS 66427
Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
(8:30 am to 12:30pm)
Main # 785-292-4462
www.annunciationfrankfort.org



Annunciation Parish

Serving St. Monica \ St. Elizabeth in Blue Rapids
and St. Columbkille in Blaine

DECEMBER 24 TH 2017

Liturgy Schedule

Annunciation Parish
Tuesday's, Thursday's and
Friday's at 8:00; 10:00am on
Wednesday's at the Care
Home.

Weekend Mass Saturday's at
4:00pm with Confessions
prior at 3:00pm
Sunday Mass at 10:30am

Adoration, Benediction &
Rosary Service:
Tuesday's at 7:00pm

Adoration on Friday's
from 1:00pm to 5:00pm

**St. Monica \ St. Elizabeth
Parish Blue Rapids:**
Mass on Sunday Morning at
8:30am with confessions from
8:00am to 8:15am

**St. Columbkille Parish
Blaine**
Mass on Saturday evening at
6:00pm with confessions from
5:30pm to 5:45pm

Sacraments

Baptism
Contact Fr. Daniel to schedule a
baptismal preparation class.

Marriage
Arrangements need to be made at
least six months prior to the
wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick
Contact the office for an appointment
or for emergency instructions.

Confessions
Before weekend liturgies and any
time by appointment

Priest: Fr. Daniel Schmitz
frschmitz@bluevalley.net
Office Manager: Marilyn Hazen
annparfrankfort@bluevalley.net

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Growing as Disciples of Jesus, Making Disciples For Jesus

The Fourth Sunday of Advent Reflection

The watchful waiting is almost over, and today's gospel brings us back to the moment that set these events in motion: Mary's yes to God. It's sort of like a recap, reminding us of God's decision to enter into our world as a human just like us. And yet God puts the decision into the hands of a young woman who can freely choose to say yes or not to this unthinkable request.

We are each given the same free will. Like Mary, we are presented with

choices, opportunities, obstacles in this life. We can trust and move forward or refuse and freeze with fear. I think sometimes we make the mistake of thinking that saying yes to God means not having any doubt, not addressing the gnawing questions, but we wouldn't be human if we could manage that. I don't think God expects unquestioning agreement. Even Mary said, "How can this be?" God expects faith. "Do not be afraid," the angel says.

So many of our saints and holy men and women at times felt cut off from God,

abandoned, without the light of faith. A dark night of the soul. And yet they continued to say yes to God through their ministry, through their prayer life, through their willingness to be what God had called them to be even if their hearts were full of questions.

That's not an easy path, but it gives me comfort. If some of my favorite saints could have such deep—and sometimes long-lasting—questions and doubts, isn't there hope for the rest of us? We don't have to be perfect. We just have to say yes and trust in God.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Sunday, Dec. 24th, 4:00 pm at Blaine and 7:30 pm at Frankfort
Monday, Dec. 25th, 8:30 am at Blue Rapids and 10:30 am at Frankfort

SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD,

Monday, January 1st, 10:00 am Mass (Since this falls on a Monday this year it is not a Holy Day of obligation)

*May your holidays be filled with Happiness,
health, good cheer and warmth of family*
Merry Christmas!

Mass Intentions

Date	Day	Notes	Intention
12/25/2017	Monday	The Nativity of the Lord	8:30 am Blue Rapids — For All Priests 10:30 am Frankfort — +Ed Dressman
12/26/2017	Tuesday	St. Stephen	No a.m. Mass
12/27/2017	Wednesday	St. John, Apostle	No Care Home Mass
12/28/2017	Thursday	The Holy Innocents	No a.m. Mass
12/29/2017	Friday	St. Thomas Becket	In Thanksgiving 55th Anniversary (John & Frannie Fangman)
12/30/2017	Saturday	Frankfort 4:00	Sp. Intention for Residents, Caregivers, & Staff (Crestview Nursing Home)
12/30/2017	Saturday	Blaine 6:00 pm	For All Parishioners of the 3 Parishes
12/31/2017	Sunday	Blue Rapids 8:30 a. m.	For All the Sick of the Parish
12/31/2017	Sunday	Frankfort 10:30 a. m.	+Gilbert J. Bramlage

Saturday, Dec. 30th: Annunciation 4:00 pm

Sunday, Dec. 31st: Annunciation 10:30 am

Lector	Phil Maas
Servers	Emily & Colton Weyer
Communion	W. Gros, M. Hazen, & C. Weyer
Musicians	Jane S. & Rheta M.
Ushers	Paul Tommer & Keith Tilley
Gifts	Ushers to appoint
Rosary	Wilma Harrington
Sacristan	Melody Tommer

MINISTERS

Lector	Vicki Adams
Servers	Rebecca Adams, Grace Dressman, & Julia Studer
Communion	C. Farrell, L. Dressman, & C. Hull
Musicians	Moogie R. and Lynn B.
Ushers	Spencer Dressman & Nick Dressman
Gifts	Ushers to appoint
Rosary	Kelli Kokoruda
Care Home	Linda Roeder
Sacristan	Cathy Farrell

This that and the Other...

MINISTERS OF THE MASS
(Christmas Eve –Dec. 24th,
7:30 pm)

Lector: Jay Kennedy
Servers: Tara & Grady Fox, Chase Stallbaumer, & Xander Hull
Communion: J. Kennedy, T. Dressman, & P. Maas
Sacristan: Jean Caffrey
Musicians: Jeanie G. & Choir
Ushers: Myron Dressman & Joe Maas
Gifts: Ushers to appoint
No Rosary (Christmas Music)

CCD NOTES– NO Grade School Classes until Jan. 3rd, 2018. (Christmas Break)

JR/SR. HIGH CCD No CLASSES until Jan. 10th, 2018. (Christmas Break)

MINISTERS OF THE MASS
Monday, January 1st, 10:00 am

Lector: Jim Roeder
Servers: Chase Stallbaumer, Emilee & Breleigh Ebert
Communion: M. Griffin, P. Maas, & R. Broxterman
Sacristan: Elma Mitchell
Musicians: Jeanie G., Emily F., & Brady T.
Ushers: Wayne Mitchell & Joe Maas
Gifts: ushers to appoint
Rosary: John & Cathy Farrell

No Benediction or Adoration on Tuesday, Dec. 26th as Fr. Schmitz will not be available.

NOTICE– There will be no Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday Dec. 29th due to the holiday weekend.

OFFICE CLOSED– The Annunciation Parish Office will be closed Monday, Dec. 25th through Thursday, Dec. 28th for the Christmas holiday.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED– We are asking for volunteers to help decorate the church for the Christmas season immediately after the 10:30 Mass on Sunday, Dec. 24th.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2018 are available for you to pick up in the back of church. They are sorted alphabetically not by envelope #. Thank you each and every one of you for your continued support of our parish!

ANNUNCIATION OFFERINGS

December 17, 2017

Envelopes \$1620.00

Plate \$338.00

Total \$1958.00

Other Income

Christmas Flowers \$ 415.00

Leaven \$ 21.00

Retirement Rel. Fund \$ 80.00

Cath. Charities \$ 20.00

Mass Stipends \$ 150.00

Insurance \$ 31.00

ALTAR SOCIETY NOTES

We are asking for a volunteer to be

Chairman for the Funeral Committee.

The funeral luncheons that are offered to families during their time of grief is a wonderful service that is provided to the families by the Altar Society. **Please consider serving as Chairman of the Funeral Committee.** Contact Marilyn in the Parish Office to volunteer.

Also, Ladies of the Altar Society if you have a new contact phone number kindly call Marilyn in the Parish Office so that the list can be updated for 2018. Please do so by Friday, Dec. 29th.

Any member of the Altar Society who wishes to be placed on the Honorary Membership list, please contact Marilyn as well.

MARRIAGE MINUTE- Christmas time is filled with symbols: trees, holly, and of course, the Nativity. But did you know that if you're married, YOU are a sign too? In the Christmas Eve liturgy, the prophet Isaiah tells us, "As a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you." At Christmas, we celebrate the fact that God does not love us from a distance. He became a baby boy so that he would share all of our joys and sorrows—all our sufferings except sin. As spouses, we proclaim this reality every time we share: • Joy of our spouse's accomplishments • Grief of a loss with our spouse • The weight of an important decision. By entering deeply into our spouse's reality, we shine brightly like the Star of Bethlehem, guiding people to the love of God. Discover more for your marriage at www.JoyfulMarriageProject.com

PIANO RECITAL -

Russell Ronnebaum, originally from Axtell, will entertain with a piano recital performance on Thursday, Dec. 28th at 6:30PM at St. Michael's Church. There will be a reception to follow in the parish hall. All are welcome!!

THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE CHRISTMAS FLOWER

MEMORIAL- The names for the memorial are: Kermit Johnson, Raymond Johnson family, Arthur Lohmann family, Mary Pat Chadwick, Mark Brady, Burton/Brady families, Fischer family, Ethel Wessel, Jane Wessel, Kennedy families, Melvin Suther, Lester & Martha Engelken, Ed Engelken, Leroy Davenport, George & Edna McClary, Sylvester & Ethel Fox, Bill & Gertie Cain, Lloyd & Rita Gerstner, Joe M. Wapp, Lawrence & Helen Fisher, Joe & Florence Deters, Ray & Carol Mitchell, Farrell family, McCormick family, Lloyd Gerstner, Rita Gerstner, Dressman & Rottinghaus families, Julius Kenworthy, Frances Whistler, Edward Gregg, Howard Kenworthy, Eugene & Jean Prockish, Prockish/Hazen families, Bates family, Frank Siebert, Nellie Travis, Dorothy McCreight, Lou & Ila Wardlow, Hub & Marcella Roeder, John Roeder, Joe & Thelma Trindade, Mike Trindade, Matt Miller, Bert Rodgers, Matt & Lillie Noud family, Fred & Mary Howell, Feldkamp & Gerstner families, Allen & Loretta Jones, Roy & Rachel Seematter, Hubert & Clara Roeder, Ernest & Ida Seematter, John & Ellen Harrington, Frank & Wilma Suther, Rachel Huninghake, Helen Fisher, Albert, Peg, & Ramona Maas, Joe & Betty Roggenkamp, Jim Marksman, Ralph Burton, Mark Kuckelman, LeNore Stumph, Joe & Helen Boeckman family, Joe & Mary Lueking family, Delaney Stewart, Mary Lou Boeckman family, Betty Ellis, Dale Miller, Bob Stallbaumer Sr., Helen Carlin, Genitha Horigan, Tub & Betty Vader, Bill & Opal Kennedy, Neil & Elizabeth Cotter, Chuck Wendling, Jay R. Vader, Victor & Rachel Huninghake, Dale Owen, Owen & Ahern families, Francis Strunk, JoAnn Sandmann, Keith Sandmann, & Brady Strunk. Please contact Marilyn if any names were unintentionally omitted from the Memorial flower contributions.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF NORTHEAST KANSAS—

The Miller Family's Hope Story: Welcome to Kansas. The Miller's came to live in a town within our 21 county service area two months ago after fleeing hardship in Tennessee. They came here with nothing but the clothes on their backs and a hope to achieve a better life for their children and themselves. The mother, Gabriella, had just found a job but her husband, J. P. needed one too, in order to make ends meet for the family. The couple, along with their three children was desperate to find a home for their family of five. A parish priest suggested they make an appointment at the local Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Center (EAC). Although the Millers had several barriers, our case manager was able to refer J.P. to one of our community partners—a locally owned staffing agency. They were able to help him find full employment. We were then able to assist the Millers in finding a home and helped them with their deposit. We also gave them groceries from our local food pantry so their new home would have stocked shelves. To keep their budget in check, they are enrolled in our financial education classes. The Miller family now has a two-bedroom apartment they call home. We not only welcomed them into our ministry, we also got them integrated into the community. We gave them tools and resources to continue to improve their situation, along with the hope they had traveled so far to find for a better life. Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas's mission is to provide help, hospitality and hope to our neighbors in need. Thank you for being a part of this mission by considering a generous gift to the Christmas collection to help the less fortunate.

LIVING IN LOVE RETREAT

"We felt like we did when we were first married!" See why over 700 couples in the Archdiocese have experienced the "Living in Love" retreat. Sign up now for the next "Living in Love" retreat held at St. John the Evangelist, Lawrence, Jan 20-21, 2018. Register online at www.archkek.org/LivingInLove or contact Mary Anne Kierl at the Archdiocese at 913-647-0345 for information.

"FRANKFORT FOOD PANTRY-Please help us support our local food pantry. There is a basket in the back of church to drop off non-perishable food items.



Reflecting On Sunday's Readings

Since this Fourth Sunday of Advent falls close to Christmas, quite naturally our minds and energies may be focused on the upcoming Christmas celebrations, family gatherings, and traditional remembrances. We will need to be watchful and observant this week and during Mass to not let our minds wander from the wonder of the miraculous to the minutia of the mundane. The Incarnation of Christ is so filled with the miraculous that it is difficult for us as we meditate on one aspect of it to not be immediately awed by some corresponding wonder. Certainly we are dazzled by the immediate, profound, and joyful surrender of Mary, the humble handmaiden of God. Her simple trust and willingness to say yes to God's will in the face of the societal consequences which faced an unwed mother, should astound any reasonable observer. "But Mary" as Pope Paul VI observed, "is above all the example of that worship that consists in making one's life an offering to God. This is an ancient and ever new doctrine that each individual can hear again by heeding ... the very voice of the Virgin as she, anticipating in herself the wonderful petition of the Lord's Prayer—"Your will be done"—replied to God's messenger: 'I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let what you have said be done to me' And Mary's 'yes' is for all Christians a lesson and example of obedience to the will of the Father." 1 Yet even as we contemplate the wonder of Mary's response our thoughts are eclipsed and dazzled more intensely by the humble submission of the Son to the Father. He who participated as co-creator of the universe and who was perfectly united with the Father, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, willingly surrendered all rights, and humbly embraced a body prepared for him. Though he knew that his body was to be a living sacrifice that once for all would remove the effects of sin and death, yet he in willing cooperation says, "I have come to do Thy will." We stand awed

to consider that the Almighty Lord would visit earth in the form of a helpless, totally defenseless and dependent, babe. We are astounded that the Ruler of the Universe would submit to the constraints of so flawed a society of man. We are amazed that he whose appearance is described as "the hair of his head was as white as wool or as snow, and his eyes like a fiery flame, his feet were like polished brass refined in a furnace, and his voice like the sound of rushing water," (Rev. 1:15) would encapsulate his glory in human flesh so that we might know him and know of his love for us. Amazing grace!! The wonder of Jesus' incarnation is explained by Romano Guardini in the book *The Lord*: "At first a child like any other, it cries, is hungry, sleeps, and yet is 'the Word...become flesh.' It cannot be said that God 'inhabits' this infant, however gloriously; or that heaven has set its seal upon him, so that we must pursue it, suffer for it in a manner sublimely excelling all other contacts between God and man; this child is God in essence and in being ... The young creature in the stall of Bethlehem was a human being with human brain and limbs and heart and soul. And it was God. Its life was to manifest the will of the Father: to proclaim the sacred tidings, to stir mankind with the power of God, to establish the covenant, and shoulder the sin of the world ... and the victory of the Resurrection into the new existence of grace." 2 It is no wonder that the baby in Elizabeth's womb jumped for joy, or that Elizabeth, full of the Holy Spirit, and tapping into the wisdom of God, should proclaim "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!" As we kneel in adoration and expectation on this Fourth Sunday of Advent may God grant us similar insight, allowing our hearts to also "jump with joy." 1 For the Right Ordering and Development of Devotion to The Blessed Virgin Mary (*Marialis Cultus*), an Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Paul VI, Section 21. 2 *The Lord*, by Romano Guardini, Chapter III, page 18

Daily Mass Readings

Monday, Dec. 25	First Reading: <u>Is. 52: 7-10</u> Second Reading: <u>Heb. 1: 1-6</u> Gospel: <u>Jn. 1: 1-18</u>
Tues- day, Dec. 26	First Reading: <u>Acts. 6: 8-10; 7: 54-59</u> Gospel: <u>Mt. 10:17-22</u>
Wednes- day, Dec. 27	First Reading: <u>1 Jn. 1: 1-4</u> Gospel: <u>Jn. 20: 1A, 2-8</u>
Thurs- day, Dec. 28	First Reading: <u>1 Jn. 1: 5— 2:2</u> Gospel: <u>Mt. 2: 13-18</u>
Friday, Dec. 29	First Reading: <u>1 Jn. 2: 3-11</u> Gospel: <u>Lk. 2: 22-35</u>
Satur- day, Dec. 30	First Reading: <u>1 Jn. 2: 12-17</u> Gospel: <u>Lk. 2: 36-40</u>
Sunday, Dec. 31	First Reading: <u>Sir. 3: 2-6, 12-14</u> Second Reading: <u>Col. 3:12-21</u> Gospel: <u>Lk. 2: 22-40</u>

Reflecting On Sunday's Readings,
 Copyright 2002-2017, Richard A.
 Cleveland.



St. Monica\St. Elizabeth, Blue Rapids



Calendar and Mass Intention

December 25th, 8:30 am – For All Priests
December 31st, 8:30 am— For All Sick of the Parish

Dec. 17, 2017 offerings

Envelopes	\$764.00
Plate	\$ 237.00
Poinsettias	\$ 145.00

NOTICE-
Eucharistic ministers, lector and servers please meet with Fr Schmitz in the vestment room 10 minutes before Mass.

Ministers of the Mass

Sunday Dec. 31st, 8:30 a.m. St. Monica\St. Elizabeth

Lector	
Servers	
Gifts	
Communion	
Ushers	

Church Cleaners: January– Jeanette Borgerding
Sacristan Schedule: January— Theresa Minihan
Breakfast Committee: January— Zita Duensing, Carol Parker, Cheryl Skalla, Jeannie Zidek, & Cheri Shanks
Collection Counters: January—Jeremy Bachura & Alex Nolte

Ministers of the Mass Monday, Dec. 25th, 8:30 am

Lector: M. Heinen
Servers: E. Brungardt & S. Brungardt
Gifts: Borgerding family
Communion: M. Borgerding, J. Wienck, & M. Heinen
Ushers: J. Wienck & B. Bruna

NOTICE— Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has been cancelled for Friday, Dec. 29th due to the Holiday weekend.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Delmar Wilson Jr. 12/29
Carol Parker 12/31
Jacob Jackson 12/31

ANNIVERSARIES

Mickey/Sandra McIntyre 12/26
Mike/Theresa Minihan 12/27
Craig/Liz Miller 12/29

NOTICE—Mass will be at 10:00 am, Monday, January 1st 2018 at Annunciation, Frankfort

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God—(Not a Holy day of Obligation this year since it falls on a Monday.)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. All parishioners are welcome to come and pray anytime during these hours.

NOTE OF THANKS

Thank you to all who contributed and worked at our booth "Christmas Around The Square" We appreciate your participation. We took in \$200.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL— In remembrance of our deceased family members and friends during the Christmas season you are invited to make a donation toward the poinsettias. Envelopes are provided in the back of church.



St. Columbkille Parish, Blaine KS

Ministers of the Mass *Saturday Dec. 30, 6:00 p.m.*

Saturday December 16, 2017 offering:

Lector	Ralph Suther
Servers	Knights of Columbus
Ministers	Knights of Columbus
Hospitality	Knights of Columbus

12/16/2017	Envelope	633.00	
	Plate	185.00	
	Catholic Charities	20.00	
	Mass Intentions	20.00	
	Celtic Christmas	50.00	
	Hall Rent	60.00	
	Ice	41.25	
			1,009.25

Ministers of the Mass
Dec. 24th, 4:00 pm

Lector: Mike Sanford
Servers: Krohn family
Ministers: Lavon Sanford, Natha Manges, Steve O'Shea,
 & Janet Holthaus

Server Schedule

Dec 23rd Brandon Geyer, Dylan and Devin Plummer
 Dec 24th Krohn Family
 Dec 30th Brooklyn Plummer, Maria Krohn and Jarritt
 Martens
 Jan 6th Eli Roggenkamp, Malea and Ethan Karnes
 Jan 13th Brandon Geyer, Dylan and Devin Plummer

NOTICE

Envelopes are in back of church for Christmas Flower
 Memorial Donations.

NOTICE—Mass will be at 10:00 am, Monday, January
 1st 2018 at Annunciation, Frankfort

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God—(Not a Holy
 day of Obligation this year.)

Bulletin Information To have information included in
 the weekend bulletin email Mark Cusimano at
cusi4@twinvalley.net before 4pm on Thursdays.