

Church of the Assumption

34 James Street, Keyser, WV 26726

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Fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday

March 14, 2021

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son,
so everyone who believes in him
might have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16

May You Find Christ Here...May You Bring Christ to the World!

Mass Schedule:

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, 12 noon
Friday, 6:00 p.m.

*Registration suggested
for weekend Masses.*

Fr. Thomas A. Sebastian CST, Administrator

tanatharackal@gmail.com, 681.404.2521

Rev. Larry Hammel, Deacon

lmhammel@verizon.net

Kelli Wittman, Office Manager

Kelley Kuhn, Director of Religious Education

Linda Davis-Kyle, Organist & Choir Director

Angela Bowers and Patrick George, Organists

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Bulletin Deadline:

Wednesday, 12 noon

Sunday Reflection – Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jesus explained to Nicodemus that the "Son of Man" must be "lifted up" to bring the power and authority of God's kingdom to bear on the earth (John 3:14). The title, "Son of Man," came from the prophet Daniel who describes a vision he received of the Anointed Messiah King who was sent from heaven to rule over the earth (Daniel 7:13-14). Traditionally when kings began to reign, they were literally "lifted up" and enthroned above the people. Jesus explains to Nicodemus that he will be recognized as the Anointed King when he is "lifted up" on the cross at Calvary. Jesus died for his claim to be the only begotten Son sent by the Father in heaven to redeem, heal, and reconcile his people with God.

The bronze serpent which Moses lifted up in the wilderness points to the cross of Christ which defeats sin and death and obtains everlasting life for those who believe in Jesus Christ. The result of Jesus "being lifted up on the cross" and his rising from the dead, and his exaltation and ascension to the Father's right hand in heaven, is our "new birth in the Spirit" and adoption as sons and daughters of God. God not only frees us from our sins and pardons us, he also fills us with his own divine life through the gift and working of his Spirit who dwells within us. The Holy Spirit gives us spiritual power and gifts, especially the seven-fold gifts of wisdom and understanding, right judgment and courage, knowledge and reverence for God and his ways, and a holy fear in God's presence, to enable us to live in his strength as sons and daughters of God. Do we thirst for the *new life* which God offers us through the transforming power of his Holy Spirit?

Readings for Sunday,
March 21, 2021
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Hebrews 5:7-9
John 12:20-33

Saint of the Week ... St Patrick

St. Patrick wasn't Irish, but he found his faith while being held as a prisoner there.

Born in Britain to wealthy parents, at age 16 Patrick and some of his father's slaves were captured by Irish raiders and sold into slavery in Ireland. Forced to work as a shepherd, he suffered from hunger and cold. Lonely and afraid, he turned to his religion for solace. Six years later, Patrick escaped and returned to Britain.

Later, an angel appeared to him in a dream and told him to return to Ireland as a missionary. Once he was ordained a priest, he did return to Ireland and began ministering and converting. He ordained many priests, divided the country into dioceses, founded several monasteries and continually urged his people to greater holiness in Christ. He often used shamrocks to explain the Holy Trinity.

While legends about Patrick abound, the truth is best served by his two greatest qualities: humility and courage. The determination to accept suffering and success with equal indifference guided his life.

St. Patrick's feast day is celebrated on March 17, the date of his death in circa 493. He is the patron saint of Ireland and engineers.

Source: franciscanmedia.org, catholic.org, history.com



Prayer for the Faithful by St. Patrick

May the Strength of God guide us.

May the Power of God preserve us.

May the Wisdom of God instruct us.

May the Hand of God protect us.

May the Way of God direct us.

May the Shield of God defend us.

*May the Host of God guard us
against the snares of the evil one.*

May Christ be with us!

May Christ be before us!

May Christ be in us!

Christ be over all!

*May Thy Salvation always be ours,
this day, O Lord, and evermore. Amen.*

The Year of St. Joseph



Most watchful guardian and loving father, pray for us.

Pope Francis has proclaimed 2021 as the Year of St. Joseph, marking the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St. Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.

At our parish, we will celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Mass on Friday, March 19, at 6 p.m.

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston has several events planned at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Wheeling (St. Joseph is also the patron saint of our Diocese). For the convenience of the faithful across our state, all of the following events will be live streamed at dwc.org.

Thursday, March 18, 2021

6 p.m. Solemn Vespers

Friday, March 19, 2021

9 a.m. Morning Prayer

12:05 p.m. Mass

5:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross

6 p.m. Mass celebrated by
The Most Rev. Mark Brennan

LAETARE SUNDAY

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is the midpoint and known as Laetare Sunday.

Laetare (pronounced lay-TAH-ray) is Latin and means "rejoice."

Today we express hope and joy in the middle of our penitential Lenten practices.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Date	Time	Intention	Offered by
Saturday, March 13	4:00 p.m.	Deceased Members of the Marsh, Roach & Cessna families	Linda Marsh
		Soul of Diana Cooper	Tony Cooper
Sunday, March 14	8:30 a.m.	Our First Communion and Confirmation Candidates	Assumption Parish
Monday, March 15	No Mass		
Tuesday, March 16	No Mass		
Wednesday, March 17	6:00 p.m.	Soul of Bob Myers	Kelli & Harry Wittman
		Soul of Al Martin	Lynn McQuinn
Thursday, March 18	12 noon	Soul of James DeMasi	Mary Shannon
Friday, March 19	6:00 p.m.	Soul of John Turner	Dena DeMasi-Turner
Saturday, March 20	4:00 p.m.	Deceased Members of the Harber Family	The Harber Family
Sunday, March 21	8:30 a.m.	Soul of Marianna Daskal	Jim Daskal

To request a Mass intention, please contact the Parish Office. Dates are currently available throughout 2021. The typical stipend for a weekday Mass is \$10; weekends \$20.

Collections & Attendance:

March 6-7, 2021

Offertory

Offertory Envelopes.....	\$2,675
Loose Donations.....	\$891
Repairs & Maintenance.....	\$30
Poor Box	\$359
Votive Candles.....	\$89
Total.....	\$4,044

Priests' Health & Retirement.....\$670

Attendance

Saturday Attendance.....	40
Sunday Attendance	58
Total.....	98

Catholic Relief Services Collection

A Diocesan collection is taking place this weekend to benefit Catholic Relief Services. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people in the United States and worldwide. There is a basket next to the bulletins for this collection.

Liturgical Minister Schedule

Saturday, March 20	Kenny Brant (L) Linda Marsh (C) Mike & Joanne Stickley (U)
Sunday, March 21	Kelley Kuhn (L) Julie Alt (C) Doug & Jane Placka (U)
Saturday, March 27	Doug Minnich (L) Anita Tetreault (C) Dena Turner (U) Mary Shannon (U)
Sunday, March 28	Paul Bogdan (L) Nancy Starcher (C) Mike & Sonja Stanislawczyk (U)

If you are unable to fulfill your scheduled date, please arrange for a replacement.

Our Newest Lector



*Kerri Wittman is shown here following Mass last Saturday which marked her first time serving as a lector. She is an Assumption CCD student and Confirmation candidate, and a 7th grader at Keyser Middle School.
Thank you, Kerri!*

We encourage other CCD students to consider becoming a lector. If your child or grandchild is interested, contact the Parish Office.

Additional Mass Scheduled for Easter Sunday

Since all spots for the 8:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Mass have already been filled, Fr. Thomas has **added a second Mass on Easter Sunday at 7:00 a.m.**

If you have already registered for the 8:30 Mass but would like to switch to the 7:00, we ask that you please make the change as soon as possible. You can change your reservation online or by calling or emailing the Parish Office.

Many spots are currently still available for the Easter Vigil which is Saturday at 8:00 p.m.

Easter Flower Offering

The annual Easter Flower collection is slated for next weekend. Please be sure to include on the envelope who your donation is in memory or honor of (a list will be included in the Easter bulletin).

If you do not use offertory envelopes but would like to donate to our Easter flowers, a separate basket will be placed by the bulletins the next two weekends.

Simply include a note in the envelope with your intentions.

