

Assumption Catholic Church

34 James Street, Keyser, WV 26726

acckwv@gmail.com

assumptionkeyserwv.org

304.788.2488

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 27, 2022



*For every tree
is known by
its own fruit.*

LUKE 6:44

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, 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, 12 noon

Friday, 6:00 p.m.

Confessions:

Saturdays, 3:00-3:45 p.m.

Weekdays, 30 mins. prior to Mass

Fr. Thomas A. Sebastian, 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, Music Director & Organist

Angela Bowers and Patrick George, Organists

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Bulletin Deadline:

Wednesday, 12 noon

Sunday Reflection: Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The fig tree was the favorite of all trees for the people of Palestine. It symbolized fertility, peace, and prosperity. Grapes, likewise, produced wine, the symbol of joy. Thorns and brambles were only good for burning as fuel for the fire. There is a proverbial saying that you know a tree by its fruit. Likewise, a person will produce good or bad fruit depending on what is sown in the heart. Charles Reade once said: "Sow an act and you reap a habit. Sow a habit and you reap a character. Sow a character and you reap a destiny." Character, like fruit, doesn't grow overnight. It takes a lifetime. Jesus connects soundness with good fruit. Something is sound when it is free from defect, decay, or disease and is healthy. Good fruit is the result of sound living — living according to moral truth and upright character.

The fruits of falsehood produce an easy religion which takes the iron out of religion, the cross out of Christianity, and any teaching which eliminates the hard sayings of Jesus, and which push the judgments of God into the background and makes us think lightly of sin. How do we avoid falsehood and bad fruit? By being true: true to God, his word, and his grace. And that takes character! Those who are true to God know that their strength lies not in themselves but in God who supplies the grace we need to live as his disciples. The fruit of a disciple is marked by faith, hope, love, justice, prudence, fortitude and temperance. Do we cultivate good fruit in our life and reject whatever produces bad fruit?

Sow a character and you reap a destiny.

- Charles Reade

Readings for next Sunday,

March 6, 2022

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Romans 10:8-13

Luke 4:1-13

Saint of the Week: St. Casimir of Poland

Casimir, born of kings and in line to be a king himself, was filled with exceptional values and learning. As a teenager, Casimir lived a highly disciplined life, sleeping on the ground, spending a great part of the night in prayer and dedicating himself to lifelong celibacy.

When nobles in Hungary became dissatisfied with their king, they prevailed upon Casimir's father, the king of Poland, to send his son to take over the country. The army he was supposed to lead was clearly outnumbered by the enemy, and some of his troops were deserting because they were not being paid. At the advice of his officers, Casimir decided to return home.

His father was irked at the failure of his plans, and confined his 15-year-old son for three months. The lad made up his mind to never again become involved in wars, and no amount of persuasion could change his mind. He returned to prayer and study, maintaining his decision to remain celibate even under pressure to marry the emperor's daughter.

Casimir reigned briefly as king of Poland during his father's absence. He died of lung trouble at age 25 while visiting Lithuania. He is the patron saint of Lithuania, Poland and Russia.

Source: fanciscanmedia.org



Feast Day: March 4



Patricia Ansel, Jennifer Boling, Kista Crites, Bobby Dorsey, Scott Furey, Barbara Gratto, Beth Grayson, Sue Greco, Barbara Grubbs*, Larry Hinkle*, Helen Holder*, Kathy Jenkins, Sueann Keller-Schwille, Wanda Kinnie, Pam Launi, Craig Leibig, Debbie Pappas, Caroline Reeves, Carla Roth, Esther Shockey, Fran Sommers, Sue Ann Spotts, Bill Stine, Scott Tasker and Maleigha Taylor.

*Resident of Stonerise Keyser (135 Southern Drive, Keyser WV 26726)



Preparing for Lent: Returning to God with All Your Heart

Ready or not, next Wednesday (March 2) is Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of the Lenten season: six weeks set apart to draw closer to God and to seek him with greater intensity. This season sometimes gets reduced to the simple question, "What are you giving up for

Lent?" But that only takes us so far. Let the real question you ask yourself be, "How will I repent and return to God with all my heart?"

Take some time to reflect on the place in your life where you feel distant from God. Begin your Lenten journey by not only thinking about what you will give up, but on how you can rearrange to create more time and passion for your relationship with God.

To help all of us on this Lenten journey, a booklet, "Following Jesus Together," has been mailed to all parishioners' homes, along with our Lent and Holy Week schedule.



Distribution of Ashes

Mass on Ash Wednesday, March 2, will be at 6:30 p.m. Following Mass, Fr. Thomas will bless the ashes and address the congregation saying, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." We will then approach the sanctuary as we do for Communion and Father will sprinkle the ashes on our heads.

Stations of the Cross

Beginning Friday, March 4, and continuing every Friday through April 8, daily Mass will be at 6:00 p.m. (instead of 9:00 a.m.) and will be followed by the Stations of the Cross.

THREE PILLARS OF LENT

The Church offers us three pillars of lent to focus our efforts: prayer, fasting and almsgiving—all to help us grow deeper in our relationship with the Lord.

Prayer is our communication with God, both listening and speaking. Try adding a new habit of prayer into your daily routine, like praying the rosary; a daily examination of conscience; or spending five minutes in silence asking the Lord to speak to you.

Fasting is having one regular meal and two small ones on the day fasting is practiced (during Lent, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday). Abstinence is practiced all Fridays of Lent (no red meat; fish and shellfish only).

Almsgiving is actions that lead us to see others, love them, and give them our time, help, money and affection. It is not limited to giving material goods; it is the gift of self, to love God and others as one's self.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Date	Time	Intention	Offered by
Saturday, February 26	4:00 p.m.	The Harber Family.....	Sue Harber
Sunday, February 27	8:30 a.m.	Souls of Tom & Thelma O'Connor	Assumption Parish
Monday, February 28	No Mass		
Tuesday, March 1	No Mass		
<i>Ash Wednesday</i>			
Wednesday, March 2	6:30 p.m.	Assumption Parish Family.....	Assumption Parish
Thursday, March 3	12 noon	Intentions of Stephen Starcher	Nancy Starcher
Friday, March 4	6:00 p.m.	Souls of Larry & Carmela DeMasi.....	Dena Turner
Saturday, March 5	4:00 p.m.	The Barrick & Travis Families	Howard & Karen Barrick
Sunday, March 6	8:30 a.m.	Souls of Kay & Robert Fazzalore	The Fazzalore Family

Note: Mass on Fridays during Lent will be held at 6 p.m., followed by the Stations of the Cross.

Collections & Attendance

February 19-20, 2022

Offertory

Offertory Envelopes.....	\$2,645
Loose Donations.....	\$745
Repairs & Maintenance	\$40
Total.....	\$3,430

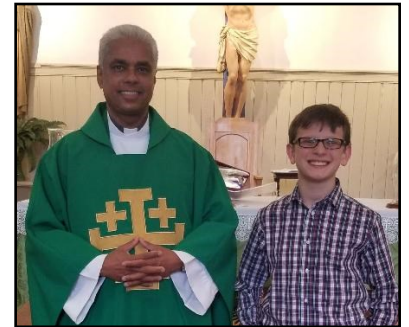
Attendance

Saturday 2/19	84
Sunday 2/20	93
Total.....	177

*Highest weekend attendance
since before the pandemic!* ↗

Our Newest Liturgical Minister

Don Starcher is shown here with Fr. Thomas following Mass last Sunday which marked his first time proclaiming the scripture readings.



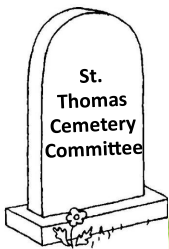
Don is an Assumption CCD student and a sixth grader at Keyser Middle School. He is the son of Stephen and Valerie Starcher and the grandson of Nancy Starcher and the late Don Starcher. *Great job!*

Update on Pastoral Needs Survey

The Pastoral Concerns Committee of the Diocesan Pastoral Council would like to thank you for your participation in the Pastoral Concerns Survey last fall. They appreciate your input and sharing your thoughts and concerns.

There was a robust response with approximately 2000 completed surveys; 1400 were electronically submitted and the other 600 were completed manually. The committee is in the process of having the information analyzed and hope to have a full analysis by May. They look forward to sharing this information with all of us soon.

Cemetery Flowers



If you have Christmas flowers at St. Thomas Cemetery that you would like to keep, please remove them by March 1. Thank you!

Liturgical Minister Schedule

Saturday, March 5

Lector: Doug Minnich
Servers: Mike Landis & Alan Taylor
EM: Mike Landis
Cantor: Anita Tetreault
Greeter: Bill Lupis

Sunday, March 6

Lector: Geoff Newlin
Servers: Mike Landis, James Maybury, Nick McKenzie
EM: Mike Landis
Cantors: Julie Alt
Greeters: Kelley & Katie Kuhn

Saturday, March 12

Lector: Sue Harber
Servers: Celia & Evelyn Cole
EM: Alan Taylor
Cantor: Linda Marsh
Greeters: Bob & Karen Yowler

Sunday, March 13

Lector: Pam Williams
Servers: Mike & Rosie Landis
EM: Rosie Landis
Cantor: Julie Alt
Greeters: Michael & Sonja Stanislawczyk

Shine like lights in the world

as you hold on to the word of life.