



Assumption Catholic Church

34 James Street, Keyser, WV 26726

Email: acckwv@gmail.com

assumptionkeyserwv.org

304.788.2488

May You Find Christ Here...May You Bring Christ To The World!

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

*Drop dew down from above, you heavens,
And let the clouds rain down the Just One;
Let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior.*



Mass Schedule:

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, 12 noon
Friday, 9:00 a.m.

*Registration suggested
for weekend Masses.*

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, Organist & Choir Director

Angela Bowers, Organist

Office Hours:

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

Bulletin Deadline:

Wednesday, 12 noon

Sunday Reflection – Fourth Sunday of Advent

How does Mary respond to the word of God delivered by the angel Gabriel (Luke 1:26-38)? She knows she is hearing something beyond human capability. It will surely take a miracle which surpasses all that God has done previously. Her question, "How shall this be, since I have no husband," is not prompted by doubt or skepticism, but by wonderment! She is a true hearer of the Word and she immediately responds with faith and trust. Mary believed God's promises even when they seemed impossible. She was "full of grace" because she trusted that what God said was true and would be fulfilled. Mary is the "mother of God" because God becomes incarnate when He takes on flesh in her womb. When we pray the Nicene Creed, we state our confession of faith in this great mystery: "For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man."

What is the key that unlocks the power and grace of God's kingdom in our personal lives? Faith and obedience for sure! God gives us grace and he expects us to respond with the same willing obedience and heartfelt trust as Mary did. When God commands, he also gives the help and means to respond. We can either yield to his grace or resist and go our own way. Do we believe in God's promises and do we yield to his grace?

Readings for Sunday,
December 27, 2020

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Colossians 3:12-21
Luke 2:22-40

Saint of the Week **St. Stephen, The First Martyr**

St. Stephen was one of the first deacons ordained by the church. He belonged to the group of seven deacons selected by the Apostles to help them extend their pastoral care to those in need. As the oldest of the seven, Saint Stephen was given the title of "Archdeacon." He was also recognized for his exemplary gift as an evangelist. Miracles and great preaching were attributed to him.

St. Stephen's popularity stirred up animosity among the Jews. Different members of the synagogues would challenge Stephen's teachings but he bested them in debates. This only fueled further hostility among his enemies and soon they made false testimonies against him. St. Stephen was charged with speaking blasphemous things against Moses and God. This accusation provoked a public outcry and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. In front of Sanhedrin, the supreme rabbinic court in Jerusalem, he gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people.

He talked about how, despite God's mercy and grace, Israel had become disobedient. He then denounced his listeners as "stiff-necked" people who turned against the Holy Spirit just as their ancestors did. The crowds watching the trial were enraged after being rebuked. Stephen then looked up and told them that he saw the heavens open and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. The crowds, however, covered their ears and dragged him out of the city where they stoned him to death.

St. Stephen is the patron saint of deacons, altar servers, casket makers, horses and stone masons. He is often depicted with stones, a Gospel book, and a martyr's palm branch.



Feast Day: December 26

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, December 19

4:00 p.m. - Herman Wise †

Sunday, December 20

8:30 a.m. - Hazel Coffman †

Monday, December 21

No Mass

Tuesday, December 22

No Mass

Wednesday, December 23

6:00 p.m. - James DeMasi †

Thursday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

*4:00 p.m. - Assumption Parish Family

*6:00 p.m. - Assumption Parish Family

Friday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

*8:30 a.m. - Assumption Parish Family

Saturday, December 26

4:00 p.m. - Deceased Members of the
Harber Family

Sunday, December 27

8:30 a.m. - Jean Quinn †

**Registration required*

*NOTE: There will not be Mass on
Wednesday, December 30.*



Christmas Collection for Catholic Charities West Virginia

A second collection will take place at all Christmas Masses for Catholic Charities West Virginia.

When you give to Catholic Charities, you are actually giving *through* Catholic Charities, as your donations are used to help our low-income neighbors.

Despite a difficult year, the Romney office (which also serves families in Mineral County) was able to continue to provide personal care items, such as cleaning and hygiene supplies, baby items, baby clothes, and financial assistance. This financial help ensured that families had water, electricity, transportation and a roof over their heads.

Sometimes, a small amount of financial assistance can make a big difference, such as when Catholic Charities purchased medical supplies to a single mother who needed it for her daughter. Other times Catholic Charities is able to help with larger issues, such as helping pay for utilities to be hooked up after a family experienced a disaster. Many of the families the Romney office helped this year were impacted by the pandemic.

Your gifts to Catholic Charities WV are a gift to families and individuals who are struggling financially during these difficult times. Thank you so much for your generosity this Christmas season.

Collections & Attendance: Week Ending December 13, 2020

Offertory Envelopes	\$3,550
Loose Donations	\$599
Holiday Flowers	\$110
Total	\$4,259
Diocesan Collections.....	\$432
Saturday Attendance	27
Sunday Attendance	36
Total	63

God's
Love

is shown to us through the gift of Jesus.

Giving Tuesday Donations

We can continue to accept donations for our Giving Tuesday campaign through December 31. If you have not yet contributed, please drop your donation in the offertory or mail it to the parish office. Thank you!

Reminders for Christmas Masses

There will be three Christmas Masses celebrated at our church: 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Christmas Eve; 8:30 a.m. on Christmas Day.

As you know, seating is limited so that we can appropriately social distance and keep everyone safe (families may sit together, but others will be six feet apart). Because of this, we need you to register for the Christmas Mass you plan to attend. Thank you!

Online

<https://signup.com/go/LNZufWb>

Email

acckwv@gmail.com

Phone

304-788-2488

The Word Among Us For January/February

The January/February issue of *The Word Among Us* is available in the back of the church. Additional copies are available in a tote on the porch of the rectory.

Parish Office Schedule

The Parish Office will be closed from December 24 through January 1. Kelli will be working remotely the week of December 28.



Bakeless Bake Sale Rolls in the Dough!

The Assumption Ladies Guild first ever "bakeless" bake sale was an incredible success:

Total Raised: \$1,962.50!

Thanks so much for your generosity!

Liturgical Minister Schedule

Christmas Eve, 4 PM.....	Kelley Kuhn (L) Anita Tetreault (C)
Christmas Eve, 6 PM.....	Mike Landis (L) Linda Marsh (C)
Christmas Day	Karen Yowler (L) Nancy Starcher (C)
Saturday, December 26 ...	Karen Yowler (L) Linda Marsh (C)
Sunday, December 27	John Bogdan (L) Julie Alt (C)
Saturday, January 2	Sue Harber (L) Anita Tetreault (C)
Sunday, January 3	Pam Williams (L) Nancy Starcher (C)

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

