

Assumption Catholic Church



Do Whatever He Tells You. JOHN 2:5

# Assumption Catholic Church

34 James Street, Keyser, WV 26726

acckww@gmail.com

assumptionkeyserwv.org

304.788.2488

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**December 17, 2023**



***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, 9:00 a.m.

**Confessions:**

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

Weekdays, 30 mins. prior to Mass

**Fr. Thomas A. Sebastian CST, Pastor**

tanatharackal@gmail.com, 681.404.2521

**Rev. Mr. Larry Hammel, Deacon**

LawrenceVHammel@gmail.com

**Kelli Wittman, Office Manager**

**Kelley Kuhn, Director of Religious Education**

**Linda Davis-Kyle, Music Director & Organist**

**Patrick George, Organist**

**Office Hours:**

Monday - Thursday

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Bulletin Deadline:**

Wednesday, 12 noon

## Sunday Reflection: Third Sunday of Advent

When John the Baptist announced the imminent coming of God's Anointed One, the Messiah, the religious leaders questioned his authority to speak so boldly in God's name. They asked him bluntly, "Who are you?" and "What do you say about yourself?" They wanted to know if he was really sent by God. John had no doubt and no mistaken identity about his call and mission. In all humility and sincerity, he said he was only a voice bidding people to get ready for the arrival of the greatest Ruler of all, God's anointed King and Messiah.

John the Baptist bridges the Old and New Testaments. He is the last of the Old Testament prophets who points the way to the Messiah. He is the first of the New Testament witnesses and martyrs. He is the herald who prepares the way for Jesus and who announces his mission to the people: "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!" (John 1:29). John saw from a distance what the Messiah would come to accomplish: our redemption from slavery to sin and our adoption as sons and daughters of God, our heavenly Father. Do we recognize who we are in Christ? The Lord Jesus has come to restore us to friendship with God and he has made us citizens of heaven - his everlasting kingdom of peace and justice.

### Readings for Next Sunday, December 24, 2023

Isaiah 2 Samuel 7:1-16  
Romans 16:25-27  
Luke 1:26-38

## Saint of the Week... St. Dominic of Silos

Dominic of Silos was born in Spain around the year 1000 into a peasant family. As a young boy he spent time in the fields, where he welcomed the solitude. He became a Benedictine priest and served in numerous leadership positions. Following a dispute with the king over property, Dominic and two other monks were exiled. They established a new monastery in what at first seemed an unpromising location. Under Dominic's leadership, however, it became one of the most famous houses in Spain. Many healings were reported there.

About 100 years after Dominic's death, a young woman who experienced difficult pregnancies made a pilgrimage to his tomb. Dominic of Silos appeared to her and assured her that she would bear another son. The woman was Joan of Aza, and the son she bore grew up to be Dominic Guzman who founded the Dominican Order.

For hundreds of years thereafter until 1931, the staff used by Saint Dominic of Silos was brought to the royal palace whenever a queen of Spain was in labor.

St. Dominic of Silos is the patron saint of pregnant women, prisoners and shepherds.

Source: [franciscanmedia.org](http://franciscanmedia.org)



Feast Day: December 20



Tina Blank, Jennifer Boling, Mickey Brooks, Sue Burns, Palma Devic\*, Cathy Dorsey, Debbie Kelley Evans, Bill Fazzalore\*, Rosalee Freeman\*, Scott Furey, Barbara Gratto, Sue Greco, Larry & Marianne Hammel, Kathy Jenkins,

Sarah Jones, Margie Keister, Sueann Keller-Schwille, Wanda Kinnie, Joanne Knott\*, Jeffrey Labonte, Pam Launi, Betty McAvoy, Debbie Pappas, Susie Radcliffe, Charles Ravenscroft, Caroline Reeves, Katherine Revell, Carla Riggleman, Jeff Roth, Margie Roy, Sparrow Shannon, Esther Shockey, Justin Smith, Fran Sommers, Melissa Stanislawczyk, John Stephen Jr., Bill Stine, Patsy Summers, Stefanie Swanger, Maleigha Taylor, Courtney Whiteman.

\*Resident of Keyser Healthcare Center  
(135 Southern Drive, Keyser WV 26726)

## Gaudete Sunday

The word "Gaudete" (pronounced gaw-DEH-tay) is Latin for "rejoice." For the past two weeks, we have been preparing for the arrival of the Lord Jesus. On this third Sunday, we are now most of the way through the journey, making it appropriate to "rejoice" as the goal of the season approaches!

### Marriage Banns

In accordance with Canon 1067, we announce that the following individuals are preparing to be married:

Sharon Lee Criner Griffith  
Michael Wray Frye

If there are any known impediments to this proposed marriage, please contact the Parish Office.

Required posting 1 of 3



The Christmas season has become so hectic and commercialized...is our focus still on the birth of the Lord?

Answer to last week's question:

**Why do we put candy canes on our Christmas trees or give them as treats?**

Candy canes are white and red: the white symbolizes Christ's purity and the red symbolizes his blood. The shape of a candy cane when held upright resembles a shepherd's staff; when held the other way it is the letter "J" standing for Jesus who is the Good Shepherd!



Next week: *Why do we place a star or an angel atop our Christmas trees?*



**The Festival of Lessons and Carols**

The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song that dates to the late 19th century. Six Scripture lessons are read, each followed by a song that reflects on the lesson's message.

**Our choir will present the Festival of Lessons and Carols at 6 p.m. on Christmas Eve (30 minutes before the 6:30 Vigil Mass).**

**Welcome!**

We welcome Fr. Joseph Tuscan, OFM CAP who will be celebrating our Masses this weekend as well as leading a 3-day mission which will begin Sunday evening. Everyone is encouraged to participate in the mission which is being held as part of our ongoing Jubilee celebration.

Each evening of the retreat (Sunday, Monday and Tuesday), Fr. Tuscan will hear confessions beginning at 5:30 while the Rosary is prayed. He will begin his talk at 6:00 which will last approximately 45 minutes.

At the conclusion of the retreat on Tuesday, a light dinner will be served in St. Mary's Hall. If you plan to attend the dinner, please let the Parish Office know.

Since Fr. Tuscan will be offering three opportunities to hear your confessions the week prior to Christmas, we will not be having an Advent Penance Service.

**REMINDER**

A reminder to everyone who has been participating in the Advent Prayer Exchange: remember to send the person or family you've been praying for a Christmas card to let them know who their secret prayer warrior has been!

**Mass Schedule and Intentions**

Date	Time	Intention	Offered by
Saturday, December 16	4:00 p.m.	The Marsh, Roach & Cessna Families .....	Linda Marsh
		Intentions of Dean & Kathy Alt .....	Mike & Joanne Stickley
Sunday, December 17	8:30 a.m.	Soul of Ursula Haught.....	Dena Turner
Monday, December 18	No Mass		
Tuesday, December 19	No Mass		
Wednesday, December 20	5:00 p.m.	Soul of Jean Quinn .....	Marg Quinn
		Intentions of Art DeMasi.....	Mary Shannon
		Intentions of Matt Stahlman.....	Nancy Starcher
Thursday, December 21	12 noon	The Alt, Cobb & Kuh families .....	Dean & Kathy Alt
		Soul of Kathy Butler .....	Tammy Dorsey-Dale
Friday, December 22	9:00 a.m.	Souls of Carmela & Larry DeMasi.....	Dena Turner
		Intentions of Mike Stickley .....	Mike & Rosie Landis
Saturday, December 23	4:00 p.m.	The Wise & Calemine Families .....	Jean Harber
		Intentions of Meredythe Barrick .....	Howard & Karen Barrick
Sunday, December 24	8:30 a.m.	Soul of Domenick Greco .....	Sue Greco
		Intentions of Joe & Regina Harber .....	Sue & Jean Harber
<u>Christmas Masses</u>			
Sunday, December 24	4:00 p.m.	People of Assumption Parish .....	Assumption Parish
	6:30 p.m.	People of Assumption Parish .....	Assumption Parish
Monday, December 25	8:30 a.m.	People of Assumption Parish .....	Assumption Parish

*There will be no weekday Masses December 26-29.*



## Assumption Parish



With just two weeks to go, we are still \$2,661 short of our goal! If you have not yet supported this year's appeal, kindly consider doing so today. All donations received now come back to our parish. To donate, you can return the pledge card you received in the mail or visit the CSA website below. All donations must be received or postmarked by December 31 to be included in this year's total. Checks can also be accepted at the Parish Office.

[www.csa.dwcministries.org/donate](http://www.csa.dwcministries.org/donate)

## Your Faithful Stewardship

December 9-10, 2023

### Offertory

Offertory Envelopes .....	\$2,489
Loose Donations .....	\$1,035
Christmas Flowers.....	\$230
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$3,754</b>

### Attendance

Saturday, 12/9.....	71
Sunday, 12/10 .....	152
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>223</b>

### Second Collection

Retirement Fund for Religious .....	\$675
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### Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Offertory .....	\$311
Attendance.....	57



## Knights of Columbus NEWS

Martin and Julie Alt have been selected as the Knight Family of the Month for November. Martin and Julie are a very active Catholic family, with Julie serving as a CCD teacher, Extraordinary Minister, cantor, and member of the Finance Committee and choir. She is also the coordinator of the Jubilee Fundraising Committee. Martin has helped by doing the heavy lifting! Congratulations and thank you to both Martin and Julie for being a vital part of our parish community!

## 2024 Offertory Envelopes

Our 2024 offertory envelopes are available to be picked up in the back of the church as you leave Mass today. If you do not currently use weekly envelopes but would like to start, please contact the Parish Office.

## Liturgical Minister Schedule

### Saturday, December 23

Lector: Kenny Brant  
Servers: Tucker Newlin & Jude Barrick  
EM: Mere Barrick, Sue Harber (c), Jean Harber (c)  
Greeters: Tom & Kathy Finnell  
Cantor: Anita Tetreault

### Sunday, December 24 (4th Sunday of Advent)

Lector: TBD  
Servers: Celia & Evelyn Cole  
EM: TBD  
Greeters: Michael & Sonja Stanislawczyk  
Cantor: Patrick George

### Saturday, December 30

Lector: Karen Yowler  
Servers: Sommer & Micah Alt  
EM: Alan Taylor, Bill Lupis (c), Mary Wagoner (c)  
Greeters: Dena Turner & Mary Shannon  
Cantor: Linda Marsh

### Sunday, December 31

Lector: TBD  
Servers: TBD  
EM: Tina Stephen, Pam Williams (c), David Minnich (c)  
Greeters: Denny Dolechek & Marvin Whetzel  
Cantor: Julie Alt

  
 when  
you  
CHOOSE  
joy  
 You feel good  
 & when you feel  
good, YOU do good  
 & when YOU do good  
it Reminds others  
of what joy feels like  
 & it just♥  
might inspire  
them to do  
the same.

Each of us is an  
**INN KEEPER**  
*who decides if there is  
room enough for*  
**JESUS!**

Our CCD students presented their Christmas program following Mass last Sunday. If you missed it, visit our website to watch the video!

Thanks to all the performers, narrators, assistants, videographer, teachers, musicians and choir members for helping to make the show successful! Special thanks to Jean Harber for bringing her idea to life!

## Christmas Schedule

### Sunday, December 24

4:00 p.m.

Christmas Vigil Mass

6:00 p.m.

Festival of Lessons & Carols

6:30 p.m.

Christmas Vigil Mass

### Monday, December 25

8:30 a.m.

Christmas Mass

### Monday, January 1

4:00 p.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

*Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year*

*(No weekday Masses December 26-29)*



**The Annunciation.** Pippa Dolechek as Mary and Liam Dupuis as the Archangel Gabriel.



**Mary visits Elizabeth.** Pippa Dolechek as Mary and Tess Maybury as Elizabeth.



**Joseph's Dream.** Jude Barrick as Joseph, Tucker Newlin as the Archangel Gabriel and Maddox Cameron as the angel.



**The Journey to Bethlehem.** Mia Stephen as Mary, Remy Kuhn as Joseph, Briella Shobe as the Donkey.



Davis Pritts as the Innkeeper.



**The Nativity.** Charlotte Delilo as Mary, Remy Kuhn as Joseph and Hazel Costello as the Star.



**The Gifts of the Magi.** Lucas Dupuis, Kayla Getson and Benjamin Burdock as the Wisemen.

Morgan Gustafson as the Little Drummer Girl.



Shepherds Kennedy Stephen, Isla Delilo and Cecelia Delilo; lambs Sadie Mangold and Harper Newlin.



Angels Beckley Cameron, Kinsley Smith, Hannah Mangold and Cael Feaster.