

# Assumption Catholic Church

34 James Street, Keyser, WV 26726

acckwv@gmail.com

assumptionkeyserwv.org

304.788.2488

***First Sunday of Advent***

***November 30, 2025***



*May you find Christ here...may you take 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 Address**

**50 James Street**

**Office Hours:**

Monday - Thursday

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Bulletin Deadline:**

Wednesday, 10 a.m.

## Sunday Reflection: First Sunday of Advent

The word Advent signifies “coming” or “arrival.” At its heart, this sacred season invites us to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ in His First Advent and to awaken our longing for His return as Christ the King in His Second Advent. Advent, therefore, is far more than commemorating an event that occurred two millennia ago. It is a living celebration of a profound divine truth: that God has revealed Himself in Christ so that all creation may be reconciled to Him. This mystery is not merely historical; it is an unfolding reality in which we ourselves are called to participate, awaiting its ultimate fulfillment. Accordingly, the Scripture readings during Advent emphasize the promise of Christ’s return, calling us to accountability in faithfulness, awareness of divine judgment on sin, and renewed hope in the gift of eternal life.

This dual orientation—looking back to Christ’s birth and forward to His glorious return—also mirrors the spiritual journey of every believer and of the entire Church community. In Advent, we proclaim that Christ has already come in the flesh, that He remains present and active in our world today through the Holy Spirit, and that He will one day return in power and majesty. As the Church rejoices in God’s decisive entry into human history through the Incarnation, it simultaneously anticipates the final fulfillment of His plan, for which “all creation is groaning, awaiting redemption.” Although Advent is often experienced as a time of joyful expectation, it is equally intended to be a period of sincere preparation. The Church invites us to deepen our prayer, embrace penance, and practice fasting, allowing our hearts to be purified and made ready for the Lord’s coming. In this spirit of hope, reflection, and renewal, may this Advent season be for all of us a time of abundant grace, spiritual growth, and profound blessing. I wish you all a holy and grace-filled Advent season.

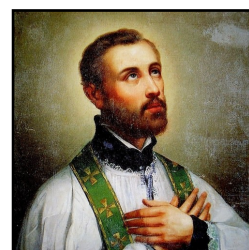
### Readings for Next Sunday, December 7

Isaiah 11:1-10  
Romans 15:4-9  
Matthew 3:1-2

## Saint of the Week ... St. Francis Xavier

Jesus asked, “What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?” (Matthew 16:26a). The words were repeated to a young teacher of philosophy who had a highly promising career in academics, with success and a life of prestige and honor before him.

Francis Xavier, 24 at the time, and living and teaching in Paris, did not heed these words at once. They came from a good friend, Ignatius of Loyola, whose tireless persuasion finally won the young man to Christ. In 1534, Francis joined Ignatius’ little community, the infant Society of Jesus. He was ordained a priest in 1537, and sailed to the East Indies, landing at Goa, on the west coast of India. For the next 10 years he labored to bring the faith to such widely scattered peoples as the Hindus, the Malayans, and the Japanese. Wherever he went, Xavier lived with the poorest people, sharing their food and rough accommodations. He spent countless hours ministering to the sick and the poor.



Feast Day December 3

Xavier then traveled to Japan. He learned enough Japanese to preach, instruct, baptize, and establish missions. From Japan he had dreams of going to China, but this plan was never realized. Before reaching the mainland, he died. His remains are enshrined in the Church of Good Jesus in Goa. He and St. Thérèse of Lisieux were declared co-patrons of the missions in 1925.

St. Francis Xavier was canonized in 1622 at the same ceremony as Ignatius of Loyola. He is the patron saint of Catholic missions, sailors, Japan and jewelers.

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



Jan Biser, Tina Blank, Jennifer Boling, Leslie Bosley, Angela Bowers, Kara Breedlove, Mickey Brooks, Darlene “Bitsy” Brown, Sue Burns, Braely Burton, Hailey Claire, Abby Clark, Raymond Clark, Linda Davis-Kyle, Gloria DeMasi, Palma Devic, Marion Dorsey, Cam Duncan, Dave & Jean Dunn, Lucas Dupuis, Scott Furey, Marilyn George, Barbara Gratto, Sue Greco, Donna Hanlin, Shawn Harbaugh, Shawn Hartman, Leroy House, Kathy Jenkins, Sarah Jones, Charity Jones Kasraoui, Margie Keister, Sueann Keller-Schwille, Joanne Knott\*, Jeffrey Labonte, Pam Launi, Bill Lupis, Angelo Luvara, Francy Lyons, Rhonda Martin, Cindy Mills, Steve Miner, Wanda & Randy Nairn, Debbie Pappas, Cathy Pardee, Diane Parrish, Crystal Pollet, Susie Radcliffe, Katherine Revell, Carole Rhodes, Carla Riggelman, George Rosedale, Charlotte Sanders, Helen Shallis, Sparrow Shannon, Esther Shockey, Crystal Snitz, Fran Sommers, Barbara Stanislawczyk, Melissa Stanislawczyk, John Stephen Jr., Patsy Summers, Stefanie Swanger, Maleigha Taylor, Nathaniel Taylor, Nick Trager, Shawn Whetzel, Courtney Whiteman, Becky Whitlock\*, Barbara Willis.

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



## Parish Christmas Party Sunday, December 14, 2025 10:15 am – St. Mary's Hall

Join us on Sunday, December 14 for our second annual parish Christmas brunch!

The catered meal will include a variety of delicious brunch and beverage selections. Cost is \$15 for adults; CCD students are free, compliments of the parish.

Please sign up in the Vestibule or call/email the Parish Office by Sunday, December 7. Cash or check (payable to Assumption Parish) can be dropped in the offertory basket or in person at the Parish Office.

**Please pay when you sign up!**

Hosted by the Assumption Ladies Guild

## Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Holy Day of Obligation  
**Monday, December 8, 2025**  
Mass at 6:00 p.m.

## Advent Prayer Exchange

Everyone who completed an Advent Prayer card last weekend will receive a card with someone else's name on it today. Throughout Advent, pray for the special intentions of the person or family whose card you receive and just before Christmas, send them a card to let them know who their prayer warrior has been! Blank cards are still available in the Vestibule.

## Advent Calendar

Included with today's bulletin is our parish Advent calendar full of simple ways to help us remember the true meaning of the Christmas season. Please use it and share it! It is also available for download and print from our website. [www.assumptionkeyserwv.org](http://www.assumptionkeyserwv.org)

## Mass Schedule and Intentions

Date	Time	Intention	Offered by
Saturday, November 29	4:00 pm	Souls of Toby & Anne Stickley.....	Anonymous
		Soul of Fred Selders .....	Eddie & Dorothy Sandoval
		The Wise & Calemene Families.....	Jean Harber
Sunday, November 30	8:30 am	Soul of Michael Mayolo.....	Assumption Parish
		Soul of Willard Burnett.....	Assumption Choir
		Intentions of Doug & Jane Placka.....	Mike & Joanne Stickley
Monday, December 1	No Mass		
Tuesday, December 2	No Mass		
Wednesday, December 3	5:00 pm	Soul of Richard Gibson .....	Kathleen Gibson
		Intentions of Linda Marsh.....	Margaret McGee
Thursday, December 4	12:00 pm	Souls of Bill & Helen Semenuk.....	Cathy Pardee
		Soul of Brian Alt.....	Mike & Joanne Stickley
Friday, December 5	9:00 am	Soul of Todd Myers.....	Sue & Jean Harber
		Soul of Ron Willis .....	Mike & Rosie Landis
Saturday, December 6	10:00 am	Mass at Keyser Healthcare Center .....	Assumption Parish
		Residents of Keyser Healthcare Center .....	Assumption Parish
	4:00 pm	Souls of Joe & Jackie Altobello .....	Mike & Joanne Stickley
		Soul of Steve Mehalik.....	David & Marcia Albani
		Intentions of Sam & Sara Fazzalore.....	S & J
		Intentions of Jean Harber .....	Mary Shannon
Sunday, December 7	8:30 am	Souls of Tim & Ginny Newlin .....	Kelley & Jeff Kuhn
		Soul of Patricia Burdock .....	Nancy Starcher
		Deceased members of the Illario Fazzalore family .....	The Fazzalore family





## First Friday Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held the first Friday of each month, including this Friday, December 5. Join us for Mass at 9 a.m. followed by Adoration from 9:30-10:30.

## Christmas Flower Offerings

Remember your loved ones this Christmas with an offering for the flowers which will decorate our beautiful church. All names will appear in our Christmas bulletin.

If you use offertory envelopes, be sure to include on the envelope who your donation is in memory of. If you do not use offertory envelopes but would like to make a memorial donation, simply use any envelope and include a note with your intentions.



## Your Faithful Stewardship

November 22-23, 2025

### Offertory

Offertory Envelopes.....	\$2,368
Loose Donations.....	\$251
Repairs & Maintenance.....	\$20
Christmas Flowers .....	\$50
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$2,689</b>

### Diocesan Collection

Cathedral of St. Joseph .....	\$130
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### Attendance

Saturday, 11/22 .....	65
Sunday, 11/23 .....	112
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>177</b>

## Spanish Masses Available Nearby

If you or someone you know are interested in attending a Spanish Mass, several options are available nearby:

- Epiphany of the Lord, Moorefield  
Sundays at 12 p.m.
- St. Mary's, Cumberland (Oldtown Road)  
2nd and 4th Sundays, 2 p.m.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, December 8, 6:00 pm

*Holy Day of Obligation, Immaculate Conception*

Sunday, December 14, 8:30 am

*Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming*

*Youth Mass*

*CCD Christmas Program*

*Parish Christmas Brunch*

Wednesday, December 17, 6:00 pm

*Advent Penance Service*

Wednesday, December 24, 4:00 and 6:30 pm

*Christmas Vigil Masses*

Thursday, December 25, 8:30 am

*Christmas Mass*

Wednesday, December 31, 5:00 pm

*Holy Day of Obligation, Solemnity of Mary*

Thursday, January 1, 2026, 9:00 am

*Holy Day of Obligation, Solemnity of Mary*

Saturday, January 10, 5:30 pm

*Fr. Thomas Birthday and Ordination Anniversary party*

## Liturgical Minister Schedule

### Saturday, December 6 (Knight's Mass)

Lector: Doug Minnich

Servers: Mike Landis & Paul Bogdan

EMs: Mike Landis, John Gustafson (c), Alan Taylor (c)

Cantor: Linda Marsh & Anita Tetreault

Greeters: Jean Harber & Diana Myers

### Sunday, December 7

Lector: Geoff Newlin

Servers: Tucker Newlin & Jude Barrick

EMs: Rosie Landis, Charlotte Delilo (c), Jane Placka (c)

Cantor: Patrick George

Greeters: Paul Bogdan & Janet Corley

### Saturday, December 13

Lector: Kerri Wittman

Servers: Eric Hatfield & Eric Hatfield II

EMs: TBD, Norma Clark (c), Karen Yowler (c)

Cantor: Julie Alt

Greeters: Kelli & Kerri Wittman

### Sunday, December 14 (Youth Mass)

Lector: CCD Students

Servers: Remy Kuhn, Lucas Dupuis & Morgan Gustafson

EMs: Pam Williams, Dave Minnich (c), Tina Stephen (c)

Cantor: Patrick George

Greeters: CCD Students

### Keyser Healthcare Center EM

December 6 Jean Harber

December 13 Meredythe Barrick

# GIVING TUESDAY

**December 2, 2025**

Giving Tuesday is a global day of giving and sharing that takes place each year on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving.

During this season of joy and giving, we call to mind the wonderful gifts God has bestowed upon us. Even in the most trying times, we still have so much for which to be grateful.

On December 2, consider supporting a local charity. Our parish supports many local organizations; donations for the following can always be left in the Vestibule and will be delivered to the appropriate location: Faith in Action food pantry, Food for Thought, and Warm the Children.



If you have not yet participated in our 2025 Catholic Sharing Appeal, Giving Tuesday is a great time to make a donation! We can continue to accept donations through December 31. All dollars donated to the Catholic Sharing Appeal come back to our parish to help us fund our many programs and projects.

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

## *Assumption Parish*



*Thank you*