



# Assumption Catholic Church

34 James Street, Keyser, WV 26726

acckwv@gmail.com

assumptionkeyserwv.org

304.788.2488

**Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**

**January 12, 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 Hours:**

Monday - Thursday

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Bulletin Deadline:**

Wednesday, 12 noon



## Sunday Reflection: The Baptism of the Lord

Why did Jesus, the Sinless One, submit himself to John's baptism? In this humble submission we see a foreshadowing of the "baptism" of his bloody death upon the cross. Jesus' baptism is the acceptance and the beginning of his mission as God's suffering Servant. He allowed himself to be numbered among sinners. Jesus submitted himself entirely to his Father's will. Out of love he consented to this baptism of death for the remission of our sins. The Father proclaimed his entire delight in his Son and spoke audibly for all to hear. The Holy Spirit, too, was present as he anointed Jesus for his ministry which began that day as he rose from the waters of the Jordan river. Jesus will be the source of the Spirit for all who come to believe in him. At his baptism the heavens were opened and the waters were sanctified by the descent of the Holy Spirit, signifying the beginning of a new creation.

How can we enter into the mystery of Jesus' humble self-abasement and baptism? Gregory of Nazianzus (329-389 AD), an early church father tells us: "Let us be buried with Christ by Baptism to rise with him; let us go down with him to be raised with him; and let us rise with him to be glorified with him." Do we want to see our life transformed in the likeness of Christ? And do we want to become a more effective instrument of the Gospel? Examine Jesus' humility and ask the Holy Spirit to forge this same attitude in our heart. Jesus is ever ready to renew and refashion us in his likeness through the gift and working of the Holy Spirit. Ask the Lord Jesus to fill us with his Holy Spirit that we may radiate the joy of the Gospel to those around us.

### Readings for Next Sunday,

January 19, 2025

Isaiah 62:1-5

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

John 2:1-11

## Saint of the Week... St. Anthony of Egypt

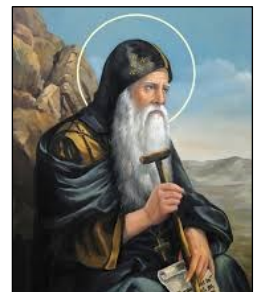
St. Anthony of Egypt, also known as St. Anthony the Great, was born in Egypt in 251 to a wealthy family. From an early age he showed no interest in the luxury of worldly life, and at age 20 when his parents died, he gave all of his inheritance to the poor and began his life as a hermit. At age 35 he moved to the desert and lived for 20 years in an abandoned fort.

Although most of Anthony's life was spent in solitude, no saint is antisocial. Anthony drew many people to him for spiritual healing and guidance. Word about him spread, and so many disciples arrived that Anthony founded two monasteries on the Nile. Descriptions paint him as modest and courteous. His example led many to take up the monastic life, which led to him being known as the founder of organized Christian monasticism.

Anthony is often pictured with a T-shaped cross, a pig and a book. The pig and the cross are symbols of his valiant warfare with the devil: the cross his constant means of power over evil spirits; the pig a symbol of the devil himself. The book recalls his preference for the book of nature over the printed word.

Anthony died at the age of 105. He is the patron saint of butchers, gravediggers and skin diseases.

Sources: [franciscanmedia.org](http://franciscanmedia.org) and [catholicsaints.info](http://catholicsaints.info)



Feast Day: January 17



Tina Blank, Jennifer Boling, Leslie Bosley, Angela Bowers, Mickey Brooks, Darlene "Bitsy" Brown, Sue Burns, Raymond Clark, Hailey Claire, Linda Davis-Kyle, Palma Devic, Cam Duncan, Bill Fazzalore\*, Scott Furey, Barbara Gratto, Sue Greco, Donna Hanlin, Shawn Hartman,

Kathy Jenkins, Sarah Jones, Margie Keister, Sueann Keller-Schwille, Wanda Kinnie, Joanne Knott\*, Jeffrey Labonte, Pam Launi, Lance Lupis, Betty McAvoy, Paul & Connie Murray, Randy Nairn, Debbie Pappas, Crystal Pollet, Susie Radcliffe, Katherine Revell, Carla Riggelman, Jeff Roth, Margie Roy, Helen Shallis, Sparrow Shannon, Esther Shockey, Fran Sommers, Barbara Stanislawczyk, Melissa Stanislawczyk, John Stephen Jr., Michaela Stickley, Bill Stine, Patsy Summers, Stefanie Swanger, Maleigha Taylor, Courtney Whiteman.

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

## Caring and Sharing in 2024

Our heartfelt thanks to each of you for the many ways you support our parish, whether it be through your time, talents, or resources...or all three!

We will be sharing our annual financial report in a few weeks, but wanted to call out these amazing numbers which show just how much you share your love with God, your church and your community!

Offertory contributions.....	\$202,300
Catholic Sharing Appeal (116%) .....	\$20,505
Jubilee Fund Raisers.....	\$14,908
Diocesan collections .....	\$7,813
Poor Box contributions.....	\$3,795
Disaster Relief collections.....	\$3,444
Mission Visit.....	\$3,080
	<b>\$255,845</b>

# Welcome!

We warmly welcome  
**Most Rev. Mark E. Brennan**  
 back to Assumption Parish!

Bishop Brennan will celebrate our Vigil and Sunday Masses this weekend while he is in town for the Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Exemplification ceremony being held Saturday afternoon and evening at St. Mary's Hall.



## We Want to Hear from You!

Assumption Parish is on a journey to know, love and serve Christ better and thrive! Complete the Disciple Maker

Index (DMI) survey today. The survey assesses our unique strengths and opportunities. Share your perspective now to help strengthen our parish and better prepare us for the future!

To complete the survey online, visit the link below. Don't have internet access? Paper copies of the survey are available in the Vestibule. All responses will be confidential, and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole.

<https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/xd0ayx>

# A Word of Thanks

Dear Parishioners,

*I am deeply touched by your love and kindness during this Christmas season and on the occasions of my Priestly Ordination Anniversary and my birthday. Your thoughtful wishes, heartfelt prayers, and generous gifts have warmed my heart and strengthened my spirit.*

*I feel truly blessed to serve as your pastor, and your expressions of love remind me of the bond we share as a parish family. Your faith and support inspire me to continue my ministry with renewed dedication and joy.*

*Thank you for the cards, gifts, and kind words that you shared with me. Most of all, thank you for your prayers. They are the greatest gift I could ever receive. Please know that I keep each of you in my prayers, asking God to bless you and your families abundantly.*

*As we move forward together in faith, let us continue to support and encourage one another. May the joy of Christmas remain in our hearts throughout the New Year, and may God guide us in all we do as a parish community.*

*With gratitude and blessings,*

*Fr. Thomas*

Fr. Thomas A. Sebastian CST

## Mass Schedule and Intentions

Date	Time	Intention	Offered by
Saturday, January 11	4:00 pm	Living & Deceased Members of the Delilo & DiCesare families .....	Palma Devic
		Intentions of Mike & Joanne Stickley.....	Sue & Jean Harber
Sunday, January 12	8:30 am	Soul of Marjorie McCoy.....	Frances Rosedale
Monday, January 13	No Mass		
Tuesday, January 14	No Mass		
Wednesday, January 15	No Mass		
Thursday, January 16	No Mass		
Friday, January 17	No Mass		
Saturday, January 18	4:00 pm	Soul of Jim Lambert.....	Tom & Kathy Finnell
		Intentions of Linda Marsh.....	Margaret McGee
Sunday, January 19	8:30 am	Soul of Doris Tetrick.....	Mike & Robin McDowell
		Intentions of Deacon Larry Hammel.....	Sue & Jean Harber

Join us to pray the Rosary 30 minutes prior to each weekday Mass.

## Farewell Fr. Thomas!

Fr. Thomas will be leaving this week to travel back home to India for a much deserved vacation. While he is away, there will be no weekday Masses. Fr. Giles will celebrate our weekend Masses. Please keep Fr. Thomas in your prayers for a safe journey home and a vacation of reacquaintance, relaxation and renewal.

Since we won't have daily Masses for several weeks, here are weekday Mass times at other local churches:

Mondays	8:30 a.m.	St. Gabriel, Barton
Tuesdays	8:30 a.m.	St. Michael, Frostburg
	12 noon	Our Lady of Grace, Romney
	12 noon	St. Anthony, Ridgeley
Wednesdays	8:00 a.m.	Annunciation, Fort Ashby
	8:30 a.m.	St. Peter, Westernport
	12 noon	St. Mary, Petersburg
Thursdays	8:30 a.m.	St. Michael, Frostburg
	12 noon	St. Mary, Petersburg
	6:30 p.m.	St. Anthony, Ridgeley
Fridays	8:00 a.m.	Annunciation, Fort Ashby
	8:30 a.m.	St Peter, Westernport
	12 noon	St. Mary, Petersburg



## Next Sunday = Donut Sunday!

Please join us after Mass next Sunday (January 19) at St. Mary's Hall for donuts, coffee and fellowship! Thank you to the Parish Council for hosting this month's event.



## Note of Thanks

*My sincere thanks to our entire music team for all the extra time and hard work they gave to our music ministry during the Christmas season. Thank you for sharing your talents with us: Patrick George, Linda Marsh, Julie Alt, Nancy Starcher, JoAnn Burnett, Anita Tetreault, Mike Labonte, and Candace Lowery. Special thanks to Michael Stanislawczyk for leading the Lessons & Carols on Christmas Eve!*

*Linda Davis-Kyle, Music Director*

## Choir Practice Begins January 22

The choir will begin their weekly practices on Wednesday, January 22 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Please note that this is a change in both day and time! If you would like to share your vocal gifts with our parish, please contact Music Director Linda Davis-Kyle at 301-707-4215 or just come to practice!

## Your Faithful Stewardship

January 4-5, 2025

### Offertory

Offertory Envelopes .....	\$3,686
Loose Donations.....	\$1,085
Poor Box .....	\$402
Votive Candles .....	\$218
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$5,391</b>

### Attendance

Saturday, 1/4.....	83
Sunday, 1/5.....	75
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>158</b>

### Upcoming Diocesan Collection

A Diocesan collection will be taken next weekend to support the Church in the Developing World, including Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, and Africa. A separate basket will be available for this important appeal.

*The Lord will bless  
His people with peace.*

PSALM 29



## Liturgical Minister Schedule

### Saturday, January 18

Lector: Logan Stanislawczyk  
Servers: Paul Bogdan & Alan Taylor  
EM: Jean Harber, Karen Yowler (c), Mere Barrick (c)  
Greeters: Mike & Robin McDowell  
Cantor: Linda Marsh

### Sunday, January 19

Lector: Mike Landis  
Servers: Jeff & Remy Kuhn  
EM: Pam Williams, Rosie Landis (c), Tina Stephen (c)  
Greeters: Doug & Jane Placka  
Cantor: Julie Alt

### Saturday, January 25

Lector: Kerri Wittman  
Servers: Eric Hatfield & Eric Hatfield II  
EM: Alan Taylor, Mary Wagoner (c), Eric Hatfield (c)  
Greeters: Larry & Tammy Dale  
Cantor: Linda Marsh

### Sunday, January 26 (Youth Mass)

Lector: CCD students  
Servers: CCD students  
EM: Kelley Kuhn, Beverley Iser (c), Charlotte Delilo (c)  
Greeters: CCD students  
Cantor: Julie Alt

### Keyser Healthcare Center EM

January 16 Pam Williams  
January 23 Cindy Alt