



# Assumption Catholic Church

34 James Street, Keyser, WV 26726

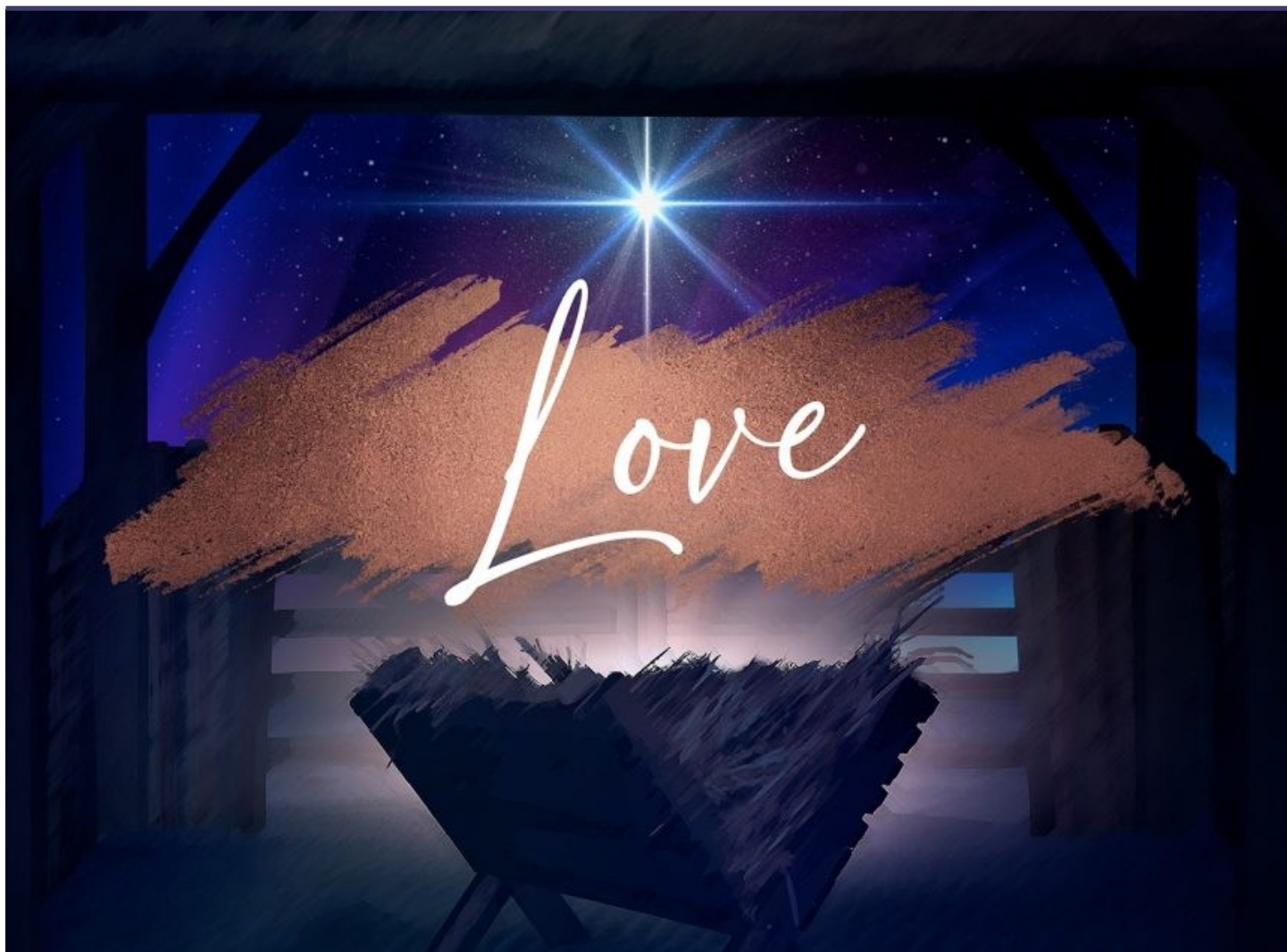
acckwv@gmail.com

assumptionkeyserwv.org

304.788.2488

***Fourth Sunday of Advent***

***December 21, 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: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mary faced an extraordinary challenge to her faith and trust in God, as well as to the confidence of her family and of Joseph, the man she had chosen to marry. Never before had it been heard that a child could be born without a natural father, and Mary was called to accept this miraculous exception to the natural order. Such a calling demanded profound faith and unwavering trust in God and His promises. Moreover, Mary was not yet married; she was only espoused to Joseph, and in those days an engagement was considered legally binding and typically lasted an entire year. A pregnancy outside of wedlock was socially unacceptable and carried the risk of rejection or even condemnation. Mary could have faced censure or ostracism from Joseph, her family, and her entire community. Yet, with steadfast belief and trust in God's revelation, she embraced His will.

Joseph, a just and God-fearing man, likewise responded with remarkable discernment. When he learned of Mary's pregnancy, he did not wish to shame or punish her. Instead, he turned to God in prayer, seeking guidance rather than reacting hastily with anger or resentment. In response, God granted him divine consolation and assurance, revealing that he had been called to be Mary's husband and to embrace a mission that demanded exceptional faith, trust, and courage. Joseph accepted the divine message, taking Mary as his wife and recognizing the child in her womb as the promised Messiah. Both Mary and Joseph stand as enduring models of faith for us. They remind us that belief in God's promises often requires courage in the face of uncertainty and perseverance amidst seemingly impossible circumstances. As we celebrate Christmas, the feast of the Incarnation, let us rejoice with grateful hearts and renew our faith and hope in God's redeeming work, trusting that He continues to guide and sustain us in all things.

### Readings for Next Sunday, December 28

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Colossians 3:12-17

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

## Saint of the Week... St. John the Apostle

It is God who calls; human beings answer. The vocation of John and his brother James is stated very simply in the Gospels (along with that of Peter and his brother Andrew): Jesus called, they followed. The absoluteness of their response is indicated by the account. James and John "were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him" (Matthew 4:21b-22).

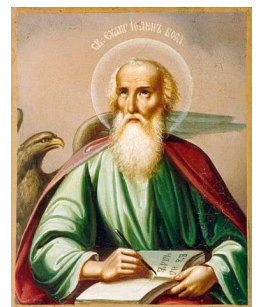
For the three former fishermen—Peter, James and John—that faith was to be rewarded by a special friendship with Jesus. They alone were privileged to be present at the Transfiguration, the raising of the daughter of Jairus, and the agony in Gethsemane. But John's friendship was even more special.

John's own Gospel refers to him as "the disciple whom Jesus loved" (see John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2), the one who reclined next to Jesus at the Last Supper, and the one to whom Jesus gave the exquisite honor of caring for his mother, as John stood beneath the cross. "Woman, behold your son.... Behold, your mother" (John 19:26b, 27b).

On the first Easter, Mary Magdalene "ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, 'They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him'" (John 20:2). John recalls, perhaps with a smile, that he and Peter ran side by side, but then "the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first" (John 20:4b). He did not enter, but waited for Peter and let him go in first. "Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed" (John 20:8).

The Apostle John is traditionally considered the author also of three New Testament letters and the Book of Revelation. His Gospel is a very personal account. He sees the glorious and divine Jesus already in the incidents of his mortal life. At the Last Supper, John's Jesus speaks as if he were already in heaven. John's is the Gospel of Jesus' glory. St. John the Apostle is the patron saint of love, loyalty and friendship.

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



Feast Day December 27



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, Curtis Drew, Cam Duncan, Dave & Jean Dunn, Lucas Dupuis, Scott Furey, Marilyn George, Barbara Gratto, Sue Greco, Donna Hanlin, Shawn Harbaugh, Shawn Hartman, Marion Hollingsworth, Leroy House, Kathy Jenkins, Diana Jiang, Sarah Jones, Charity Jones Kasraoui, Margie Keister, Sueann Keller-Schwillle, Joanne Knott\*, Jeffrey Labonte, Pam Launi, Bill Lupis, Angelo Luvara, Francy Lyons, Rhonda Martin, Margaret McGee, 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)



Last Sunday our parish celebrated the *Rite for Entrance into the Catechumenate and of Welcoming the Candidates* for those enrolled in our OCIA program. Shown here with their sponsors are (left to right) Daniel Jones and his grandfather/sponsor Rick Wright; Alea Horner and sponsor Sonja Stanislawczyk; Fr. Thomas; Jennifer Mitchell and her sponsor Meredythe Barrick, along with her husband Matthew and son Otto; and Kathie Shank and her sponsor Janet Veazey.

Please keep our brothers and sisters in prayer as they continue their journey of faith!

## Christmas Schedule

### **Wednesday, December 24**

4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.  
Christmas Vigil Masses

### **Thursday, December 25**

8:30 a.m.  
Christmas Mass

### **Friday, December 26**

No Mass



Catholic  
Charities  
West Virginia

## Christmas Collection for CCWV

Catholic Charities West

Virginia helps tens of thousands of our vulnerable brothers and sisters every year. Your donation helps to provide hope, safety, food and care.

A collection will take place at all Christmas Masses across the state for Catholic Charities West Virginia. Thank you in advance for your generosity to this most important appeal! A separate basket will be available.

## Mass Schedule and Intentions

Date	Time	Intention	Offered by
Saturday, December 20	4:00 pm	Souls of John & Hazel Coffman .....	Cindy & Jim Alt
		Soul of Steve Mehalik .....	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Pillar
		Soul of Mary Balassone .....	Barb Willis & family
		The DeMasi Family .....	S & J
Sunday, December 21	8:30 am	Souls of Doris Tetrick & Jordan Placka .....	Their Loving Family
		Intentions of Francy Lyons .....	Mike & Joanne Stickley
Monday, December 22	No Mass		
Tuesday, December 23	No Mass		
<i>Christmas Eve</i>			
Wednesday, December 24	4:00 pm	People of Assumption Parish	
	6:30 pm	People of Assumption Parish	
<i>Christmas Day</i>			
Thursday, December 25	8:30 am	People of Assumption Parish	
Friday, December 26	No Mass		
Saturday, December 27	4:00 pm	Souls of Maureene, Elizabeth & James Lupis .....	Bill Lupis
		Soul of Jean Quinn .....	Marg Quinn
		The Demasi family .....	Buddy
		Intentions of Jean Auer Simpson .....	Gerri Bennett
Sunday, December 28	8:30 am	Soul of Mary McCoy .....	Frances Rosedale
		Souls of Ralph & Catherine Rice .....	The Rice Family
		Intentions of Fr. Thomas .....	Buddy
		Intentions of Francy Lyons .....	Linda Marsh



## Save the Date!

Our parish family will gather to celebrate  
Fr. Thomas' birthday and ordination  
anniversary on Saturday evening, January 10.  
Watch for details in next week's bulletin!

### REMINDER

#### Advent Prayer Exchange

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 prayer warrior has been!

## Your Faithful Stewardship

December 13-14, 2025

#### Offertory

Offertory Envelopes.....	\$2,715
Loose Donations.....	\$118
Christmas Flowers.....	\$157
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$2,990</b>

#### Diocesan Collection

Retirement Fund for Religious.....	\$600
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#### Attendance

Saturday, 12/13.....	50
Sunday, 12/14.....	155
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>205</b>

### Saturday Greeters Needed

We are still in need of a few parishioners to serve as Greeters for the Saturday Vigil Masses. You would only be scheduled about two times a quarter. If you are interested in serving the Church in this way, please contact the Parish Office.



LET THE LORD ENTER; HE IS  
*king of glory*

PSALM 24



Photo courtesy Stacey Rhodes

Our CCD students presented their Christmas program following Mass last Sunday. Thanks to all the performers, narrators, assistants, teachers, musicians and choir members for helping!

### Liturgical Minister Schedule

#### Christmas Vigil, 4 p.m.

Lector:	Kerri Wittman
Servers:	Jeff & Remy Kuhn
EM:	Sue Harber, Jean Harber (c), Kelley Kuhn (c)
Greeters:	Bill Lupis & Mary Wagoner
Cantor:	Linda Marsh

#### Christmas Vigil, 6:30 p.m.

Lector:	TBD
Servers:	Lucas & Liam Dupuis
EM:	TBD, TBD (c), TBD (c)
Greeters:	TBD
Cantor:	Mike Dupuis

#### Christmas Morning, 8:30 a.m.

Lector:	Paul Bogdan
Servers:	Mike & Rosie Landis
EM:	Jane Placka, Mike Landis (c), Rosie Landis (c)
Greeter:	Denny Dolechek
Cantor:	Patrick George

#### Saturday, December 27

Lector:	Alan Taylor
Servers:	Mike & Rosie Landis and Harper Newlin
EM:	Alan Taylor, Mary Wagoner (c), Bill Lupis (c)
Greeters:	Mike & Robin McDowell
Cantor:	Mike Dupuis

#### Sunday, December 28

Lector:	Michael Stanislawczyk
Servers:	James & Tess Maybury
EM:	Charlotte Delilo, Rosie Landis (c), Mike Landis (c)
Greeters:	Tina Stephen & Melissa Stanislawczyk
Cantor:	Julie Alt

