



# Assumption Catholic Church

34 James Street, Keyser, WV 26726

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assumptionkeyserwv.org

304.788.2488

**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**January 18, 2026**



*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, 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: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

John's title for Jesus—"the Lamb of God"—reveals Christ's mission as the One who redeems humanity from sin. Just as the blood of the Passover Lamb delivered Israel from slavery and death (Exodus 12), Jesus freely offered His life on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for our salvation (1 Corinthians 5:7). His outpoured blood cleanses and heals us, breaking the power of sin and freeing us from the ultimate consequence of sin, which is death (Romans 6:23) and spiritual destruction (Matthew 10:28). It is significant that John, the son of Zechariah—a priest who offered the daily lamb in the Temple for the sins of the people (Exodus 29)—recognized in Jesus the true and unblemished Lamb sent by the Father. In Christ, John saw the one sacrifice capable of cancelling the debt of sin and delivering humanity from death.

When John says he "did not know" Jesus (John 1:31, 33), he refers to the hidden mystery of Jesus' divinity. At the appointed moment, the Holy Spirit revealed Christ's true identity, enabling John to proclaim Him as the Son of God. Our certainty that Jesus is indeed the Christ also comes through this same Spirit, who grants us the gift of faith, opens our hearts to God's saving plan, and leads us toward deeper understanding and love (Ephesians 1:10). If we desire to grow in the knowledge and love of Christ, we need only ask the Lord to pour out His Holy Spirit upon us, strengthening our faith, hope, and love, and guiding us according to His divine purpose.

### Readings for Next Sunday, January 25, 2026

Isaiah 8:23-9:3

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Matthew 4:12-23

## Saint of the Week... St. Sebastian

St. Sebastian was an early Christian saint popularized by Renaissance painters and believed to have been martyred during the persecution of Christians by the Roman emperor Diocletian.

According to his legend, he was born in Gaul, went to Rome, and in 283 joined the army of the emperor Carinus, later becoming a captain under Diocletian. When it was discovered that he was a Christian who had converted many soldiers, Sebastian was ordered to be killed by arrows. The archers left him for dead, but a Christian widow nursed him back to health. He then presented himself before Diocletian, who condemned him to death by beating. His body, thrown into a sewer, was found by another pious woman, who dreamed that Sebastian told her to bury his remains near the catacombs. His relics are believed to be in the Basilica of San Sebastiano on the Appian Way.

St. Sebastian's martyrdom was a favorite subject of Renaissance artists, and he is usually shown as a handsome youth pierced by arrows. He is the patron saint of archers and athletes.

Sources: *britannica.com*



Feast Day January 20



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, Sam Fazzalore, Scott Furey, Marilyn George, Barbara Gratto, Sue Greco, Donna Hanlin, Shawn Harbaugh, Bob Harman, Shawn Hartman, Marion Hollingsworth, Kathy Jenkins, Diana Jiang, Sarah Jones, Charity Jones Kasraoui, Margie Keister, Sueann Keller-Schwillie, Joanne Knott\*, Jeffrey Labonte, Pam Launi, Bill Lupis, Angelo Luvara, Francy Lyons, Rhonda Martin, Margaret McGee, Blain McLaughlin, 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)



Beginning next month we will be sharing here the members of our parish family who are celebrating a birthday the coming week (dates only, no years!).

The information will come from our parish database. Since we haven't done this before, we ask that you please let us know if we have an incorrect date or if we miss your birthday so we can update our records. Also, if you would prefer that your birthday not be listed, please contact the Parish Office.

## Welcome Fr. Giles!

We welcome Fr. Giles and Henry back to our parish this weekend! Fr. Giles will be celebrating our weekend Masses while Fr. Thomas is in India. He will arrive in Keyser by 1 pm each Saturday. If you would like to make an appointment, please contact the Parish Office.



**CATHOLIC**  
SHARING APPEAL



**Goal Met!**

Parish Goal: \$18,400

Amount Raised: \$19,294 (105%)





*Thank you to everyone who was able to help celebrate Fr. Thomas last Saturday!*

*He safely reached his home in India this past Tuesday night our time. We'll miss him, but are grateful that he is able to enjoy this time of reacquaintance, renewal and relaxation!*

## Caring and Sharing in 2025

Our heartfelt thanks to each of you for the many ways you support our parish, whether it be through your time, talent, or treasure...any often 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 of God, your church and your community!

Offertory contributions.....	\$205,900
Catholic Sharing Appeal (105%).....	\$19,294
Diocesan collections.....	\$8,903
Mission Visit.....	\$5,317
Disaster Relief collections.....	\$4,044
Poor Box contributions.....	\$2,962
	<b>\$246,420</b>

## Mass Schedule and Intentions

Date	Time	Intention	Offered by
Saturday, January 17	4:00 pm	Souls of Anita Grove & Louis J. Calemene .....	Carole Rhodes
		Soul of Ron Willis.....	Barb Willis & family
		The DeMasi family.....	Buddy
Sunday, January 18	8:30 am	Souls of Ralph & Catherine Rice.....	The Rice family
		Intentions of Melissa Stanislawczyk .....	Buddy
		Intentions of Lynn McQuinn.....	Buddy
Monday, January 19	No Mass		
Tuesday, January 20	No Mass		
Wednesday, January 21	No Mass		
Thursday, January 22	No Mass		
Friday, January 23	No Mass		
Saturday, January 24	4:00 pm	Intentions of Sam Fazzalore .....	Mike & Joanne Stickley
		Intentions of Howard & Karen Barrick.....	The Barrick family
		The Alt, Cobb & Kuh families .....	Dean & Kathy Alt
Sunday, January 25	8:30 am	Souls of Michael & Adeline Delilo .....	Palma & Dino Devic
		Soul of Richard Gibson.....	Kathleen Gibson
		The Amoroso Family.....	Buddy



## Pepperoni Roll Sale!

The Assumption Ladies Guild is selling pepperoni rolls for Valentine's weekend!

- Price for a 5-inch pepperoni roll is \$5
- Pick up is at St. Mary's Hall after Masses on Saturday, February 14 and Sunday, February 15

Place your order by Sunday, February 1 in the Vestibule. Payment (payable to Assumption Ladies Guild) can be dropped in the offertory basket, left at the Parish Office, or made at the time of pick up. If you have questions, please contact Jean Harber 304-788-1729.

## Your Faithful Stewardship

January 10-11, 2026

### Offertory

Offertory Envelopes.....	\$2,030
Loose Donations.....	\$1,201
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$3,231</b>

### Attendance

Saturday, 1/10 .....	77
Sunday, 1/11 .....	116
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>193</b>

### December Balance Sheet

Income.....	\$32,865
Expenses .....	\$22,267
<b>Balance .....</b>	<b>\$10,598</b>

### Diocesan Collection

A Diocesan collection is being taken today for the Church in the Developing World, including Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, and Africa. A separate basket is available for this important appeal.



## It's Donut Sunday!

Please join us after Mass this Sunday (January 18) at St. Mary's Hall for donuts, coffee, fellowship! Thank you to the Parish Council for hosting this month.

## Upcoming Online Learning Opportunities

Our Diocese sponsors online educational courses through the University of Dayton designed to help us deepen our understanding of faith and grow in our relationship with God. All classes are free but registration is required. For more information or to register, contact instructor Dr. Rodica Stoiciu at rodicastoiciuphd@gmail.com

### **Roman Catholic Catechesis for Faith Formation**

5-week course taught on Wednesdays at 7 pm beginning January 21.

### **Advanced Catholic Social Teaching**

5-week course taught on Thursdays at 4 pm beginning January 22.

### **This Land Is Home to Me: The Cry of Appalachia**

3-week course taught on Mondays at 7 pm beginning January 19.

## Liturgical Minister Schedule

### Saturday, January 24

Lector: Doug Minnich  
Servers: Sue Harber, John Gustafson, Morgan Gustafson  
EMs: Alan Taylor, Mary Wagoner (c), Eric Hatfield (c)  
Cantor: Linda Marsh & Anita Tetreault  
Greeters: Jean Harber & Gerri Bennett

### Sunday, January 25 (Youth Mass)

Lector: CCD students  
Servers: Remy Kuhn, Morgan Gustafson, Harper Newlin  
EMs: Tina Stephen, Beverley Iser (c), Kelley Kuhn (c)  
Cantor: Patrick George  
Greeters: CCD students

### Saturday, January 31

Lector: John Gustafson  
Servers: Paul Bogdan & Alan Taylor  
EMs: Sue Harber, Jean Harber (c), Cathy Pardee (c)  
Cantor: Julie Alt  
Greeters: Bill Lupis & Mary Wagoner

### Sunday, February 1

Lector: Geoff Newlin  
Servers: Tucker Newlin & Jude Barrick  
EMs: Jane Placka, Pam Williams (c), Mike Landis (c)  
Cantor: Mike Dupuis  
Greeters: Paul Bogdan & Jane Placka

### Keyser Healthcare Center EM

January 22 Cindy Alt  
January 29 Joanne Stickley

*Here am I, Lord;  
I come to do your will.*

PSALM 40

