



# Assumption Catholic Church

34 James Street, Keyser, WV 26726

acckwv@gmail.com

assumptionkeyserwv.org

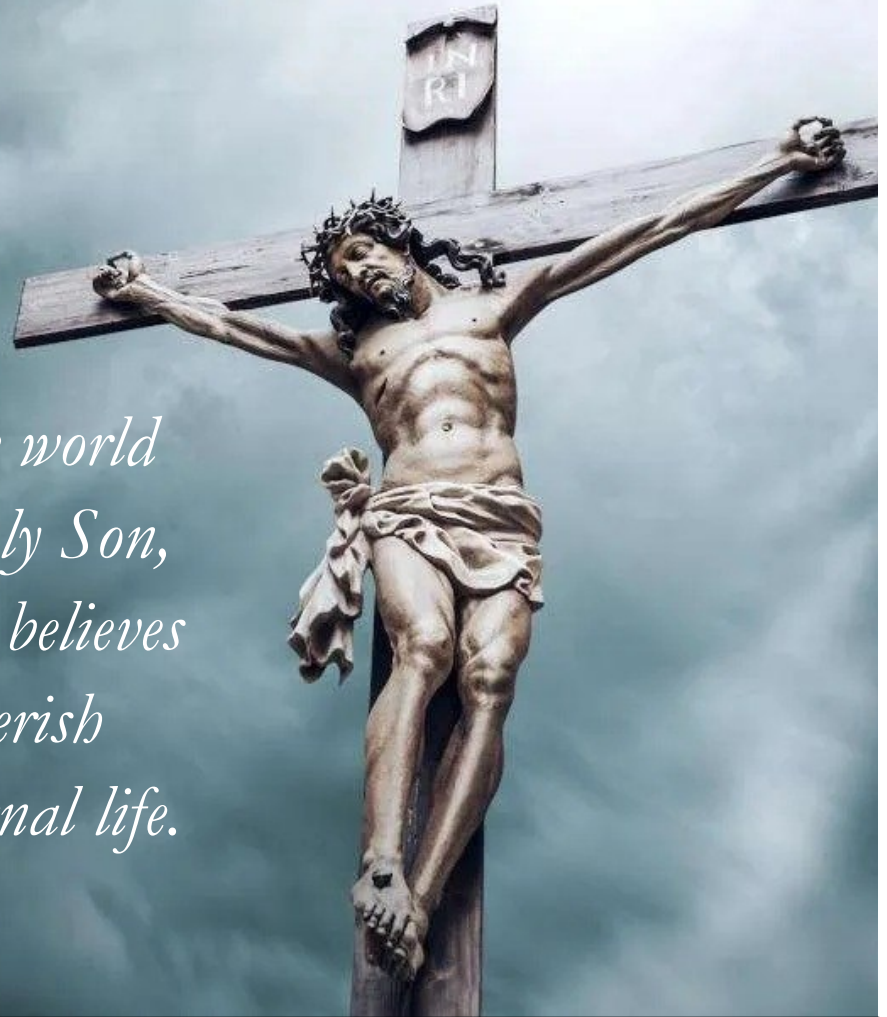
304.788.2488

**Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

**September 14, 2025**

*For God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes  
in him might not perish  
but might have eternal life.*

JOHN 3:16



*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: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

On the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, we celebrate a sign of suffering transformed into hope. The Cross, once an instrument of shame and death, has become for Christians the emblem of God's deepest love — a love that embraces weakness, forgives sin, and offers new life. As we lift the Cross today, we are reminded that God meets us not by avoiding pain but by entering into it with us. This feast calls us to look honestly at the crosses in our own lives: illness, broken relationships, disappointments, and fears. These burdens do not vanish by ignoring them. Instead, when carried with Christ they become sites of grace. By uniting our struggles with Jesus' suffering, we discover meaning, receive strength, and grow in compassion.

Practically, we live this truth through prayer, small acts of service, and patient presence. Offer your difficulties to the Lord in daily prayer; let the Cross shape the way you respond to trials—without bitterness but with trust. Reach out to someone who bears a heavy load; a listening heart, a helping hand, or an encouraging word can reveal Christ crucified in our midst. Today's Gospel invites us to exalt the Cross in our speech and deeds. Wear its sign not as a slogan but as a way of life: humble, courageous, and merciful. In doing so, we join the risen Christ who turned the worst of suffering into the source of our salvation and hope. May the Cross be our daily guide.

### Readings for Next Sunday,

September 21, 2025

Amos 8:4-7

1 Timothy 2:1-8

Luke 16:1-13

## Saint of the Week... Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows

On September 15, we commemorate the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows, a day to reflect upon Mary's sorrows as the mother of Christ and how we can follow her example. Even though Mary experienced the pain of seeing her beloved son crucified, she never stopped trusting in God. Mary, in a unique way, willingly suffered alongside her Divine Son as he gave his life to save the world, and she felt the bitterness of his passion as only a mother can.

Reflecting on the feast, Pope Francis said, "Mary, Mother of Sorrows, remains at the foot of the cross. She simply stands there. She does not run away, or try to save herself, or find ways to alleviate her grief. Here is the proof of true compassion: to remain standing beneath the cross."

A devotion to Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows, first began to grow in popularity in the Mediterranean around the 11th century. Then, in the 13th century, the Servants of the Blessed Virgin Mary devoted their newly formed order to the Seven Sorrows of Mary: the Prophecy of Simeon in which he tells her that a sword would pierce her, the flight into Egypt, the disappearance of the child Jesus for three days, meeting Jesus on the way to Calvary, the crucifixion, Jesus being taken down from the cross, and his burial. Around the 14th century, devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows became a standard devotion when it was revealed to St. Bridget of Sweden that the devotion would bring great graces.

In 1692, Pope Innocent XII authorized a celebration of the feast on the third Sunday of September. It was later transferred to the Friday before Palm Sunday. However, in 1814, Pope Pius VII moved the feast back to September, while extending it to the entire Church. A century later, Pope Pius X fixed the date as September 15, the day after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

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



Feast Day: Sept. 15



Jan Biser, Tina Blank, Jennifer Boling, Leslie Bosley, Angela Bowers, Mickey Brooks, Darlene "Bitsy" Brown, Sue Burns, Raymond Clark, Hailey Claire, 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, Jean Harber, Sue Harber, Shawn Hartman, Kathy Jenkins, Sarah Jones, Margie Keister, Sueann Keller-Schwille, Joanne Knott\*, Jeffrey Labonte, Pam Launi, Bill Lupis, Lance Lupis, Angelo Luvara, Betty McAvoy, Cindy Mills, Steve Miner, Paul & Connie Murray, Wanda & Randy Nairn, Debbie Pappas, Cathy Pardee, Diane Parrish, Crystal Pollet, Susie Radcliffe, Katherine Revell, Carole Rhodes, Carla Riggleman, Jeff Roth, Charlotte Sanders, Helen Shallis, Sparrow Shannon, Esther Shockey, Fran Sommers, Barbara Stanislawczyk\*, Melissa Stanislawczyk, John Stephen Jr., Patsy Summers, Stefanie Swanger, Maleigha Taylor, Nathaniel Taylor, Shawn Whetzel, Courtney Whiteman, Becky Whitlock, Barbara Willis.

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

**PARISH**  
**PICNIC**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025**  
**BROOKDALE FARM STADEL**

- 3:00 pm      Mass *(outside, weather permitting)*
- 4:00 pm      Dinner

Please sign up in the Vestibule or contact the Parish Office if you and your family are able to attend. The main dish and dessert will be provided. Each family is asked to bring a side dish of their choice to share, along with their own beverages.



*Please invite a friend to our parish picnic! We are all called to be evangelists. Out of love, we should be willing to reach out to those who have never known Christ or known him only superficially, as well as to those Catholics who have stopped practicing their faith. Love means truly caring about the welfare of others; caring for their eternal welfare is the highest form of spiritual love.*

# Welcome!



*Our parish welcomed these four beautiful children through the Sacrament of Baptism last Saturday! Shown here with Fr. Thomas are Martin Antonio Torres (with his godparents Alexis Torres and Fernando Torres) and Cael Feaster, Adilyne Sions and Hayes Sions (with their godparents Rebekah Rhodes and Bryan Fisher). We offer our prayers to these little ones and their families and look forward to helping them grow in their faith!*

### Mass Schedule and Intentions

Date	Time	Intention	Offered by
Saturday, September 13	4:00 pm	The Alt, Cobb & Kuh families .....	Dean & Kathy Alt
		Intentions of Alfred "Puff" DeMasi .....	Ann Marie DeMasi
		Intentions of Harley & Danny Staggers .....	Sam & Sara Fazzalore
Sunday, September 14	8:30 am	People of Our Parish .....	Assumption Parish
Monday, September 15	No Mass		
Tuesday, September 16	No Mass		
Wednesday, September 17	5:00 pm	Soul of Bob Melody.....	Kelley & Jeff Kuhn
Thursday, September 18	12:00 pm	Souls of Bill & Helen Semenuk .....	Cathy Pardee
		The Wise & Calemine Families.....	Jean Harber
Friday, September 19	9:00 am	Souls of Frank & Mary Calemine .....	Carole Rhodes
		Intentions of Linda Marsh.....	Margaret McGee
Saturday, September 20	4:00 pm	Soul of Joseph P. McCoy .....	Frances Rosedale
		Soul of Fred Selders .....	Cindy & Jim Alt
		Intentions of Sue & Jean Harber.....	Jeff & Kelley Kuhn
Sunday, September 21	8:30 am	Soul of Todd Myers .....	Mike & Robin McDowell

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





### Welcome Back Carnival

Sunday, September 14, 2025  
9:30-10:30 a.m.  
St. Mary's Hall

### First Sunday of Classes and Parent Meeting

Sunday, September 28, 2025  
9:30-10:30 a.m.  
St. Mary's Hall

## Your Faithful Stewardship

September 6-7, 2025

### Offertory

Offertory Envelopes.....	\$3,690
Loose Donations.....	\$865
Repairs & Maintenance.....	\$578
Votive Candles.....	\$158
Poor Box.....	\$204
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$5,495</b>

### Diocesan Collection

Gaza Relief.....	\$897
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### Attendance

Saturday, 9/6.....	109
Sunday, 9/7.....	85
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>194</b>

### August Balance Sheet

Income.....	\$17,435
Expenses.....	\$11,228
<b>Balance.....</b>	<b>\$6,207</b>



### Food Pantry Donations Requested

The Faith in Action Food Pantry will be preparing 300 Thanksgiving food boxes for local families in need. Our church has been asked to donate canned sweet potatoes. Please help us help our neighbors!

Donations can be left in the Vestibule or at the Parish Office. Thank you!

### Liturgical Minister Schedule

#### Saturday, September 20

Lector: Sue Harber  
Servers: Rosie Landis, John & Morgan Gustafson  
EMs: Cathy Pardee, John Gustafson (c), Jean Harber (c)  
Cantor: Mike Dupuis  
Greeters: Bob & Karen Yowler

#### Sunday, September 21

Lector: Mike Landis  
Servers: Tina & Derek Stephen  
EMs: Tina Stephen, Charlotte Delilo (c), Mike Landis (c)  
Cantor: Julie Alt  
Greeters: Denny Dolechek & Marvin Whetzel

#### Saturday, September 27

Lector: Logan Stanislawczyk  
Servers: Eric Hatfield & Eric Hatfield II  
EMs: Sue Harber, Eric Hatfield (c), Janet Corley (c)  
Cantor: Linda Marsh  
Greeters: Bill Lupis & Mary Wagoner

#### Sunday, September 28 (Youth Mass)

Lector: CCD students  
Servers: Celia & Evelyn Cole, Harper Newlin  
EMs: Jane Placka, Beverley Iser (c), Kelley Kuhn (c)  
Cantor: Mike Dupuis  
Greeters: CCD students

#### Keyser Healthcare Center EM

September 18 Joanne Stickley  
September 25 Pam Williams

### Support Group Suspended

Without any attendance, the group is temporarily suspended. There is an active group at Our Lady of Grace in Romney that Assumption parishioners are welcome to attend. Or Deacon Larry is available to meet individually with anyone here in Keyser. Feel free to contact him.

*We Adore You,  
O Christ, and  
We Bless You.  
Because by Your  
Holy Cross, You  
Have Redeemed  
the World.*

