



# Assumption Catholic Church

34 James Street, Keyser, WV 26726

acckwv@gmail.com

assumptionkeyserwv.org

304.788.2488

***Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph***

***December 28, 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, 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 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

By celebrating the Sunday following Christmas as the Feast of the Holy Family, the Church invites us to reflect deeply on the life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, offering their example as a guide for living in love, faith, and devotion within our own families. The Holy Family was a model of unity and mutual support: Mary and Joseph shared responsibilities, worked diligently, and cared attentively for their Child, nurturing Him in both human knowledge and divine wisdom. Their home was a place where God's presence was lived out in daily actions, showing us that holiness is not distant or abstract but is realized in ordinary life through love, patience, and faithful service.

This feast reminds us that the family is the fundamental unit of the Church and society, called to reflect God's love in the world. Christ, through the Sacraments of marriage and priesthood, sanctifies human life and relationships. The Sacrament of marriage, in particular, calls spouses to a lifelong commitment of love, trust, and mutual support, while fostering an environment where children can grow in virtue and grace. Families are made holy not by perfection but by the presence of Christ among them, experienced in prayer, Scripture reading, and participation in the Holy Mass. True holiness in a family emerges when members embrace the Christian spirit of sacrifice, understanding, and respect. Mutual support, thoughtful care, and attentive listening nurture bonds of love that endure over time. Children are called to honor and care for their parents and grandparents, just as spouses are called to uphold each other in every season of life. In today's world, where distractions and challenges often strain relationships, the example of the Holy Family teaches us the enduring value of patience, fidelity, and compassionate presence. May all families experience the peace, joy, and grace that come from welcoming Christ into the heart of their home. I wish you all a happy and a peaceful family life.

**Readings for Next Sunday,  
January 4, 2026**  
Isaiah 60:1-6  
Ephesians 3:2-6  
Matthew 2:1-12

## Saint of the Week... St. Basil the Great

Saint Basil the Great was on his way to becoming a famous teacher when he decided to begin a religious life of gospel poverty. After studying various modes of religious life, he founded what was probably the first monastery in Asia Minor.

He was ordained a priest, assisted the archbishop of Caesarea, now southeastern Turkey, and ultimately became archbishop himself, in spite of opposition from some of the bishops under him, probably because they foresaw coming reforms.

Saint Basil the Great was tireless in pastoral care. He preached twice a day to huge crowds, built a hospital that was called a wonder of the world. As a youth he organized famine relief and worked in a soup kitchen. But Basil was best known as an orator. Though not recognized greatly in his lifetime, his writings rightly place him among the great teachers of the Church. Seventy-two years after his death, the Council of Chalcedon described him as "the great Basil, minister of grace who has expounded the truth to the whole earth."

St. Basil the Great is the patron saint of Russia.

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



Feast Day January 2



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-Schwille, 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)



*Holy Day of Obligation*  
**Solemnity of Mary,  
the Mother of God**

Masses on  
Wednesday, Dec. 31 - 5 pm  
and  
Thursday, Jan. 1 - 8:30 a.m.

*Mass at Our Lady of Grace in  
Romney is Thursday at 11 a.m.*



Today's Feast Day and Gospel reading are both represented by two of our stained glass windows!

The window in the top photo shows the Holy Family — today's Feast Day—in Joseph's carpentry shop. This window can be found on the Tabernacle side of the nave and was donated by Joseph & Elizabeth Dickel and family.



The window shown in the bottom photo depicts today's Gospel reading, "The Flight into Egypt." This window can be found on the Baptismal font side of the nave and was donated by The Most Rev. Vincent S. Waters, past Bishop of the Diocese of Richmond, in honor of his mother.



**Celebrating Fr. Thomas!**

Our parish family will gather to celebrate Fr. Thomas on the anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood, his birthday, and his upcoming vacation to India!

The celebration, hosted by the Ladies Guild, will be held on Saturday, January 10 beginning at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person and will include dinner, dessert and beverages. CCD students are free.

Please let us know if you are able to attend by signing up in the Vestibule or by contacting the Parish Office no later than Monday, January 5. Payment by cash or check (payable to Assumption Parish) can be made at the Parish Office or dropped in the offertory basket.

**Mass Schedule and Intentions**

Date	Time	Intention	Offered by
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
Monday, December 29	No Mass		
Tuesday, December 30	No Mass		
<i>Holy Day of Obligation (1/1)</i>			
Wednesday, December 31	5:00 pm	Soul of Joan Roach.....	Linda Marsh
		Intentions of Linda Marsh.....	Margaret McGee
Thursday, January 1	8:30 am	People of Assumption Parish .....	Assumption Parish
Friday, January 2	9:00 am	Soul of Carol & Dale Martin .....	Mike & Rosie Landis
		Soul of Betty McAvoy .....	Art DeMasi
Saturday, January 3	10:00 am	Mass at Keyser Healthcare Center	
	4:00 pm	Soul of Steve Mehalik.....	Mike & Robin McDowell
		Intentions of Marion Dorsey .....	Margaret McGee
Sunday, January 4	8:30 am	Soul of Todd Myers .....	Mike & Joanne Stickley
		Intentions of Melissa Stanislawczyk.....	Buddy



## First Friday Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held the first Friday of each month, including this Friday, January 2. Join us for Mass at 9 a.m. followed by Adoration from 9:30-10:30.

## Your Faithful Stewardship

December 20-21, 2025

### Offertory

Offertory Envelopes.....	\$4,192
Loose Donations.....	\$3,490
Christmas Flowers .....	\$210
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$7,892</b>

### Attendance

Saturday, 12/20.....	74
Sunday, 12/21.....	111
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>185</b>



## The Twelve Days of Christmas

The true meaning of the Twelve Days of Christmas which are the days between the birth of Christ and the arrival of the three wise men:

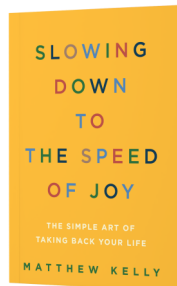
- The partridge represents Jesus; the tree symbolizes the Cross.
- The 2 turtle doves represent the Old and New Testament.
- The 3 French hens signify the three theological virtues of faith, hope, and love (or charity).
- The 4 calling birds symbolize the four Gospels.
- The 5 golden rings represent the first five books of the Old Testament.
- The 6 geese a-laying symbolize the six days of creation, emphasizing God's power as the creator of the world.
- The 7 swans a-swimming represent the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- The 8 maids a-milking symbolize the Beatitudes.
- The 9 ladies dancing represent the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit.
- The 10 lords a-leaping signify the Ten Commandments.
- The 11 pipers piping represent Jesus' faithful disciples.
- The 12 drummers drumming represent the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles' Creed.

Source: [www.dynamiccatholic.com](http://www.dynamiccatholic.com)



*As a new year begins, we pray for peace,  
health and happiness for all people.  
May the light of Christ's love  
guide us all throughout 2026!*

## Slowing Down to the Speed of Joy



If you missed this book on Christmas or would like an extra to share with a friend, please pick one up as you leave the church. This is the latest book from Matthew Kelly and Dynamic Catholic.

Our thanks to the generous parishioners who donated these books for all of us!

*Joy erupts within us when we allow an experience to touch the very depths of our souls. That cannot be rushed. It's time to slow down to the speed of joy.*

## Liturgical Minister Schedule

### Saturday, January 3

Lector: Tess Maybury  
Servers: Mike & Rosie Landis  
EMs: Mike Landis, Bill Lupis (c), Alan Taylor (c)  
Cantor: Julie Alt  
Greeters: Dena Turner & Mary Shannon

### Sunday, January 4

Lector: Derek Stephen  
Servers: Jeff & Remy Kuhn  
EMs: Dave Minnich, Tina Stephen (c), Beverley Iser (c)  
Cantor: Mike Dupuis  
Greeters: Michael & Sonja Stanislawczyk

### Saturday, January 10

Lector: Karen Yowler  
Servers: TBD  
EMs: Cathy Pardee, Sue Harber (c), Janet Corley (c)  
Cantor: Mike Dupuis  
Greeters: Jean Harber & Diana Myers

### Sunday, January 11

Lector: Celia Cole  
Servers: TBD  
EMs: Kelley Kuhn, Jane Placka (c), Rosie Landis (c)  
Cantor: Linda Marsh  
Greeters: John & Debbie Krumpach

### Keyser Healthcare Center EM

December 31 Pam Williams  
January 3 Jean Harber