



Assumption Catholic Church

34 James Street, Keyser, WV 26726

acckwv@gmail.com

assumptionkeyserwv.org

304.788.2488

Third Sunday of Lent

March 8, 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, 6:00 p.m.

Confessions

Saturdays, 3:00-3:45 p.m.

Weekdays, 30 mins. prior to Mass

Fr. Thomas A. Sebastian CST, Pastor

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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: Third Sunday of Lent

What is the point of Jesus' exchange with the Samaritan woman about water (John 4:5-42)? Water in the arid land was scarce. Jacob's well was located in a strategic fork of the road between Samaria and Galilee. One can live without food for several days, but not without water. Water is a source of life and growth for all living things. When rain came to the desert, the water transformed the wasteland into a fertile field. The kind of water which Jesus spoke about was living, running, fresh, pure water. Fresh water from a cool running stream was always preferred to the still water one might find in a pool or reservoir. When the Israelites complained about lack of water in the wilderness, God instructed Moses to strike the rock and a stream of fresh living water gushed out (Exodus 17:6).

The image of "living water" is used throughout the scriptures as a symbol of God's wisdom, a wisdom that imparts life and blessing to all who receive it. "The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life" (Proverbs 13:14). "Living water" was also a symbol for the Jews of thirst of the soul for God. The water which Jesus spoke of symbolized the Holy Spirit and his work of recreating us in God's image and sustaining in us the new life which comes from God. The life which the Holy Spirit produces in us makes us a "new creation" in Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). Do we thirst for God and for the life of the Holy Spirit within us? Let us pray: Lord Jesus, my soul thirsts for you. Fill me with your Holy Spirit that I may always find joy in your presence and take delight in doing your will.

Readings for Next Sunday,
Fourth Sunday of Lent,
Second Scrutiny
1 Samuel 16:1b-13a
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

Saint of the Week... St. Perpetua

"When my father in his affection for me was trying to turn me from my purpose and thus weaken my faith, I said to him, 'Do you see this vessel—water pot or whatever it may be? Can it be called by any other name than what it is?' 'No,' he replied. 'So also I cannot call myself by any other name than what I am—a Christian.'"

So writes Perpetua: a young, beautiful, well-educated noblewoman of Carthage in North Africa, mother of an infant son. Perpetua's mother was a Christian and her father a pagan. He continually pleaded with her to deny her faith. She refused and was imprisoned at age 22. In her diary, Perpetua describes her period of captivity: "What a day of horror! Terrible heat, owing to the crowds! Rough treatment by the soldiers! To crown all, I was tormented with anxiety for my baby. Such anxieties I suffered for many days, but I obtained leave for my baby to remain in the prison with me, and being relieved of my trouble and anxiety for him, I at once recovered my health, and my prison became a palace to me and I would rather have been there than anywhere else."

Despite threats of persecution and death, Perpetua refused to renounce her Christian faith. For her unwillingness, she was sent with several companions to the public games in the amphitheater. There Perpetua was beheaded.

St. Perpetua is the patron saint of widows and mothers of diseased sons.

Source: franciscanmedia.org



Feast Day: March 7



Gerri Bennett, 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 and family, Cam Duncan, Dave & Jean Dunn, Lucas Dupuis, Scott Furey, Wanda Gahr, Marilyn George, Kathy Golaski, Barbara Gratto, Sue Greco, Steve Grubbs, Donna Hanlin, Shawn Harbaugh, Bob Harman, Shawn Hartman, Marion Hollingsworth, Kathy Jenkins, 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, Blain McLaughlin, Cindy Mills, Steve Miner, Wanda & Randy Nairn, Arjun Padha, Debbie Pappas, Cathy Pardee, Diane Parrish, Crystal Pollet, Susie Radcliffe, Katherine Revell, Carole Rhodes, Carla Riggelman, George Rosedale, Charlotte Sanders, Helen Shallis, Sparrow Shannon, Toni Shillingburg, Esther Shockey, Crystal Snitz, Fran Sommers, Barbara Stanislawczyk, Melissa Stanislawczyk, John Stephen Jr., Patsy Summers, Stefanie Swanger, Maleigha Taylor, Nathaniel Taylor, Barbara Tenney, Nick Trager, Shawn Whetzel, Courtney Whiteman, Becky Whitlock*, Barbara Willis.

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



This Week's Birthdays

March 9	Debbie Krumpach
March 13	Dax Ross Jeff Stanislawczyk

If we have an incorrect date or if we miss your birthday, please let us know so we can update our records! If you would prefer that your birthday not be listed, please contact the Parish Office.

The Scrutinies

Today we begin the first of the Scrutinies. These are three special rites of self-examination and repentance celebrated on the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent, specifically for the "Elect" (those preparing for Baptism at Easter). The Scrutinies are celebrated to deliver the Elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ.

The Gospel readings for these three Sundays are from the Gospel of John and are thematically linked to the rites, emphasizing repentance and conversion:

- The First Scrutiny (the Samaritan woman at the well, John 4:5-42) tells us that Christ is the Living Water
- The Second Scrutiny (healing of the blind man, John 9:1-41) tells us that Christ is the Light of the World
- The Third Scrutiny (raising of Lazarus from the dead, John 11:1-45) tells us that Christ is the Resurrection and the Life.

At the Sunday Masses on each of the three weekends, our Catechumen Jennifer will be presented to the congregation following the Homily, and we will pray for her with special intercessions.



Shown here with Bishop Brennan are our parishioners who participated in the Rite of Election held last weekend at St. Leo Parish in Inwood. (l to r) Jen Mitchell with her husband Matthew and son Otto; Kathie Shank and her sponsor Janet Veazey; and Robin McDowell (back) Parish Council member and volunteer with our OCIA program. The Rite of Election signifies the Church's acceptance of the individuals' desire to join, moving them from the catechumenate to the final period of purification and enlightenment.

Please continue to pray for all those who are preparing to enter the Church, especially those at our parish:

Catechumen

Jennifer Mitchell

Candidates

Alea Horner

Daniel Jones

Kathie Shank

Catechumens are those who have not yet been baptized preparing to receive the Sacraments of initiation

Candidates are those who have previously been baptized seeking full communion in the Catholic Church

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Date	Time	Intention	Offered by
Saturday, March 7	4:00 pm	Soul of Gwendolyn DeMasi	Her Loving Family
		Soul of Sam Fazzalore.....	Mary Wagoner
Sunday, March 8	8:30 am	Souls of Ralph & Catherine Rice.....	The Rice Family
		Souls of George & Jennie Ebner.....	Assumption Parish
		Intentions of Francy Lyons	Sue & Jean Harber
Monday, March 9	No Mass		
Tuesday, March 10	No Mass		
Wednesday, March 11	5:00 pm	Soul of Parker Colborn	Tammy & Larry Dale
		The Dupuis Family	Jeff & Kelley Kuhn
Thursday, March 12	12:00 pm	Soul of James DeMasi.....	The DeMasi Family
		Intentions of Toni Shillingburg.....	Sue & Jean Harber
Friday, March 13	6:00 pm	Souls of Toby & Anne Stickley	Dean & Kathy Alt
Saturday, March 14	4:00 pm	Intentions Melissa Stanislawczyk.....	Sue & Jean Harber
		Intentions of Sue & Jean Harber	Jeff & Kelley Kuhn
Sunday, March 15	8:30 am	Soul of Mary Ella Minnich.....	The Minnich Family
		Intentions of Beverley Iser.....	Sue & Jean Harber



The Ladies Guild will meet on Thursday, March 12 at 1 p.m. at St. Mary's Hall. If you're a lady...you're a member! Please join us if you can!

Baked Potato Sale

A reminder that the Ladies Guild is sponsoring a baked potato sale this weekend. Loaded baked potatoes with toppings of your choice will be available for eat in or carry out after Mass on Saturday, and for carry out on Sunday. Cost is \$5 each.

Your Faithful Stewardship
February 28-March 1, 2026

Offertory

Offertory Envelopes.....	\$3,494
Loose Donations.....	\$611
Easter Flowers.....	\$120
Votive Candles.....	\$112
Poor Box.....	\$153
Total.....	\$4,590

Attendance

Saturday, 2/28.....	72
Sunday, 3/1.....	111
Total.....	183

February Balance Sheet

Income.....	\$24,469
Expenses.....	\$17,440
Balance.....	\$7,029

Note: Income includes final 2025 Catholic Sharing Appeal distribution

Diocesan Collection

A second collection is being take this weekend to support the Priests' Health and Retirement Association (PHRA). This is a fund that provides health insurance and retirement benefits to retired priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Please take a moment to reflect on the many years of service by our priests and how we can take this opportunity to thank them in a very particular way. A separate basket is available for this important appeal.

CCD Dates to Remember!

March 15	Confirmation Candidate Retreat
April 5	Easter / No Class
April 19	Confirmation
May 3	First Holy Communion
May 10	Last Class / Registration for Next Year
May 17	Senior Graduation

Food and Toiletry Drives Underway

As part of their community service requirement, our Confirmation candidates are sponsoring a food drive to benefit the Faith in Action food pantry, along with a toiletry drive to benefit the Family Crisis Center. Donations can be left in the Vestibule or at the Parish Office now through March 27. Thank you for supporting our young people and their project!



Liturgical Minister Schedule

- Saturday, March 14**
- Lector: Alan Taylor
 - Servers: Paul Bogdan & Alan Taylor
 - EMs: Sue Harber Cathy Pardee (c), Jean Harber (c)
 - Cantor: Julie Alt
 - Greeters: Jean Harber & Diana Myers
- Sunday, March 15 (Youth Mass)**
- Lector: CCD Students
 - Servers: Liam Dupuis & Jude Barrick
 - EMs: Mike Landis Rosie Landis (c), Kelley Kuhn (c)
 - Cantor: Mike Dupuis
 - Greeters: CCD Students
- Saturday, March 21**
- Lector: Cathy Pardee
 - Servers: Sue Harber & Rosie Landis
 - EMs: John Gustafson, Karen Yowler (c), Jean Harber (c)
 - Cantor: Mike Dupuis
 - Greeters: tbd
- Sunday, March 22**
- Lector: Mike Landis
 - Servers: Beverley Iser, Mike Landis & Nick McKenzie
 - EMs: Charlotte Delilo, Jane Placka (c), Nancy Starcher (c)
 - Cantor: Linda Marsh
 - Greeters: Denny Dolechek & Marvin Whetzel
- Keyser Healthcare Center EM**
- March 12 Joanne Stickley
 - March 19 Meredythe Barrick

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.
