

Welcome

to the Parishes of St. John XXIII and St. Richard

Reverend Robert T. Finlan, Pastor
Deacon Edward J. Girard

March 15, 2026

The Fourth Sunday of Lent



Church of St. John XXIII

307 Pine Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252

Phone: 570-225-7410 ~ **Fax:** 570-668-4406

Email: secretary@sj23tamaqua.org

Website: www.sj23tamaqua.org

Facebook: Parish of St John XXIII Tamaqua

YouTube: St John XXIII Catholic Church Tamaqua

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday ~ 9:00AM-3:00PM

Parish Staff

Dale Bonenberger, Director of Music

Louise Howells, Cemetery Administrator

Lisa Frederick, Office Administrator

Patricia Radocha, Business Manager

Melissa Grimminger, Director of Religious Education



Church of St. Richard

799 Barnesville Drive, Barnesville, PA 18214

Phone: 570-467-2315 ~ **Fax:** 570-467-2462

Email: strichardadmin@ptd.net

Website: www.strichard.org

Facebook: Church of St Richard

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
9:00AM-2:00PM

Parish Staff

Deacon John A. Setlock, (Retired)

Teri Howerter, Office Administrator

Mary Soberick, Business Manager

Krissy Wonsock, Director of Religious Education

Catholic Schools

St. Jerome Regional School ~ 50 Meadow Avenue, Tamaqua PA ~ 570-668-2757 ~ Grades PreK-8

Marian Catholic High School ~ 166 Marian Avenue, Tamaqua PA ~ 570-467-3335 ~ Grades 9-12

St. Joseph's Center for Special Learning ~ 302 Randel Street, Schuylkill Haven PA ~ 570-622-4638 ~ Children & Adults

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are usually celebrated on a Sunday afternoon. Parents need to be registered parishioners and attend a Baptismal Preparation Class. At least one Godparent must be a practicing Catholic and obtain a Certificate of Eligibility from their parish.

Sponsor Eligibility

Certificates of Eligibility for Baptism and Confirmation require the sponsor to be a registered and active member of the parish, and if married, in a valid marriage recognized by the Catholic Church. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements should be made at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date to begin pre-nuptial instructions before making any arrangements. Please call the parish office for more information and to schedule an appointment with the Pastor.

Parish Prayer List

To be placed on the Parish Prayer List or to be removed when appropriate, please call either Parish Office and someone will be happy to assist you. Names placed on the Prayer List are automatically removed after three months.

Diocesan Secretary for Office of Safe Environment

Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS ~ P.O. Box F Allentown, PA 18105
610-871-5200 ext. 2204 ~ prusso@allentowndioocese.org

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak ~ 800-791-9209
victimsassistance@allentowndioocese.org

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.

<p>Saturday, March 14 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Vigil to the Fourth Sunday of Lent Mass Intention: Stephen W. Minko Mass Intention: Elizabeth Tarutis</p>
<p>Sunday, March 15 8:30AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>The Fourth Sunday of Lent Mass Intention: Dominic and Ida Totani Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parishes</p>
<p>Monday, March 16 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>)</p>	<p>Lenten Weekday Mass Intention: Russell Triano</p>
<p>Tuesday, March 17 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>) 8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration: SJ 9:00AM Stations/Benediction: SJ</p>	<p>Lenten Weekday Mass Intention: Andrew Gmitter</p>
<p>Wednesday, March 18 7:00AM Mass: SR 6:30PM Lenten Confessions: SR 7:00PM Exposition/Stations/Benediction</p>	<p>Lenten Weekday Mass Intention: Deceased Diocesan Priests</p>
<p>Thursday, March 19 7:00AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Intention: Sharon Kerrigan</p>
<p>Friday, March 20 <i>No Daily Mass at either church</i></p>	<p>Lenten Weekday</p>
<p>Saturday, March 21 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Vigil to the Fifth Sunday of Lent Mass Intention: August Savage Mass Intention: Alvin Fritz</p>
<p>Sunday, March 22 8:30AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>The Fifth Sunday of Lent Mass Intention: Karen and Ed Weicker in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary Mass Intention: Patricia Maurer</p>

TODAY'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: In today's first reading, at the Lord's command, Samuel travels to Bethlehem where he anoints David, son of Jesse, as God's chosen king. Paul exhorts the Ephesians to live as children of light and to reject the works of darkness. In the Gospel, Jesus heals a man born blind. After the man is questioned by the Pharisees and eventually thrown out of their presence, Jesus finds him and invites him to believe in him, revealing himself to be the Son of Man. The lengthy exchange in today's Gospel between the formerly blind man and the Pharisees serves as a reminder that we are all born blind and are given our sight at baptism, when we are first able to see through the eyes of faith. As our Lenten journey continues, let us pray that God will continue to open our eyes to his truth.

TODAY'S RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MAR 22: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:10-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

<p>St. John XXIII</p> <p>The Order of Mass can be found starting on page 140 in the Journeysongs Hymnal.</p> <p>The Latin Chant Mass can be found on the following pages: Kyrie – 168 / Sanctus – 170 / Memorial Acclamation – 171 / Amen – 172 / Agnus Dei – 174</p> <p>There are no preludes for the duration of Lent. The postlude is Andantino in G Minor by Adolf F. Hesse (1809-1863)</p> <p>There are no altar flowers for the duration of Lent.</p>

PRAYER LIST FOR BOTH PARISHES

Please remember in your prayers...

Jerry Christensen, Alonzo Borja, Marlene Fatula, Roy Paisley, Marie Kalpinsky, Ellie Setlock, Chase Schaller, Kathy Sanchez, Quinn Derlunas, Sue Mannello, Dr. Walter Setlock, Barbara Houser, Mischa Rush, Linda Wertman, Shelley Lazarchick / Magnolia Pavlovich, Barbara Karnish, Joan Manos, Fred Holman, Kevin Druckenmiller, Marc Lesniak, Michael Dannenfelser, Bernard Bruni, Amy Guresik / David Rickert, Mildred Cara, Sandy Mehalko, Anna Marie Grossman, Tom Fredericks, Andrew Eremus, Rita Klekamp, Anthony Vevasis

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them...

Margaret M. Soult

Paul M. Scheitrum

Andrew Marx

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

**St. John XXIII
Sanctuary Lamp**

In Memory of Michael and Donna Soley

Crucifix Candle

In Memory of August Savage

**St. Richard
Sanctuary Lamp**

Health for Larry

Blessed Virgin Mary

Special Intention

St. Richard

For the people of St. Richard

YOUTH FORMATION

Children's bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule

St. John XXIII

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026

*All students will meet in the upstairs classrooms
after the 8:30AM Mass until 11:00AM*

Sunday, March 15 – Sacramental Prep Grades 1, 2, 7, & 8

Sunday, March 22 – All Grades 1-8

Lenten Adoration & Confession
6:00PM-8:00PM St. John XXIII

Sunday, March 29 – No Youth Formation (*Palm Sunday*)

*A donation was made in memory of Isabelle Yacobenas to
help defray the cost of the new Altar Server Robes. The
Knights of Columbus also hosted a pancake breakfast last
year to raise money for the new robes. Thank you both!*

St. Richard

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026

CCD/PREP CLASSES - UPCOMING EVENTS

Grades 1-4; Sunday, March 22nd at 9:30AM

Grades 5-8; Sunday, March 29th at 9:00AM

*All classes are held in the Parish Hall unless noted.

Confirmation- Monday, April 13th, 4:30PM
at All Saints in McAdoo

Make-up Class (Grades 1- 7) Sunday, April 19th
from 5:00PM-7:30PM

Any questions, contact Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433

CUB SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS

Meetings held every Sunday from 4:00PM until 6:00PM
in the St. Richard Parish Hall

ADULT FORMATION

Lenten Adult Small Group: Join us for a Lenten discussion group: *The Way of Beatitude: Living Radical Hope in a World of Division and Despair*. The group will meet on Monday mornings through March 30 from 10:00AM until 11:30AM in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall. We will be using *The Way of Beatitude* book, written by Father Casey Cole, OFM to explore different perspectives on using the Beatitudes in our world today, how we can be agents of peace in our polarized world, and how to try to prevent discouragement and despair. To sign up, contact Cheryl at 484-866-3835.

Bible Study: Wednesday evenings from 4:00PM – 6:00PM in the St. Richard Cry Room. This is an open invitation to all from both St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parishes.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults), formerly called "Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)," is the process through which one becomes a full member of the Roman Catholic Church. Full membership in the Catholic Church involves a whole formation process, which includes the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and the Most Holy Eucharist. For those who are already baptized and want to be received into the Catholic Church, please contact either Parish Office.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today's second collection is for Easter Flowers.

Upcoming collections are...

3/22 ~ Parish Utilities

3/29 ~ Stained Glass Window Renovation:SR / Parish Cemeteries: SJ

ST. JOHN XXIII AND ST. RICHARD NEWS AND UPDATES

This Week	
Sunday	7:00PM Men's Group in St. Richard Meeting Room
Monday	10:00AM Lenten Adult Small Group in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall
Thursday	10:00AM St. Vincent de Paul Society meeting & St. Patrick Day Celebration in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall 6:00PM St. John XXIII Choir Rehearsal in the balcony
Friday	3:00PM-5:00PM St. Richard Lenten Seafood Dinner in the Parish Hall (see details/prep schedule below)
Saturday	9:00AM-11:00AM St. Vincent de Paul Baby Food Distribution – St. John XXIII Parish Hall – 570-225-8620
Upcoming Events	
March 22	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass 6:00PM-8:00PM Lenten Adoration and Confession at St. John XXIII Church
March 25	12:00PM-1:30PM Catholic Charities Cafe Food Truck in the St. John XXIII parking lot
March 28	Knights of Columbus Soup Sale at St. John XXIII – all details are on the flyer

STATIONS OF THE CROSS REMINDER

Stations of the Cross followed by Benediction are every week during Lent: Tuesdays at 9:00AM at St. John XXIII Church and Wednesdays at 7:00PM at St. Richard Church.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SOUP SALE

The Knights of Columbus of St. John XXIII Church are having a soup sale on Saturday, March 28th. The soups are: Italian Wedding, Chicken Noodle, Chili, and Potato. Pick up will be in the St. John XXII Parish Hall from 11:00AM until 3:00PM and then again after Mass from 4:30PM to 5:30PM or until sell out. Pre-orders are recommended. You can sign up on the order form on the table in the Family Room or call 570-640-3628. The cost is \$8 for a 16-ounce container.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FR. FINLAN

This year's "Hearts of Hope" annual Gala will honor the incredible contributions of Fr. Robert Finlan as well as Dr. Stephen and Mrs. Sabina Olenchock. This event is sponsored by Catholic Charities and will take place at 3:00PM on April 19th at the Hyatt Hotel in Allentown.

CONFESSIONAL REMODEL UPDATE

Our old confessional at St. John XXIII has been demolished, and a new one is being built in its place, however there is a delay. The roof directly above the confessional has developed a leak, and the roof in this section is at the end of its estimated life. We plan to put a new roof on this section of the building and until that happens, construction is halted for fear of more water infiltration. During this time, we will hold confessions in the actual confessional space, but please be aware that it's stripped down to the studs and concrete.

TWO UPCOMING EVENTS

There will be an organ concert on Friday, April 24th at 7:00PM. The concert flyer has all the information. Tickets for the concert are \$15 and are on sale in the Family Room. And on Sunday, May 3rd we will host a BINGO at the West Penn Township Fire Company. Tickets are \$25 and are on sale in the Family Room before and after weekend Masses.

ST. JOHN XXIII CAFÉ AFTER MASS IN THE HALL

Please join us in the Parish Hall immediately after Mass for coffee, cookies, and fellowship.

COMMUNION

Communion will be brought to the front pews of St. Richard and the handicap pews in the back of St. John XXIII Church as well as the choir balcony.

INCLEMENT WEATHER REMINDER

Both St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parishes follow the Mahanoy Area School District for weekday Masses. If the district has a cancellation or delay because of weather, there will be NO weekday Mass. For Tuesday morning Holy Hour and Stations, we will follow the Tamaqua Area School District.

2nd LENTEN SEAFOOD DINNER AT ST. RICHARD

Friday, March 20th from 3:00PM-5:00PM in the Parish Hall. Please return your tickets, chances and Paska order by Monday, March 16th in any collection or in the "Fundraising" box" on the rectory porch. Call Joann at 570-640-1034 for questions.

Dinner Prep Schedule

All prep days begin at 8:30AM in the Parish Hall
 Tuesday, March 17th – making crab cakes
 Wednesday, March 18th – baking rolls
 Thursday, March 19th – icing cakes, packaging rolls/cakes

VOTIVE CANDLE REMINDER

Starting Sunday March 29th through Saturday April 4th at St. Richard there will be no Votive or Devotional candles lit for the beginning and duration of Holy Week. The only candle to remain lit is the Sanctuary Lamp. Candles will resume being lit starting Saturday, April 4th for the Easter Vigil Mass.

ANNUAL CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT

Held Sunday March 29th, (rain or shine), starting at 12:00PM. This is for ages 2 (walking) to 12. It is imperative to sign up so that we can prepare for the children accordingly. Prizes and a visit from our special guest will be inside the Parish Hall. This is open to all children of St. Richard's and Saint John XXIII Parishes. Prizes and donations for our annual Easter Egg Hunt would be greatly appreciated. To sign up and if you are able to donate, please contact Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433.

ST. RICHARD BASKET RAFFLE 2026

Our Spring Basket Raffle is quickly approaching! The event will begin on Friday May 15th and Saturday May 16th (Shop and Drop) and Sunday May 17th for last call Shop and Drop with the drawings beginning at 1:00PM. Please consider donating a basket for this fundraiser. More details to follow.

BOY SCOUTS PACK #725 AT ST. RICHARD

The scouts are selling meat sticks. They come in various flavors, are \$2 each and are in the Vestibule. Please grab 1 or 2 and support our Scouts.

REMINDER

Bulletin announcements, including flyers, must be emailed or called no later than Tuesday at noon to the Parish Office.

2026 MASS INTENTIONS AT ST. JOHN XXIII

There is a limit of two Masses (one weekday, one weekend), one Sanctuary Lamp, and one Crucifix Candle. All requests must include the 2026 updated form along with a \$10 stipend per request. Forms are in the Parish Office and the Parish Hall. Requests must be made in person. Questions may be directed to Lisa in the Parish Office.

OFFERTORY PROCESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

We need three people to present the offertory gifts at each weekend Mass; children are welcome to participate. The individual or family (the Mass donor) who requested the Mass intention obviously takes precedence, but often they are not available for the offertory procession. This is when we offer the honor of taking up the gifts to any parishioner present at Mass. If there is a date that you know you want to take up the gifts during the offertory procession, please call Joan Marie Roth at 570-599-9809 and leave your name, phone number, and the date of the Mass you request.

BOYER’S KEY TAG PROGRAM REMINDER

Thank you to everyone who is continuing to participate in this ongoing fundraiser. Just have the cashier scan the key tag at checkout. Key fobs are located at both entrances of St. Richard Church and on the table in the Family Room and in the Parish Hall of St. John XXIII Church.

2026 MASS INTENTION BOOK AT ST. RICHARD

All requests must include the 2026 Mass Intention Form and the \$10 per Mass/Candle stipend fee. Since there is a limit of three Masses, please consider having a weekday Mass, or through the many Devotional Candles (including the Sanctuary Lamp) or the Eternal Remembrance Society.

FROM THE DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN

Many thanks to those who have already made a commitment to the *Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal*. The participation of all our parish families makes it possible to serve those in need. Remember that every gift counts. Please make your gift at www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org.

MORE ATTEMPTS AT FRAUD

Over the past few weeks, someone has been impersonating Fr. Finlan and sending text messages and emails to parishioners from fake accounts pretending to be Fr. Finlan. None of these messages are legitimate. Fr. Finlan will never text or email requests for help or money or gift cards. If you do receive one of these fraudulent messages, just delete it and do not reply, but please let your respective Parish Office know.

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