

Welcome

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

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

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



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 28 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Vigil to Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Mass Intention: Barbara Verano Cattarin Mass Intention: Kevin and Linda</p>
<p>Sunday, March 29 8:30AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Mass Intention: The Kane and Vaccaro Families Mass Intention: Mildred Ceci</p>
<p>Monday, March 30 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>)</p>	<p>Monday of Holy Week Mass Intention: John Malarkey</p>
<p>Tuesday, March 31 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>) 8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration: SJ 9:00AM Stations / Benediction: SJ</p>	<p>Tuesday of Holy Week Mass Intention: Mary Rose Schock</p>
<p>Wednesday, April 1 7:00AM Mass: SR 6:30PM Lenten Confessions: SR 7:00PM Exposition / Stations / Benediction: SR</p>	<p>Wednesday of Holy week Mass Intention: Eternal Remembrance Society</p>
<p>Thursday, April 2 <i>(No morning Mass at St. Richard)</i> 7:00PM Mass / Procession to Altar of Repose: SJ 8:00PM-10:00PM Adoration in Parish Hall: SJ 10:00PM Night Prayer at Altar of Repose: SJ</p>	<p>Holy Thursday of the Lord's Supper Mass Intention: Deceased Diocesan Priests</p>
<p>Friday, April 3 3:00PM Celebration of the Passion of the Lord: SJ 7:00PM Stations and Veneration of the Cross: SR</p>	<p>Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)</p>
<p>Saturday, April 4 <i>(No 3:30PM or 5:30PM Masses)</i> 8:00PM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Easter Vigil in the Holy Night Mass Intention: Easter Memorials</p>
<p>Sunday, April 5 7:00AM Mass: SR 8:45AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SJ</p>	<p>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Mass Intention: Easter Memorials Mass Intention: Easter Memorials Mass Intention: Easter Memorials</p>

TODAY'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: In the Gospel for the procession that is read from the back of the church at the start of Mass, Jesus enters Jerusalem amid an enthusiastic crowd where he is welcomed as king with shouts of joy. In the first reading, Isaiah prophesies of one who does not shield his face from buffets or spitting, knowing he will not be put to shame. Paul writes that Christ humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death on a cross. In the Gospel, Jesus celebrates Passover with his friends, speaks of his imminent betrayal, and after hours of interrogation and torture, is handed over to be crucified. Matthew's Gospel emphasizes the need for disciples of Christ to follow in his footsteps, as Jesus tells the Apostles that he is among them as the one who serves. Like the servant of the Lord who is spoken of in the reading from the prophet Isaiah, Christ does not refuse his calling. He willingly submits to suffering for our sake.

TODAY'S RESPONSORIAL PSALM: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, APR 5: Acts 10: 34a, 37-43; Ps 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3: 1-4; Jn 20: 1-9

<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>The choral prelude is Hosanna to the Son of David by Sr. M. Cherubim Schaefer, OSF (1886-1977) The choral postlude is Adoramus Te Christe from The Seven Last Words of Christ by Théodore Dubois (1837-1924)</p> <p>The potted palms at the altar are in thanksgiving for all the blessings that God has bestowed upon our parish.</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, Barbara Houser, Mischa Rush, Linda Wertman, Shelley Lazarchick / Magnolia Pavlovich, Barbara Karnish, Joan Manos, Kevin Druckenmiller, Marc Lesniak, Michael Dannenfeler, Bernard Bruni, Amy Guresik / David Rickert, Mildred Cara, Sandy Mehalko, Anna Marie Grossman, Tom Fredericks, Andrew Eremus, Rita Klekamp, Anthony Vevasis, Joan Strause, Regina Pavlovich, John Gallagher

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

Thomas Eroh Sr.

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

<p>St. John XXIII Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of Bernie Heller</p> <p>Crucifix Candle In Memory of the Kane and Vaccaro Families</p>	<p>St. Richard</p> <p>No Votive /Devotional Candles lit for duration of Holy Week. Candles resume Saturday, April 4th (Easter Vigil)</p>
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YOUTH FORMATION

Children's bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule

<p>St. John XXIII RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026</p> <p><i>All students will meet in the upstairs classrooms after the 8:30AM Mass until 11:00AM</i></p> <p>Sunday, March 29 – No Youth Formation (<i>Palm Sunday</i>)</p> <p>Sunday, April 5 – No Youth Formation (<i>Easter Sunday</i>)</p> <p><i>A donation was made in memory of Isabelle Jacobenas 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!</i></p>	<p>St. Richard RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026</p> <p>CCD/PREP CLASSES - UPCOMING EVENTS</p> <p>Grades 1-8; Sunday, April 5th – No Classes Grades 5-8; Sunday, April 12th at 9:00AM Grades 1-4; Sunday, April 19th at 9:30AM *All classes are held in the Parish Hall <u>unless</u> noted.</p> <p>Confirmation- Monday, April 13th, 4:30PM at All Saints in McAdoo</p> <p>Make-up Class (Grades 1- 7) Sunday, April 19th from 5:00PM-7:30PM Any questions, contact Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433</p> <p>CUB SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS Every Sunday from 4:00PM-6:00PM in the Parish Hall</p>
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ADULT FORMATION

<p>Lenten Adult Small Group: Join us for a Lenten discussion group: <i>The Way of Beatitude: Living Radical Hope in a World of Division and Despair</i>. 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>O CIA (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.</p>
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SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today's second collection is for the five Parish Cemeteries: SJ / Stained-Glass Window Renovation: SR

Upcoming collections are...

4/3 ~ Good Friday; Holy Land Shrines: SJ / Feast of St. Richard: SR 4/5 ~ Easter 4/12 ~ Parish Utilities

ST. JOHN XXIII AND ST. RICHARD NEWS AND UPDATES

This Week	
Sunday	12:00PM Easter Egg Hunt on St. Richard grounds (rain or shine) open to ALL children from both parishes
Monday	10:00AM Lenten Adult Small Group in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall
Tuesday	8:30AM Holy Hour & Adoration / 9:00AM Stations of the Cross & Benediction at St. John XXIII
Wednesday	9:00AM Rosary for Peace in St. John XXIII Church – please sit in the front pews by the statue of Mary 6:30PM Confession & Adoration / 7:00PM Stations of the Cross & Benediction at St. Richard
Thursday	7:00PM Holy Thursday Mass at SJ followed by adoration at the Altar of Repose and 10:00PM Night Prayer
Friday	3:00PM Celebration of the Passion of the Lord: SJ – 7:00PM Stations/Veneration of the Cross: SR Divine Mercy Novena every day at 3:00PM at St. John XXIII from Good Friday until Divine Mercy Sunday
Saturday	10:00AM Prayer/Basket Blessing followed by church decorating at St. Richard in preparation for Easter 8:00PM Easter Vigil at St. Richard (No 3:30PM or 5:30PM Masses)
Upcoming Events	
April 5	7:00AM Easter Mass: St. Richard – 8:45AM Easter Mass: St. John – 10:30AM Easter Mass: St. John
April 12	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass

FOOD FOR THE POOR ON HOLY THURSDAY

We will be collecting food for the poor on Holy Thursday. Please bring non-perishable food items with you to the 7:00PM Mass on Holy Thursday. The food items will be brought forward at the offertory. All food items collected will be donated to the Tamaqua food pantry.

PASCHAL CANDLE 2026 - “SAINT FRANCIS CROSS”

We thank the donors for their donation of a new paschal candle at St. John XXIII “In Memory of the Keefer and Kubitsky Families.”

OPERATION RICE BOWL CONCLUDES

Please convert Rice Bowl gifts to a single check made out to the parish for easier accounting. Please place your check in an envelope clearly labeled “**Rice Bowl Donation**” and deposit it in the Sunday collection. We will then combine all these gifts and send one check from the parish to the Diocese.

EASTER SUNDAY PARKING

We anticipate large crowds at both the 8:45AM and 10:30AM Masses. If you are planning to attend the second Mass, please do not arrive before 10:00AM to allow time for the lot to clear from the first Mass. When parking your car, please be considerate and only take one space. If you are able, consider street parking and save the lot for those with mobility issues. Also, please do not block the neighbor’s driveways!

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP ANNOUNCEMENT

Cemetery clean-up in all five of the parish cemeteries is coming up in the near future. Please start removing all the decorations that you would like to keep.

ORGAN CONCERT – FRIDAY APRIL 24th

Andrew Sheranian, organist. Tickets are \$15 and are available in the Family Room before and after all weekend Masses as well as in the St. John XXIII Parish Office during normal business hours. A limited number of VIP tickets for \$75 are also available for seating up in the balcony around the organ. For more information, see the concert flyer, speak to our Director of Music, Dale Bonenberger, or call the Parish Office at 570-225-7410.

ST. JOHN XXIII CAFÉ IN THE PARISH 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.

PASCHAL CANDLE 2026 - “HOLY EUCHARIST”

God’s blessings to Regina and Jeff Zoba for their donation of the new paschal candle at St Richard “In Memory of John and Rose Sochacki.”

ST. RICHARD DINNER FUNDRAISER

MANY THANKS to all our volunteers and all those who purchased our second Lenten Dinner and 50/50 chances. CONGRATULATIONS to Tim Holt for being the 50/50 winner of \$531.00! Please see next week’s bulletin for the dinner profit.

VOTIVE CANDLE REMINDER AT ST. RICHARD

Starting this Sunday, March 29th through Saturday, April 4th there will be no Votive/Devotional candles lit for the beginning and duration of Holy Week. Candles will resume Saturday, April 4th (Easter Vigil).

PASKA BREAD AT ST. RICHARD

Paska Bread order pickup will be Good Friday (4/3) from 3:00PM-6:00PM in the Parish Hall. Any questions, contact Joann at 570-640-1034.

DECORATING FOR EASTER AT ST. RICHARD

Saturday, April 4th, after the 10:00AM Easter Basket blessing. Please stay and lend a hand.

ST. RICHARD BASKET RAFFLE 2026

Our Spring Basket Raffle is quickly approaching! The event will begin on Friday, May 15th and Saturday, May 16th with drawings to begin on Sunday, May 17th at 1:00PM. Please consider donating a basket for this fundraiser. See flyer for more details.

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.

MASS BOOK UPDATE AT ST. RICHARD

Mass dates are still available. Please also consider the Eternal Remembrance Society or any of the Devotional Candles including the Sanctuary Lamp. All requests must include the 2026 Mass Intention Form and the \$10 per Mass/Candle stipend fee. The requests may be mailed, placed in the collection, or dropped at the office. You may also come to the office during business hours, whichever is more convenient.

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.

MEALS-ON-WHEELS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Meals-On-Wheels needs volunteers to help deliver meals to the Tamaqua area. If you are able to help, please contact Colleen at either taadcc@verizon.net or 570-668-6556.

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.

A WORD OF THANKS

Thank you to everyone who cleaned St. John XXIII Church this past Thursday.

REMINDER

Bulletin announcements, including flyers, must be submitted no later than Tuesday at noon to the respective Parish Office.

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.

FROM THE DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN

Many thanks to those who have already donated to the *Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal*. The participation of all our parish families makes it possible to serve those in need.

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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