

# Welcome

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

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

*April 19, 2026*  
*Third Sunday of Easter*



**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](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 800-276-1562.

<p><b>Saturday, April 18</b>                  2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ                  3:30PM Mass: SJ                   5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR                  5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p><b>Vigil to the Third Sunday of Easter</b>                   Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. John XXIII and St. Richard Parishes                   Mass Intention: Tokosh and Pancheri Families</p>
<p><b>Sunday, April 19</b>                  8:30AM Mass: SJ                   10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p><b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>                  Mass Intention: John and Rose Farber                   Mass Intention: Daniel F. Guinan Sr. and Daniel F. Guinan Jr.</p>
<p><b>Monday, April 20</b>                  7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>)</p>	<p><b>Easter Weekday</b>                  Mass Intention: Robert Gomez</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, April 21</b>                  7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>)                  8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration/Benediction: SJ</p>	<p><b>Easter Weekday</b>                  Mass Intention: Andrew Gmitter</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, April 22</b>                  7:00AM Mass: SR</p>	<p><b>Easter Weekday</b>                  Mass Intention: John, Anna, Robert, Tina Demko, William Dunsavage</p>
<p><b>Thursday, April 23</b>                  7:00AM Mass: SR</p>	<p><b>Easter Weekday</b>                  Mass Intention: Deceased Diocesan Priests</p>
<p><b>Friday, April 24</b>  <i>No Daily Mass at either church</i></p>	<p><b>Easter Weekday</b></p>
<p><b>Saturday, April 25</b>                  2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ                  3:30PM Mass: SJ                   5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR                  5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p><b>Vigil to the Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>                   Mass Intention: Michael Bright                   Mass Intention: Mary Schodowski</p>
<p><b>Sunday, April 26</b>                  8:30AM Mass: SJ                   10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p><b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>                  Mass Intention: John Fedor                   Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parishes</p>

**TODAY’S LITURGY OF THE WORD:** In the first reading, Peter proclaims that “God raised this Jesus.” In Peter’s Letter we are reminded that God ransomed us with the precious blood of Christ. In the Gospel, Christ meets two disciples on the road to Emmaus. Perhaps we can identify with the two disciples who were on the road to Emmaus. They most likely felt despair and discouragement, but when Jesus revealed himself to them that despair was turned into joy and they rushed to tell the other disciples. If we today continue to open ourselves to God’s movement in our lives, we can feel that same joy and be energized to share the Good News with others.

**TODAY’S RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Lord, you will show us the path of life.

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, APR 26:** Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b4, 5, 6; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10: 1-10

<p><b>St. John XXIII</b></p> <p>The <b>Order of Mass</b> can be found starting on page 140 in the Journeysongs Hymnal.</p> <p>The <b>Heritage Mass</b> can be found on the following pages:                  Glory to God – 226 / Holy, Holy, Holy – 227 / Memorial Acclamation – 228 / Amen – 231 / Lamb of God – 232</p> <p>The Saturday prelude is <b>Fanfare</b> by John Cook (1918-1984)                  The Sunday prelude is <b>Voluntary on “This Joyful Eastertide”</b> by Charles Callahan (1951-2023)</p> <p>The Saturday postlude is <b>The Strife Is Over</b> by Michael Helman (b.1956)                  The Sunday postlude is <b>Finale in C Major</b> by Henry Purcell (1659-1695)</p> <p>The altar flowers are in gratitude for all God’s many blessings to our parish.</p>
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## PRAYER LIST FOR BOTH PARISHES

### Please remember in your prayers...

Magnolia Pavlovich, Barbara Karnish, Joan Manos, Kevin Druckenmiller, Marc Lesniak, Michael Dannenfelser, Bernard Bruni, Amy Gurcsik /David Rickert, Mildred Cara, Sandy Mehalko, Tom Fredericks, Andrew Eremus, Rita Klekamp, Anthony Vevasis, Joan Strause, Regina Pavlovich, John Gallagher /Shelley Lazarchick, Alonzo Borja, Marlene Fatula, Roy Paisley, Marie Kalpinsky, Ellie Setlock, Chase Schaller, Kathy Sanchez, Quinn Derlunas, David Manos, Rob Weed, Joan Manos, Mary Ellen King

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

Claudette Zarra

Anna Marie Grossman

## DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

### St. John XXIII

#### Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of John and Regina Potosky

#### Crucifix Candle

In Memory of Joseph Zelinsky

### St. Richard

#### Sanctuary Lamp

All the Deceased of the Nolan, West, and McElhenny Families

#### Blessed Virgin Mary

Special Intention

## 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*

**Saturday, May 9th** – 12 noon – First Holy Communion

Please pray for the children from the parishes of St. John XXIII and St. Richard who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion on May 9th.

### St. Richard

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026

#### CCD/PREP CLASSES - UPCOMING EVENTS UPDATE

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

Grades 5-8; Sunday, April 26th at 9:00AM

Grades 1-4; Sunday, May 3rd at 9:30AM

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

**1st Penance:** Thursday, May 7th at 6:00PM

**1st Holy Communion:** Saturday, May 9th at 10:00AM

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

#### CUB SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS

Every Sunday from 4:00PM-6:00PM in the Parish Hall

## ADULT FORMATION

**Adult Small Group:** Do you feel overwhelmed by the bible or guilty for not knowing it better? John Bergsma provides an easy-to-understand and fresh walk through salvation history with insights to help you to see how God's love story unfolds in scripture as we explore this book and gain a deeper understanding of salvation history and ourselves. Book is required and is available through Amazon for \$18.58 + tax. Sign up in the Narthex or call Cheryl at 484-866-3835. Nine consecutive Tuesdays – April 14 through June 9 from 10:00AM until 11:30AM in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall.

**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. The topic is Psalms.

**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. Mystagogoy (living the mystery) to Pentecost. New inquirers are welcome.

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today's second collection is for the Parish Utilities.

Upcoming collections are...

4/26 ~ Stained-Glass Window Renovation:SR/Parish Cemeteries:SJ

5/3 ~ Parish Facility Fund

## ST. JOHN XXIII AND ST. RICHARD NEWS AND UPDATES

This Week	
Sunday	All week – Clean-up of all five parish cemeteries – Please remove items that you wish to keep
Tuesday	7:00PM St. Richard Fundraising Meeting held in the Parish Hall
Thursday	St. John XXIII Parish Choir rehearsal canceled today – regularly scheduled rehearsal will resume next week
Friday	7:00PM Organ Concert at St. John XXIII featuring Boston organist Andrew Sheranian – tickets \$15
April 25-26	<i>Because We Are Catholic</i> guest speaker at all weekend Masses
Upcoming Events	
April 26	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass 7:00PM Men's Group in St. Richard Meeting Room
April 27	6:30PM St. John XXIII Fundraising Meeting held in the Parish Hall
April 29	Catholic Charities Community Café Food Truck – noon until 1:30PM in the St. John XXIII parking lot
April 30	Diocesan Holy Hour & Benediction at St. John XXIII – Doors open 6:30PM, Welcome 6:45PM, Social 8:00PM
May 3	BINGO at West Penn Fire Co., 21 Municipal Road, New Ringgold – doors open 12 noon, BINGO starts 1:00PM
May 4	6:30PM St. John XXIII Fundraising Meeting held in the Parish Hall

### WELCOME TO OUR GUEST ORGANIST

We welcome Mark O'Hearn as guest organist at this weekend's 3:30PM Saturday Mass. Mark is the Director of Music at St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Orefield.

### PROFESSION OF FAITH/THE APOSTLES' CREED

During the fifty days of Eastertide, at Mass instead of saying the Nicene Creed as we usually do, we will be saying the Apostles' Creed. It can be found on **page 149** in the hymnal.

### SUNG LORD'S PRAYER

The music for this can be found on **page 157** in the green Journeysongs hymnal.

### CEMETERY CLEAN-UP IS THIS WEEK

We do not know which cemetery will be cleaned on what day, so please do not replace any decorations on graves until after next weekend.

### ORGAN CONCERT – FRIDAY APRIL 24<sup>th</sup> – 7:00PM

Andrew Sheranian, organist. This is your last chance to purchase advance tickets! A limited number of VIP tickets for \$75 are also available for seating up in the balcony around the organ. We are grateful for the generosity of the concert sponsors: the Boyle, Odorizzi, and Sweeney Families, as well as the reception sponsors: Basile's Italian Restaurant and our Parish Choir. Extra help is always welcome on the day of the concert, please arrive by 5:45PM if you can help, the doors open to the public at 6:00PM.

### EASTER SEASON ADULT SMALL GROUP

Please see write-up on previous page under "Adult Formation."

### SAFE ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCES

A table is set up in the Parish Hall and the instructions and policies are available to read and sign. If you volunteer at St. John XXIII, please visit the table after Mass to pick up your packets and/or read the policies. The clearances you need to complete are different for everyone, depending on the ministries you are in. The clearances need to be completed as soon as possible. Contact Cheryl with any questions – 484-866-3835.

### COMMUNION

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

**You send forth your spirit, they are created; And you renew the face of the earth. May the glory of the Lord last forever! May the Lord rejoice in his works!**

Congratulations to the following who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this past Monday: Declan James Kane, Ryleigh Elizabeth Olivia Wonsock, Ryan Allan Joseph Bet, Shea Lorraine Margaret Turrano, Conor Jayse Patrick Walasavage, Amaya Lynn Katherine Rowan, Keegan James Jude Mitchell, Ava Rose Veronica Russell, Evrett Richard Stephen Angelo, Kyle Edward Joseph Hoherchak, Allison Francis Brutto, and Carson Daniel Ronald Bro. May God bless you and keep you always!

### ST. RICHARD BASKET RAFFLE 2026 UPDATE

Our Spring Basket Raffle is just a month away! 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. To **donate**, contact Joann at 570-640-1034, Jack at 570-225-1771, or the Parish Office at 570-467-2315. **PRE-SALE TICKETS** will be sold before and after all Masses starting this weekend in the Vestibule. Cost is \$20 for five sheets.

### 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.

### REMINDER

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

### 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.

### 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.

**CONFESSONAL REMODEL UPDATE**

The roof directly above the confessional has developed a leak, and we plan to put a new roof on this section of the building. Until that happens, construction is halted. 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.

**CONFESSONAL 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.

**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.

**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 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](http://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.

**A WORD OF THANKS FROM ST. JOHN XXIII**

Thank you to all the volunteers who cleaned and decorated our church throughout the Lenten Season, prepared for Holy Week, especially the magnificent Altar of Repose in the Parish Hall on Holy Thursday, and beautifully decorated the church for Easter. Also, thank you to everyone who participated in the collection of food on Holy Thursday. A large quantity of non-perishable food was collected and donated to the Tamaqua Food Pantry.

