

Welcome

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

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

April 26, 2026
Fourth 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 or by calling 800-276-1562.

<p>Saturday, April 25 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ</p> <p>5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Vigil to the Fourth Sunday of Easter</p> <p>Mass Intention: Michael Bright</p> <p>Mass Intention: Mary Schodowski</p>
<p>Sunday, April 26 8:30AM Mass: SJ</p> <p>10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Fourth Sunday of Easter Mass Intention: John Fedor</p> <p>Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parishes</p>
<p>Monday, April 27 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>)</p>	<p>Easter Weekday Mass Intention: William Moyer</p>
<p>Tuesday, April 28 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>) 8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration/Benediction: SJ</p>	<p>Easter Weekday Mass Intention: Dave Frederick</p>
<p>Wednesday, April 29 7:00AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>St. Catherine of Sienna, Virgin, Doctor of the Church Mass Intention: Frank Silas</p>
<p>Thursday, April 30 7:00AM Mass: SR 6:45PM Diocesan Holy Hour/Benediction: SJ</p>	<p>Easter Weekday Mass Intention: Kenneth Adam</p>
<p>Friday, May 1 <i>No Daily Mass at either church</i></p>	<p>Easter Weekday</p>
<p>Saturday, May 2 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ</p> <p>5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Vigil to the Fifth Sunday of Easter</p> <p>Mass Intention: Catherine Tracy</p> <p>Mass Intention: Olivia, Elijah, and Paul</p>
<p>Sunday, May 3 8:30AM Mass: SJ</p> <p>10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Fifth Sunday of Easter Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. John XXIII And St. Richard Parishes</p> <p>Mass Intention: Thomas Demko</p>

TODAY’S LITURGY OF THE WORD: In the first reading, Peter encourages the crowd to save their souls through repentance, baptism, and reception of the Holy Spirit. In his Letter, Peter points to Jesus’ patience in suffering as an example for us. In the Gospel, Jesus says he is the Good Shepherd who cares for his sheep, and that he has come so we might have life more abundantly. Jesus reaches out to us and saves us, tending to us as a shepherd. He is, indeed, as Peter says, the shepherd and guardian of our souls. If we pray and listen attentively for his voice in our heart, we will hear the call of the Good Shepherd, who is our strength and our salvation.

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

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 3: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

<p>St. John XXIII</p> <p>The Order of Mass can be found starting on page 140 in the Journeysongs Hymnal.</p> <p>The Heritage Mass 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 prelude is Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us/He Leadeth Me arranged by Cindy Berry (b.1949) The postlude is Overture from Music for the Royal Fireworks by George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)</p> <p>The altar flowers are in memory of John and Jennie.</p>

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, Thomas Graboritz, Sue Mannello

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

Sara "Sally" DeLay

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

<p>St. John XXIII Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of Donna Pucklavage</p> <p>Crucifix Candle In Memory of Ernest Rossi</p>	<p>St. Richard Sanctuary Lamp Rest in Peace Margo Snyder</p> <p>Blessed Virgin Mary Special Intention for Keith and Mason Bailey</p> <p>St. Joseph Special Intention</p>
---	---

YOUTH FORMATION

Children's bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule

<p>St. John XXIII RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026</p> <p>Saturday, May 9th – 12 noon – First Holy Communion</p> <p>Sunday, May 10th – 8:30AM Mass – May Crowning</p> <p>Please pray for the children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion on May 9th.</p> <p>We congratulate our Confirmands: Nathaniel Grimminger, Peyton O'Brien, Gianna Osenbach, and Luke Walser</p>	<p>St. Richard RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026</p> <p>CCD/PREP CLASSES - UPCOMING EVENTS UPDATE</p> <p>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 <u>unless</u> noted.</p> <p>First Penance: Thursday, May 7th at 6:00PM First Holy Communion: Saturday, May 9th at 10:00AM 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>
--	---

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 in his book: Bible Basics for Catholics: A New Picture of Salvation History (Expanded Edition). Join us for small group discussion 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. Mystagogogy (living the mystery) to Pentecost. New inquirers are welcome.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

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

Upcoming collections are...

5/3 ~ Parish Facility Fund 5/10 ~ Mother's Day 5/14 ~ Ascension

ST. JOHN XXIII AND ST. RICHARD NEWS AND UPDATES

This Week	
Sunday	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass 7:00PM Men's Group in St. Richard Meeting Room
Monday	6:30PM St. John XXIII Fundraising Meeting held in the Parish Hall
Wednesday	Catholic Charities Community Café Food Truck – noon until 1:30PM in the St. John XXIII parking lot
Thursday	Diocesan Holy Hour & Benediction at St. John XXIII – Welcome 6:45PM, Adoration 7:00PM, Social 8:00PM St. John XXIII Parish Choir rehearsal canceled today – regularly scheduled rehearsal will resume next week
Friday	9:00AM Outdoor Rosary for Peace at St. John XXIII – flowers are welcome, but please no glass containers
Upcoming Events	
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
May 7	6:00PM First Penance at St. Richard
May 9	First Holy Communion: 10:00AM at St. Richard, 12:00PM at St. John XXIII
May 10	May Crowning at both Sunday Masses and flower carnation sale at St. John XXIII
May 12	7:00PM Rosary and Mass of Remembrance for anyone who has lost a child of any age at St. John XXIII 7:00PM St. Richard Fundraising Meeting held in the Parish Hall
May 14	Ascension Thursday Masses: 7:00PM Wednesday Vigil at St. John XXIII, 7:00AM Thursday at St. Richard

A WORD OF THANKS

Thank you to everyone who helped clean up our five parish cemeteries this past week. Also, thank you to everyone who helped at, or attended, the organ concert this past Friday. We especially thank our sponsors: the Boyle, Odorizzi, and Sweeney Families; Basile's Italian Restaurant; and our Parish Choir.

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.

OUR PARISH BINGO IS ONLY ONE WEEK AWAY

As in year's past, it will take place at the West Penn Fire Co., 21 Municipal Road, New Ringgold – Sunday, May 3rd – doors open at 12 noon and BINGO starts at 1:00PM. Tickets are \$25 and are available after Mass in the Family Room.

"33 DAYS TO EUCHARISTIC GLORY" BOOK

As we celebrate the 65th anniversary of the Diocese of Allentown, all parishioners will be receiving a complimentary copy of the book. Books will be distributed at all Masses next weekend. You are asked to read it and participate in this 33-day Eucharistic consecration that culminates on the feast of Corpus Christi on June 8th.

ST. JOHN XXIII HOSTING A DIOCESAN HOLY HOUR

As part of the 65th anniversary celebration, we are hosting a special Holy Hour and Benediction this Thursday at 6:45PM. Music will be provided by Live Vertical and there will be a social afterwards in our Parish Hall. We hope that you can attend!

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 packet. Contact Cheryl with any questions – 484-866-3835.

ST. JOHN XXIII CAFÉ IN THE PARISH HALL

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

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The sacrament will be administered following all Masses this weekend at both churches. Please be seated in the front pews immediately after Mass.

COMMUNION

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

FROM THE DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN

The 2026 *Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal* is underway! Our parish support is a vital part of this Diocesan-wide effort to serve children and families in our own community and throughout the Diocese of Allentown. Visit www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org and make your gift today.

LAY WITNESS SPEAKER WEEKEND

Please welcome Allison Guzley (Saturday Masses) and Len Weiser (Sunday Masses) from Holy Family Senior Living on behalf of the *Because We Are Catholic* diocesan campaign.

ST. RICHARD BASKET RAFFLE 2026 UPDATE

The event will begin on Friday, May 15th, and continue on Saturday, 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. **To volunteer selling tickets**, contact Joann. **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 Intention Form and the \$10 per Mass/Candle stipend fee. The requests may be mailed, placed in collection, or dropped at the office.

BOYER'S KEY TAG PROGRAM REMINDER

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

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.

CONFESSIONAL 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.

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.

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.

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.

--	--