

Welcome

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

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

May 17, 2026
Seventh 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, May 16 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 Seventh Sunday of Easter Mass Intention: Carl Ankiewicz Mass Intention: Newly Ordained Deacons</p>
<p>Sunday, May 17 8:30AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Seventh Sunday of Easter Mass Intention: Newly Ordained Deacons Mass Intention: Thomas Long Sr.</p>
<p>Monday, May 18 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>)</p>	<p>Easter Weekday Mass Intention: The Freeh Family: Pat, Rosanna, and Kay Ann</p>
<p>Tuesday, May 19 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>) 8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration/Benediction: SJ</p>	<p>Easter Weekday Mass Intention: Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. John XXIII and St. Richard Parishes</p>
<p>Wednesday, May 20 7:00AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Easter Weekday Mass Intention: Jimmy Tracy</p>
<p>Thursday, May 21 7:00AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Easter Weekday Mass Intention: Dennis Laul</p>
<p>Friday, May 22 <i>No Daily Mass at either church</i></p>	<p>Easter Weekday</p>
<p>Saturday, May 23 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Vigil to Pentecost Sunday Mass Intention: Sylvester Karnish Mass Intention: Damian Peca</p>
<p>Sunday, May 24 8:30AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Pentecost Sunday Mass Intention: Ellen Kemmerer Mass Intention: Craig Pietzold</p>

TODAY’S LITURGY OF THE WORD: In the first reading from Acts the Apostles, some women, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, devote themselves to prayer after the Ascension. In the epistle, Saint Peter encourages us to rejoice if we suffer for Christ. In the Gospel, Jesus prays for his disciples and asks for his Father’s glory. Renewed by hope, strengthened by God’s faithfulness, and encouraged by today’s readings, let us continue to deepen our relationship with Jesus. We were not present two thousand years ago, yet we are called to give witness to Christ’s life, death, and resurrection. Let us reflect this mission through our words and actions today. Let our speech and deeds be marked by love, mercy, and compassion. May we be emboldened by the Spirit to serve with great joy and continual praise of the Lord.

TODAY’S RESPONSORIAL PSALM: I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 24: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1,24,29-30, 31,34; 1 Cor 12:13b-7,12-13; Jn 20:19-23

<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 Voluntary on Immaculate Mary by Charles Callahan (1951-2023) The postlude is Marche Pontificale by Charles Gounod (1818-1893)</p> <p>The altar flowers are in honor of all the recent graduates of our parish.</p>
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PRAYER LIST FOR BOTH PARISHES

Please remember in your prayers...

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, Pastor Jack Murry / Magnolia Pavlovich, Barbara Karnish, Jack Praskac

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

Eileen Dunphy

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

<p align="center">St. John XXIII Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of Deceased Members of the Thomasco Family</p> <p align="center">Crucifix Candle In Memory of Joseph and Catherine Coleman and Family</p>	<p align="center">St. Richard Blessed Virgin Mary Special Intention Sacred Heart Francis Trackim St. Richard Craig Pietzold</p>
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YOUTH FORMATION

Children's bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule

<p align="center">St. John XXIII RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026</p> <p>Sunday, June 7 - 8:30AM Graduate Recognition Mass</p> <p align="center">All high school, college, trade school, and military graduates are invited to attend.</p> <p align="center">Everyone is invited to celebrate with our graduates at a Reception in the Parish Hall following the Mass.</p>	<p align="center">St. Richard RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026</p> <p align="center">CCD/PREP CLASSES - EVENTS Classes ended for the Summer</p> <p align="center">CUB SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS Every Sunday from 4:00PM-6:00PM in the Parish Hall</p>
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ADULT FORMATION

<p>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. Call Cheryl at 484-866-3835 with any questions. Tuesdays from 10:00AM until 11:30AM in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall.</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. Mystagogoy (living the mystery) to Pentecost. New inquirers are welcome.</p>
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SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today's second collection is for Parishes Utilities.

Upcoming collections are...

5/24 ~ Parish Utilities

5/31 ~ Stained Glass Windows Renovation:SR / Parish Cemeteries:SJ

ST. JOHN XXIII AND ST. RICHARD NEWS AND UPDATES

This Week	
Sunday	1:00PM St. Richard Annual Basket Raffle – drawings begin 7:00PM Tamaqua Area High School Baccalaureate Service at St. John XXIII
Monday	Freckled Moose order forms due on May 18th – order pick-up date is June 3rd in St. John XXIII Parish Hall
Tuesday	7:00PM Pastoral Council Meeting in St. Richard Parish Hall (includes both parishes) ** Note time change
Thursday	10:00AM St. Vincent de Paul Society Meeting in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall 6:00PM St. John XXIII Parish Choir Rehearsal in the balcony
Upcoming Events	
May 24	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass
May 25	Memorial Day – both Parish Offices closed – 9:00AM Mass at St. Richard (no 7:00AM Mass today)
May 27	Catholic Charities Community Café Food Truck – noon until 1:30PM in the St. John XXIII parking lot
May 31	7:00PM Men’s Group in St. Richard Meeting Room
June 1	6:30PM St. John XXIII Fundraising Meeting in the Parish Hall
June 7	Graduate Recognition at both Sunday Masses
June 9	7:00PM St. Richard Fundraising Meeting in the Parish Hall
June 14	12:00PM-3:00PM St. Richard Chicken Dinner (eat in or take out)

GRADUATE RECOGNITION - JUNE 7 - BOTH MASSES

On Sunday, June 7th at both the 8:30AM and 10:30AM Masses, all 2026 graduates (high school/trade school/college/military) will be recognized and honored.

DONORS ARE NEEDED FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

We are about to enter the long, green season of Ordinary Time which is when altar flowers are most needed here at St. John XXIII. We try to use arrangements from prior funerals and weddings, but many weeks we need to purchase an altar flower arrangement. Donors are needed for those weeks when we need to purchase flowers and remember that you are able to put a dedication in the bulletin and have the altar flowers in memory or honor of someone. Altar arrangements are generally \$100 but can be done for more or less if requested. Thank you to all past flower donors! If any past flower donors or new donors want to be added to the queue to be a flower donor for a future date, please speak to Dale Bonenberger, the Director of Music, after Mass or call the Parish Office.

SERVICE AWARD AT ST. JOHN XXIII

St. Vincent de Paul Society will present an 8th Grade Service Award of \$100 each to one boy and one girl graduating from the 8th Grade who: 1) Intends to enter Marian High School as an incoming freshman and 2) Has demonstrated service to his/her Parish, School, and Community. Applications are available at SJRS and in the Family Room and are due on May 21st.

FRECKLED MOOSE PASTRY FUNDRAISER

Order forms with payment for the Freckled Moose Pastry Fundraiser are due on May 18th. Order pick-up is on June 3rd.

PLEASE CLAIM YOUR LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

The Lost and Found shelf in the St. John XXIII Family Room is overflowing. There are reading glasses, umbrellas, many single earrings, jewelry, and lots of miscellaneous items.

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 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.

PARISHIONER MISSION TRIP THIS SUMMER

Nearly twenty Physician Assistant students from King’s College will travel to Canto Grande, Peru, from June 30–July 3, 2026 on a medical mission trip. In the spirit of Catholic mission, they will provide medical exams, screenings, and essential care to underserved patients in the community. Donations help cover diagnostic services, medications, and clinic supplies needed for patient care. This funding will help cover the cost of reading glasses, glucose monitoring supplies, hygiene items, and disposable medical tools. Your generosity helps expand access to care and supports the formation of future PAs committed to service and compassion. Donations accepted via cash (in envelope clearly marked “Peru Trip” placed in the offertory collection) or Venmo (@KingsPAPeruTrip). Parishioner John Babinsky will speak at all Masses this weekend about this upcoming mission trip.

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. The participation of all our parish families makes it possible to serve those in need. Remember that every gift counts. Please visit www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org or use one of the envelopes and make your gift today.

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.

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.

REMINDER

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

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.

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.

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. 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.

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.

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