

The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 23, 2026



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

Parish Clergy

Deacon Edward J. Girard, Parish Life Collaborator
Reverend Monsignor William F. Glosser, Canonical Pastor
Very Reverend Eugene P. Ritz, Weekend Assistance
Reverend Richard Kwaku Boateng, Weekday Assistance

Office Hours

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

Church Hours

Monday-Thursday ~ 7:00AM-4:00PM

Friday ~ Closed

Saturday ~ 2:30PM-5:30PM

Sunday ~ 7:30AM-10:30AM

Parish Staff

Dale F. Bonenberger, Director of Music
Lisa Frederick, Office Administrator
Patricia Radocha, Business Manager
Melissa Grimminger, Director of Religious Education
Louise Howells, Cemetery Administrator

Mass & Confession Schedule

Wednesday Mass ~ 9:00AM

Thursday Mass ~ 9:00AM

Thursday Confession ~ 9:30AM-9:45AM

Saturday Confession ~ 3:00PM-3:45PM

Saturday Mass ~ 4:00PM

Sunday Mass ~ 9:00AM

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

Church of St. Richard

799 Barnesville Drive, Barnesville, PA 18214

Phone: 570-467-2315 ~ **Email:** strichardadmin@ptd.net ~ **Website:** www.strichard.org

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 the 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@allentowndiocese.org

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak ~ 800-791-9209
victimassistance@allentowndiocese.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.

Saturday, August 22 3:00PM – 3:45PM Confessions: SJ 4:00PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR	Vigil to the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: George and Florence Polinsky Mass Intention: Alvin Fritz
Sunday, August 23 9:00AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR	Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Francis Marcin Mass Intention: Paul Curley
Monday, August 24 No 9:00AM Mass: SR	St. Bartholomew, Apostle
Tuesday, August 25 8:30AM Holy Hour/Adoration/Benediction: SJ No 9:00AM Mass: SR	Weekday
Wednesday, August 26 9:00AM Mass: SJ	Weekday Mass Intention: Anna Marie Grossman
Thursday, August 27 9:00AM Mass SJ 9:30AM – 9:45AM Confessions/Adoration: SJ 9:50AM Benediction: SJ	St. Monica Mass Intention: Celia Lausch
Friday, August 28 <i>No Daily Mass at either church</i>	St. Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
Saturday, August 29 3:00PM – 3:45PM Confessions: SJ 4:00PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR	Vigil to the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Paul and Mary Dirnberger Mass Intention: Demyanovich and Zawarski Families
Sunday, August 30 9:00AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR	Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. John XXIII and St. Richard Parishes Mass Intention: Joanie Menghini

TODAY’S LITURGY OF THE WORD: In today’s first reading, Shebna is told by God that Eliakim will replace him and receive authority and honor. In the epistle, Paul speaks of glorifying God for his wisdom. In the Gospel, Peter proclaims Jesus as Messiah and Son of God. Jesus confers upon Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven. If we confess, like Peter, that Jesus is Messiah and Lord, there should be evidence of this in our lives. If Jesus is Lord of Sunday morning, he should be Lord of Saturday night and every other day of the week. He should also be Lord of our speech and our actions. When we walk closely with Jesus as disciples, we will begin to look more like him.

TODAY’S RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, AUG 30: Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

St. John XXIII

The **Order of Mass** can be found starting on page 140 in the Journeysongs Hymnal.

The **Mass of Spirit and Grace** can be found on the following pages:

Holy, Holy, Holy – 199 / Memorial Acclamation – 201 / Amen – 203 / Lamb of God – 204

The prelude is **Allegro from Water Music** by George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

The postlude is **Mosso Moderato in F Major** by Wilhelm Volckmar (1812-1887)

The altar flowers are in memory of Mary Rose Schock.

PRAYER LIST FOR BOTH PARISHES

Please remember in your prayers...

George Koval, Jackie Richardson, Andrew Eremus, Amy Gurcsik, David Rickert, Dan Rickert, Maureen Moe, Stacy Lora, Sue Taiko, Michael Spleen, Mary Sloboda, Betty Ruscavage, Amy DeBenedict Behler, 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 Murray, Paul Goida, Joe Kalista, George Bradbury, Ron Gantz / Magnolia Pavlovich, Barbara Karnish, Elba Danenfesler, Jack Praskac, Marc Lesniak, Rev. Gregory Karpyn, Frank Creazzo

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

George Triano

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

St. John XXIII Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of Dennis Sr., Daniel, and David Dannenfesler

Crucifix Candle

In Memory of Paul Carey

St. Richard Blessed Virgin Mary Special Intention

YOUTH FORMATION

Children's bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule

St. John XXIII

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2026-2027

Registration is now open. Please scan the QR code to register.

Melissa Grimminger ~ youth@sj23tamaqua.org

First Reconciliation & First Communion ~ Grades 1 & 2



Family of Faith ~ Grades 3-6



Confirmation ~ Grades 7 & 8



St. Richard

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2026-2027

CCD/PREP CLASSES - EVENTS

Registration is now open.

The CCD/PREP information and registration have been emailed. If you have not received an email or would like to enroll your child(ren), please contact Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433.

CUB SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS

Scouts have ended for the Summer

ADULT FORMATION

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 is an ongoing process designed especially for people who wish to be baptized in the Catholic Church. It is also for those who have been baptized in another faith tradition and wish to be fully initiated in the Catholic Church, as well as baptized Catholics who would like to complete the sacraments of initiation by celebrating the sacraments of Eucharist and confirmation. 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 the Mission Co-Op: SR / Parish Cemeteries: SJ.

Upcoming collections are...

8/30 ~ Stained Glass Window Renovation: SR / Parish Cemeteries: SJ

9/6 ~ Parish Facility Fund

ST. JOHN XXIII AND ST. RICHARD NEWS AND UPDATES

This Week

Sunday	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 9:00AM Mass Back to School Blessing at St. Richard following the 10:30AM Mass
Tuesday	6:30PM Knights of Columbus Mass at Holy Cross Church, Valley Street, New Philadelphia – all are welcome
Wednesday	Catholic Charities Community Café Food Truck – noon until 1:30PM in the St. John XXIII parking lot

Upcoming Events

September 7	Labor Day ~ No 9:00AM Mass at St. Richard – Both Parish Offices closed
September 12	1:00PM Memorial Service for Victims of Abortion – St. Jerome Cemetery Prayer Garden (held rain or shine)
September 14	6:30PM St. John XXIII Fundraising Meeting in the Parish Hall
September 15	7:00PM St. Richard Fundraising Meeting in the Parish Hall

SPECIAL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MASS

Monsignor Glosser will be having a Mass at Holy Cross Church in New Philadelphia this Tuesday, August 25th at 6:30PM. This Mass is sponsored by the 4th degree Knights of Columbus, but it is a memorial Mass for all Knights, regardless of degree, who have passed in the last two years. Members of our parish chapter who have passed are Bernie Heller, Danny Evans, and Bob Blyher. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR VICTIMS OF ABORTION

Join us on September 12th at 1:00PM at St. Jerome Cemetery Prayer Garden to participate in a beautiful memorial service for National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children. We will join over 250 groups across the country to pray for victims of abortion and to honor the babies lost to abortion. Call Cheryl with any questions at 484-866-3835

MARCH FOR LIFE IN HARRISBURG

This year's March for Life in Harrisburg is on September 21st from 9:30AM until 3:00PM. For more information, go to <https://marchforlife.org/pennsylvania/> or the Diocese of Harrisburg's website for information on Mass and Adoration at <https://www.hbgdiocese.org/event/pa-march-for-life/>. Watch the bulletin and/or website for information on any buses running from nearby churches.

BOSCOV'S SHOPPING PASSES ON SALE

Bosco's Shopping Passes are available in the St. John XXIII Family Room before and after weekend Masses. It's a great way to save money, and our Parish keeps 100% of the proceeds from these donations.

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.

ST. JOHN XXIII CAFÉ IN THE PARISH HALL

Please join us in the St. John XXIII 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.

MISSION TRIP TO PERU UPDATE

John Babinsky, a Parishioner of St. Richard, will be speaking to both St. Richard and St. John XXIII parishes this weekend. He will share his medical missionary experience, including the experiences of his fellow Physician's Assistant students from King's College who administered essential care to underserved patients in the Canto Grande, Peru community. Please see the bulletin insert flyer for photos taken from the Mission Trip.

REMINDER FROM BOTH PARISH OFFICES

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

HALUPKI DINNER AT ST. RICHARD

Join us on Sunday, September 13th from 12:00PM-2:00PM. Dine in or take out. Cost is \$15 per dinner and includes two Halupki, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, a Roll, and a Choice of Cake. The dinner envelopes have been mailed. Please return your dinner tickets and 50/50 chances by September 6th. If you have questions, contact Joann at 570-640-1034.

2026-2027 CCD/PREP REGISTRATION IS OPEN

CCD/PREP registrations are now being accepted. Those currently in our program, please check your email. Your child should be entering grades 1st through 8th and must be an active parishioner of St. Richard's Parish. If newly joining our program, we will need a copy of your child's Baptismal certificate. Please reach out to Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433 with any questions.

ATTENTION ALTAR SERVERS AT ST. RICHARD

If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server, or know someone who is, please reach out to Krissy Wonsock to schedule your training. In addition to serving at Mass, it is a way of receiving community service hours for Confirmation and various school programs.

MASS BOOK AT ST. RICHARD

Mass dates for both weekdays and weekends are still available. Also available is the Eternal Remembrance Society or any of the Devotional Candles including the Sanctuary Lamp. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a Mass, please contact the Parish Office.

BECAUSE WE ARE CATHOLIC ANNUAL APPEAL

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. Please visit www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org or use one of the envelopes and make your gift today.

YOU ARE INVITED TO BE A CATECHIST

It starts when we say “I believe” with a humble heart that says “yes” to living as a disciple of Jesus. Catechesis is a gift that allows us to formally teach others to do the same. It is a desire to surround people of all ages with a community of believers who love, understand, and practice the faith. If God is calling you to be a catechist, please contact the Director of Religious Education, Melissa Grimminger for more information.

BOSCOV’S SHOPPING PASSES ON SALE NOW

Bosco’s Shopping Passes are available in the Family Room before and after weekend Masses. For a \$5 donation, you receive a 25% discount off their Lowest Sale Prices for one day only – Wednesday, October 21, 2026. It’s a great way to save money, and our Parish keeps 100% of the proceeds from these donations.

MEALS-ON-WHEELS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

If you are able to help deliver meals in the Tamaqua area, please contact Samantha Gibbons at 570-449-8271.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCES

If you have not returned your completed clearances, please do so. Volunteers who do not have occasions to be around children or do not have leadership positions do not have to get full background checks but still need to read policies and watch a video on Protecting God’s Children. Contact Cheryl at 484-866-3835.

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.

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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