

The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 6, 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
Cheryl Keifer, Ministry/Safe Environment Coordinator
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, September 5 3:00PM – 3:45PM Confessions: SJ 4:00PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR	Vigil to the Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Margaret Petrole Mass Intention: Thomas F. Demko
Sunday, September 6 9:00AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR	Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Deceased Members of the Gogal and Chesney Families Mass Intention: Marge Coassolo
Monday, September 7 No 9:00AM Mass: SR	Weekday
Tuesday, September 8 8:30AM Holy Hour/Adoration/Benediction: SJ 9:00AM Mass: SR	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Intention: Deceased Diocesan Priests
Wednesday, September 9 9:00AM Mass: SJ	St. Peter Claver, Priest (USA) Mass Intention: Michael J. Bubel Jr.
Thursday, September 10 9:00AM Mass SJ 9:30AM – 9:45AM Confessions/Adoration: SJ 9:50AM Benediction: SJ	Weekday Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. John XXIII and St. Richard Parishes
Friday, September 11 <i>No Daily Mass at either church</i>	Weekday
Saturday, September 12 3:00PM – 3:45PM Confessions: SJ 4:00PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR	Vigil to the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Eileen Dumphy Mass Intention: Pat Firkal
Sunday, September 13 9:00AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR	Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: George Triano Mass Intention: Jack and Antoinette Ryan

TODAY'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: In the first reading, Ezekiel is appointed watchman for the house of Israel and is responsible for guiding the wicked to holiness. In the Letter to the Romans, Paul summarizes all of the commandments with the directive to love. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples how to resolve conflict. He says he is present when two or more are gathered in his name. Jesus' words at the end of today's Gospel are some of the most reassuring in Scripture. He is present whenever God's people gather, as we do at every liturgy. When we gather in love and unity, we are fulfilling Paul's instruction in the second reading when he says: Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another.

TODAY'S RESPONSORIAL PSALM: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, SEPT 13: Sir 27:30–28:7; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

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 **Saint Anthony Chorale** by Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

The postlude is **Come Labor On – Ora Labora** by T. Tertius Noble (1867-1953)

The altar flowers are in memory of my parents, Marian (McLaughlin) and Thomas Boyle.

PRAYER LIST FOR BOTH PARISHES

Please remember in your prayers...

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, Pattie Radocha, Frank Riotto / Amy DeBenedict Behler, Jan McCole, George Koval, Andrew Eremus, Amu Gurcsik, Maureen Moe

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

Brenda Wiscourt

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

St. John XXIII Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of Deceased Members of the
Jewells and Forte Families

Crucifix Candle

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

St. Richard
Blessed Virgin Mary
Jack and Antoinette Ryan

Sacred Heart

My Special Intention

St. Joseph

Special Intention

YOUTH FORMATION

Children's bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule

St. John XXIII

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2026-2027

Classes have begun. Please scan the QR code to register.

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 open.

If you have not received an email or would like to enroll your child(ren), please contact Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433.

CCD/PREP UPCOMING CLASSES

New for 2026-2027 - ALL grades are on the same weeks

Sunday, September 13th

Sunday, September 27th

Grades 1-4 at 9:30AM

Grades 5-8 at 9:00AM

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

CUB SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS

Updates are to follow.

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 Parish Facility Fund.

Upcoming collections are...

9/13 ~ St. Vincent de Paul

9/20 ~ Stained-Glass Window Renovation: SR / Parish Cemeteries: SJ

ST. JOHN XXIII AND ST. RICHARD NEWS AND UPDATES

This Week

Monday	Labor Day ~ No 9:00AM Mass at St. Richard – Both Parish Offices closed
Thursday	6:00PM Holy Name Meeting in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall
Saturday	1:00PM Memorial Service for Victims of Abortion – St. Jerome Cemetery Prayer Garden (held rain or shine)

Upcoming Events

September 13	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 9:00AM Mass
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
September 17	10:00AM St. Vincent de Paul Meeting in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall 6:30PM Bereavement Ministry Meeting in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall – all are welcome
September 19	9:00AM-11:00AM St. Vincent de Paul Baby Food Distribution – St. John XXIII Parish Hall – 570-225-8620

MASS AT ALLENTOWN CATHEDRAL ON FRIDAY 9/11

Join the Diocese of Allentown for a special Red, White & Blue Mass honoring those who serve our communities and our nation. On Friday, September 11th, Bishop Alfred Schlert will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at 8:46AM at the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena in Allentown. The 8:46AM start time commemorates the moment the World Trade Center's North Tower was struck on September 11, 2001. Police, firefighters, first responders, health care workers, members of the military, legal professionals, elected officials, and their families are warmly invited to attend. Those who serve are encouraged to wear their uniforms. Following Mass, join us for a light reception and remarks from Sr. Deirdre (Dede) Byrne, M.D., U.S. Army Colonel, renowned surgeon, and consecrated religious.

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.

SAVE THE DATE: DIOCESAN FAMILY FESTIVAL

As part of the Diocese of Allentown's 65th Anniversary Jubilee Year, all are invited to celebrate faith, family, and community at the Diocese's Family Festival at 12:00PM on Sunday, November 1, 2026, at St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Orefield. Join Bishop Alfred A. Schlert and families from across the Diocese for this special anniversary celebration featuring Mass with Bishop Schlert, live music, food, bingo, a petting zoo, activities, and games, an All Saints Trunk-or-Treat, and more. This rain-or-shine event promises fun for all ages and is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate 65 years of faith together. More details, including the full schedule and registration information, will be shared soon.

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.

REMINDER FROM BOTH PARISH OFFICES

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

BOYER'S CARING AND SHARING PROGRAM

Thank you to everyone who is continuing to participate in this ongoing fundraiser. St. Richard Parish currently received a check in the amount of \$113.50.

HALUPKI DINNER AT ST. RICHARD

Sunday, September 13th from 12:00PM-2:00PM in the Parish Hall. Dine in or take out. The cost is \$15 per dinner. Also, there are Halupkis for sale at \$4.00 each. Please return your dinner tickets and 50/50 chances by September 6th. Call Joann at 570-640-1034 for questions.

Dinner Prep Schedule

Wednesday Sept. 9th – 4:30PM: Cooking cabbage

Thursday, Sept. 10th – 9:30AM: Making Halupki

Saturday, Sept. 12th – 8:30AM: Packaging rolls/Cake cutting

Sunday, Sept. 13th – 10:30AM: Day of Dinner

Day of Dinner asks for volunteers for serving, kitchen help and setting up/cleaning.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY MEETING

Something that we all struggle through is grief, in many different ways. To help with this, St. Richard and St. John XXIII parishes began a grief support group for the loss of a loved one, with the meeting location alternating between the two parishes. Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 17th at 6:30PM in St. John XXIII Parish Hall. There is no obligation to participate in the ministry if you come to the meeting.

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.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCES

If you have not returned your completed clearances, please do so. Forms are still on the table in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall. Contact Cheryl at 484-866-3835 with questions.

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.

BOSCOV’S SHOPPING PASSES ON SALE

Boscov’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.

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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.

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.

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.

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.

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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