

# Welcome

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

**Reverend Robert T. Finlan, Pastor**

**Deacon Edward J. Girard**

*September 7, 2025*

*Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*



**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@allentowndiocese.org

**Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator**

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak ~ 800-791-9209  
victimsassistance@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](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 800-276-1562.

<b>Saturday, September 6</b> 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ  5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR	<b>Vigil to the Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>  Mass Intention: Carmen Castagna  Mass Intention: Kevin and Linda
<b>Sunday, September 7</b> 8:30AM Mass: SJ  10:30AM Mass: SR	<b>Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Mass Intention: Kathryn Boyle  Mass Intention: Pamela McTiernan
<b>Monday, September 8</b> 7:00AM Mass: SR ( <i>held at St. Richard Church</i> )	<b>The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Mass Intention: Stan and Jackie Dick
<b>Tuesday, September 9</b> 7:00AM Mass: SR ( <i>held at St. Richard Church</i> ) 8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration/Benediction: SJ	<b>St. Peter Claver, Priest</b> Mass Intention: Deceased Members of the Gogal and Damiano Families
<b>Wednesday, September 10</b> 7:00AM Mass: SR ( <i>No Eucharistic Adoration or Confession</i> )	<b>Weekday</b> Mass Intention: Valerie J. Higgins
<b>Thursday, September 11</b> 7:00AM Mass: SR	<b>Weekday</b> Mass Intention: For all lives lost on this day and their families
<b>Friday, September 12</b> <i>No Daily Mass at either church</i>	<b>Weekday</b>
<b>Saturday, September 13</b> 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ  5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR	<b>Vigil to The Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b>  Mass Intention: Peter and Rose Stricek  Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parishes
<b>Sunday, September 14</b> 8:30AM Mass: SJ  10:30AM Mass: SR	<b>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b> Mass Intention: Deceased Members of the Kenesky and Bobarsky Families  Mass Intention: Pat Firkal

**TODAY’S LITURGY OF THE WORD:** In the first reading, the author asks who among mortal human beings could know God’s wisdom without help from God. In the second reading, Paul urges Philemon to accept Onesimus on his behalf no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a brother. In the Gospel, Jesus says that anyone who wants to follow him must take up and carry his own cross. He encourages his listeners to consider the cost of discipleship. Christ challenges us in today’s Gospel to allow our Christian vocation to affect every aspect of our lives. He calls us to order our love properly, with love for God as the inspiration for and goal of everything we do. If we love our families, our lives, and our possessions for God’s sake and not for the sake of the things themselves, we will indeed be his disciples.

**TODAY’S RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, SEPT 14:** Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

<p style="text-align: center;"><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>Mass of Spirit and Grace</b> can be found on the following pages:                  Holy, Holy, Holy – 199 / Memorial Acclamation – 201 / Amen – 203 / Lamb of God – 204</p> <p>The prelude is <b>Eucharistia – Meditation on a Plainsong “Kyrie”</b> by G. Winston Cassler (1906-1990)                  The postlude is <b>Jesus Christ Our Blessed Savior from Enchiridion</b> arranged by David N. Johnson (1922-1987)</p> <p>The altar flowers are in honor of the 40th wedding anniversary of Thomas and Ruth Ward.</p>
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## PRAYER LIST FOR BOTH PARISHES

### Please remember in your prayers...

Roy Paisley, Marie Kalpinsky, Ellie Setlock, Chase Schaller, Kathy Sanchez, Quinn Derlunas, Mary Sloboda,  
Joseph Holly / Magnolia Pavlovich, Craig Goida, Joe McDonald, Lou Ann Knittle, Cheryl Keifer / David Rickert

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

Michael Pogwist

Mary Rose Schock

## DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

<b>St. John XXIII Sanctuary Lamp</b> In Memory of Patsy, Mary, Patty, and Joey Coleman <b>Crucifix Candle</b> In Memory of Kathryn Boyle	<b>St. Richard Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Poor Souls in Purgatory <b>Sacred Heart</b> Special Intention <b>St. Joseph</b> Victims and Families in Minnesota
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## YOUTH FORMATION

### Children's bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule

<b>St. John XXIII RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026</b> Registration forms are available in the Parish Hall. <b>Grade 1</b> (Classes will begin in January!) <b>Grade 2 Registration- \$70</b> <i>Blessed First Reconciliation/ First Communion</i> <b>Grade 3-6 Registration- \$70</b> <i>A Family of Faith</i> <b>Grades 7 &amp; 8 (Confirmation) Registration- \$70</b> <i>Chosen</i>  <b>Registered families can pick up their books on the table in the Parish Hall.</b>  <i>All students will meet in the upstairs classrooms after the 8:30AM Mass until 11:00AM</i>  <b>Sunday, Sept. 14 – Youth Formation Grades 2-8</b>  <b>Sunday, Sept. 21 – Sacramental Prep Grades 2, 7 &amp; 8</b> (Sacramental Prep Parent Meeting in the Conference Room)  <b>Sunday, Sept. 28 – Sacramental Prep Grades 2, 7 &amp; 8</b>	<b>St. Richard RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026</b>  <b>CCD/PREP CLASSES:</b>  Grades 1-4; Sunday, September 7th at 9:30AM Grades 5-8; Sunday, September 14th at 9:00AM Grades 1-4; Sunday, September 21st at 9:30AM Grades 5-8; Sunday, September 28th at 9:00AM  *All classes are held in the Parish Hall <u>unless</u> noted.  Need registration information or have questions, please contact Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433.  <b>SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS</b> <b>Cub Scouts</b> – Sunday, September 14th 4:00PM – 6:00PM in the Parish Hall
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## ADULT FORMATION

**Bible Study:** Wednesday evenings from 4:00PM – 6:00PM in the St. Richard Cry Room. All are invited to attend.

**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.

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today's second collection is for the Archdiocese for Military Service (*see bulletin insert for more information*).

Upcoming collections are...

9/14 ~ Society of St. Vincent de Paul

9/21 ~ Stained-Glass Window Renovation: SR / Parish Cemeteries: SJ

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

### This Week

Sunday	12:00PM-3:00PM St. Richard Halupki Dinner in the St. Richard Parish Hall
Monday	6:30PM St. John XXIII Fundraising Meeting in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall
Tuesday	7:00PM St. Richard Fundraising Meeting in the St. Richard Parish Hall
Thursday	St. Richard Basket Raffle in the Parish Hall: 4:00PM – 7:00PM Shop/Drop 7:30PM Holy Name meeting in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall – new members are always welcome
Friday	St. Richard Basket Raffle in the Parish Hall: 4:00PM – 7:00PM Shop/Drop
Saturday	St. Richard Basket Raffle in the Parish Hall: 9:30AM – 12:30PM Last Call ~ 1:00PM Drawings begin 1:00PM Memorial Service for Victims of Abortion in the Prayer Garden of the St. Jerome (New) Cemetery

### Upcoming Events

September 14	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass
September 18	10:00AM St. Vincent de Paul Society meeting in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall 6:00PM Thank You Dinner at Basile's for anyone who volunteers in any way at St. John XXIII
September 20	9:00AM-11:00AM St. Vincent de Paul Baby Food Distribution – St. John XXIII Parish Hall – 570-225-8620

### MEMORIAL FOR ABORTED CHILDREN

Join us this Saturday, Sept. 13th at 1:00 PM in the St. Jerome Cemetery Prayer Garden to participate in a beautiful memorial service for the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children. Call Cheryl with any questions at 484-866-3835.

### ST. JOHN XXIII VOLUNTEER THANK YOU DINNER

A special dinner for anyone who volunteers in any way at St. John XXIII is being planned at Basile's Restaurant on Thursday, September 18th. It will be a buffet dinner starting at 6:00PM with a cash bar. A sign-up sheet is located in the Family Room at St. John XXIII. Spouses are invited as well. To help us manage the RSVP count, please indicate the correct number in your party.

### NEW BEREAVEMENT CARD SENDING MINISTRY

Our bereavement support group is under way, but there's more to grieving than a support group, especially for the first year after a loss. We will be adding another piece to the bereavement ministry to help with the grief process – a Card Sending Ministry. We will keep in touch with the grieving person by sending cards and other resources throughout the year at important dates for the grieving person, and make sure they are doing OK. If anyone is interested in learning more about this Card Sending Ministry or wants to become part of it, please contact Cheryl at 484-866-3835. We will set up a meeting with interested individuals to learn more and offer ideas.

### NEW “5 & 2” MINISTRY

This ministry will help to plan events and outreach. Included in the event list are two events we already have been doing: the Advent Dinner and Movie in December, and the Culture of Life Celebration in January. Other possible events to consider are an Ethnic Potluck dinner, Movie Nights, Music Night, collections for marginal populations, an outreach table at Tamaqua Heritage Day, and more. Join us in planning, gathering ideas, and bringing these things to our parishes. Contact Cheryl at 484-866-3835 if interested in learning more.

### ST. JOHN XXIII BASKET RAFFLE IN OCTOBER

Information and sign-up sheets for the St. John XXIII Basket Raffle in October are in the Family Room.

### ST. JOHN XXIII CAFÉ IS OPEN TODAY

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.

### COOKS WITH COLLARS 2025 HAS BEGUN

Fr. Finlan is back at it again! This year he will be showing the beginning stages of “meatball making” for the St. Richard Food Festival held every August. “Cooks with Collars” is the online cooking competition that raises funds for parishes in the Diocese of Allentown. Watch the videos of priests getting creative in the kitchen at [www.cookswithcollars.com](http://www.cookswithcollars.com) and cheer for our favorite chef and support your local parish by clicking the button to vote early and often during the month of September! All voting dollars go directly to local parishes in the Diocese of Allentown. In 2024, thousands of parishioners and friends from throughout the diocese, across the country, and even around the world contributed more than \$300,000 to local parishes by voting for their favorite Cooks with Collars. Be inspired and support our favorite Cooks with Collars today!

### 75th ANNIVERSARY MASS AND CELEBRATION

On Sunday, October 19, 2025, we will celebrate the 75th Anniversary of St. Richard Parish. The celebration begins at 10:30AM Mass with His Excellency Bishop Alfred A. Schlert followed by a catered dinner at Capriotti's in McAdoo. The invitations for this milestone event have been sent. Please return your RSVP to the Parish Office either by mail or the secure drop box on the Rectory porch.

### ST. RICHARD BASKET RAFFLE

Our Basket Raffle is scheduled for next Saturday, September 13th! Flyers with dates and times for the early Shop/Drop and Event Day are in the vestibule. Please consider donating to this fundraiser in which all proceeds go towards the 75th Anniversary celebration in October. To donate, contact the Parish Office at 570-467-2315 or one of the Fundraising Committee members.

### LAST CALL FOR PRE-SALE TICKETS

Tickets will be sold before and after all Masses this weekend (9/6 and 9/7). The cost is \$20 for five sheets.

### ATTENTION ALTAR SERVERS

If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server, or know someone who is, please reach out to Deacon Ed, Krissy Wonsock, or Melissa Grimminger to schedule your training!

### MARCH FOR LIFE IN HARRISBURG

This year's March for Life in Harrisburg is on Monday, September 22nd. Check out the March for Life website at <https://marchforlife.org/pennsylvania> for the schedule.

### **MARCH FOR LIFE HARRISBURG**

This year's March for Life in Harrisburg is on Monday, September 22nd. St. Ambrose in Schuylkill Haven is working on getting a bus, if there's enough interest. The cost will be dependent on how many people sign up. If interested, contact Cheryl at 484-866-3835. Check out the March for Life website at <https://marchforlife.org/pennsylvania> for the schedule.

### **BOSCOV'S SHOPPING PASSES AT ST. JOHN XXIII**

Boscov's shopping passes are on sale in the Family Room for \$5 each. The passes are valid for purchases all day on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, only. The pass entitles the buyer to a 10%, 15%, or 25% discount on the lowest sale price of most items.

### **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.

### **"FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS" AT ST. RICHARD**

Boscov's shopping passes are currently in the St. Richard vestibule and on the table entering from the handicap ramp. Please take a pass and leave your \$5 donation per pass.

### **BOYER'S KEY TAG PROGRAM REMINDER**

Thank you to everyone who is continuing to participate in this ongoing fundraiser. It is an easy way to earn money for our parish. Just have the cashier scan the key tag at checkout. Key fobs are located at both entrances.

### **HOME VISITATION AT ST. RICHARD**

We are currently updating our Home Visitation/Communion Call List. If anyone would like to be added, please contact the Parish Office.

no matter how big or small. You can also

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS AT ST. RICHARD**

On Sunday, October 19, 2025, we will celebrate the 75th Anniversary of St. Richard Parish. The celebration begins at 10:30AM Mass with His Excellency Bishop Alfred A. Schlert followed by a catered dinner. More details to come.

**2025 MASS BOOK AT ST. RICHARD**

Daily Mass dates are still available. Please also consider the Eternal Remembrance Society or any of the Devotional Candles including the Sanctuary Lamp. All requests may be mailed, placed in the collection basket, or dropped at the office.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER REMINDER**

In case of bad weather of snow or ice, St. Richard will follow Mahanoy Area School District and St. John XXIII will follow Tamaqua Area School District. If the district has a cancellation or delay because of weather, there will be no weekday Mass.

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