

# Welcome

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

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

*May 10, 2026*  
*Sixth 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  
victimassistance@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](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 800-276-1562.

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| <p><b>Saturday, May 9</b><br/>                 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ<br/>                 3:30PM Mass: SJ</p> <p>5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR<br/>                 5:30PM Mass: SR</p>  | <p><b>Vigil to the Sixth Sunday of Easter</b><br/>                 Mass Intention: Mother’s Day Memorials</p> <p>Mass Intention: Mother’s Day Memorials</p>  |
| <p><b>Sunday, May 10</b><br/>                 8:30AM Mass: SJ</p> <p>10:30AM Mass: SR</p>  | <p><b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b><br/>                 Mass Intention: Mother’s Day Memorials</p> <p>Mass Intention: Mother’s Day Memorials</p>   |
| <p><b>Monday, May 11</b><br/>                 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>)</p>   | <p><b>Easter Weekday</b><br/>                 Mass Intention: Joseph Zelinsky</p>  |
| <p><b>Tuesday, May 12</b><br/>                 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>)<br/>                 8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration/Benediction: SJ</p>                                    | <p><b>Easter Weekday</b><br/>                 Mass Intention: Renee Frabrizio</p>  |
| <p><b>Wednesday, May 13</b><br/>                 7:00AM Mass: SR</p> <p>7:00PM Vigil Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. John XXIII</i>)</p>  | <p><b>Easter Weekday</b><br/>                 Mass Intention: Carole Garber</p> <p><b>Vigil to the Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)</b><br/>                 Mass Intention: Living &amp; Deceased Parishioners of St. John XXIII and St. Richard Parishes</p> |
| <p><b>Thursday, May 14</b><br/>                 7:00AM Mass: SR</p>  | <p><b>The Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)</b><br/>                 Mass Intention: Living &amp; Deceased Parishioners of St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parishes</p>  |
| <p><b>Friday, May 15</b><br/> <i>No Daily Mass at either church</i></p>  | <p><b>Easter Weekday</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Saturday, May 16</b><br/>                 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ<br/>                 3:30PM Mass: SJ</p> <p>5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR<br/>                 5:30PM Mass: SR</p> | <p><b>Vigil to the Seventh Sunday of Easter</b><br/>                 Mass Intention: Carl Ankiewicz</p> <p>Mass Intention: Newly Ordained Deacons</p>  |
| <p><b>Sunday, May 17</b><br/>                 8:30AM Mass: SJ</p> <p>10:30AM Mass: SR</p>  | <p><b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b><br/>                 Mass Intention: Newly Ordained Deacons</p> <p>Mass Intention: Thomas Long Sr.</p>  |

**TODAY’S LITURGY OF THE WORD:** In the first reading, Philip proclaims the Good News of salvation to the Samaritans. As they hear and witness his words and actions, they accept the message with joy. Peter challenges the Christian community to be ready to explain their faith and to live blamelessly, even in the face of persecution. In the Gospel, Jesus encourages his disciples to remain faithful to his words and to keep his commandments, promising them another Advocate who would lead them to all truth. As Christians we are called to share the Good News. Saint Peter challenges us to be ready to give an account of the hope that we have in Christ, but to do so with gentleness. As the old saying goes, we attract others more easily with honey than with vinegar. But it isn’t always easy to evangelize, and we have no guarantee of how we will be received. We need God’s love and the power of the Holy Spirit, the promised Advocate, to fulfill this task.

**TODAY’S RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 17:** Acts 1:12-14; Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8; 1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 17:1-11a

**St. John XXIII**

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

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

The prelude is **Ave Maria** by Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

The postlude is **Immaculate Mary** by Augustus Edmonds Tozer (1857-1910)

The altar flowers are in celebration of the 40th wedding anniversary of Dr. Tom and Elinor Dirnberger.

## 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...**

Francis S. Vilcheck

## DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

### St. John XXIII

#### Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of Anne Pedron

#### Crucifix Candle

In Memory of Deceased Members of the Jewells and Forte Families

### St. Richard

#### Blessed Virgin Mary

For Peace in God's World

#### Sacred Heart

Special Intention

## YOUTH FORMATION

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

### St. John XXIII

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026

**Sunday, May 10th** – 8:30AM Mass – May Crowning

Please pray for the children who received their First Holy Communion this past Saturday, May 9th.

Noah Kunkel

Conlan Sweeney

Adeline Sobolewski

Jacob Walser

### St. Richard

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026

#### CCD/PREP CLASSES - EVENTS

Classes ended for the Summer

Sunday, May 10th – following 10:30AM Mass  
May Crowning Procession

#### CUB SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS

Every Sunday from 4:00PM-6:00PM in the Parish Hall

## 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. Call Cheryl at 484-866-3835 with any questions. Tuesdays 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. Mystagogoy (living the mystery) to Pentecost. New inquirers are welcome.

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today's second collection is for Mother's Day.

Upcoming collections are...

5/14 ~ Ascension

5/17 ~ Parish Utilities

5/24 ~ Parish Utilities

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

| This Week       |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Sunday          | May Crowning at both Sunday Masses and flower carnation sale at St. John XXIII<br>Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass                       |
| Tuesday         | 7:00PM Rosary and Mass of Remembrance for anyone who has lost a child of any age at St. John XXIII<br>7:00PM St. Richard Fundraising Meeting held in the Parish Hall |
| Wednesday       | Ascension Thursday Vigil Mass: 7:00PM Wednesday at St. John XXIII  |
| Thursday        | Ascension Thursday Mass: 7:00AM Thursday at St. Richard<br>No St. John XXIII Parish Choir Rehearsal today – regular Thursday rehearsal will resume next week         |
| Saturday        | 9:00AM-11:00AM St. Vincent de Paul Baby Food Distribution – St. John XXIII Parish Hall – 570-225-8620  |
| Upcoming Events |  |
| May 15-17       | St. Richard Annual Basket Raffle fundraiser (see flyers posted in the Vestibule)   |
| May 17          | 7:00PM Tamaqua Area High School Baccalaureate Service at St. John XXIII  |
| May 18          | Freckled Moose order forms due on May 18th – order pick-up date is June 3rd in St. John XXIII Parish Hall  |
| May 19          | 6:00PM Pastoral Council Meeting in the St. Richard Parish Hall (meeting includes both parishes)  |
| May 21          | 10:00AM St. Vincent de Paul Society Meeting in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall  |
| 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   |

### A WORD OF THANKS FROM ST. JOHN XXIII

Thank you to everyone who attended, planned, and/or donated towards our parish BINGO last Sunday. The BINGO made a net profit of \$4,369.14. Also thank you to all the volunteers who cleaned our Church and Parish Hall on Thursday. We are grateful for your efforts in keeping everything clean and nice.

### “33 DAYS TO EUCHARISTIC GLORY” BOOK

In honor of the Diocese’s 65th Jubilee Year, Bishop Schlert invites all parishioners to join a diocesan-wide Eucharistic Consecration which will culminate on Sunday, June 7th – the Solemnity of Corpus Christi. Free copies of the book “33 Days to Eucharistic Glory” by Matthew Kelly are available on the table in the Family Room. If you didn’t get a book last week, please take one home today.

### GOLF OUTING AT MOUNTAIN VALLEY – MAY 16th

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning will host its 35th Annual Golf Classic on May 16th at Mountain Valley Golf Course. Join us for a day of food, fellowship, and golf in support of the students and adults we serve. For more information or to register, please visit [www.stjosephctr.com](http://www.stjosephctr.com) or call 570-622-4638.

### 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 21.

### FRECKLED MOOSE PASTRY FUNDRAISER

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

### 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 next weekend about this mission trip.

### John 1:29: “Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world!”

Please keep the following children in your prayers while they continue their journey with God, as they received the sacrament of reconciliation for the first time on May 7, 2026: Jakob Richard Clause, Kensley Quinn Walasavage, Harper Rose Setlock, Bo Allan Turrano, Baxton Nicholas Lutz, Henry Pinkey, Lucas James Capone, and Reese Kelly Jacobs.

### John 6:35: “Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”

Please pray for the following as they made the sacrament of Holy Eucharist on Saturday, May 9, 2026: Stone Ryan Mroczka, Eve Julia Olivia, Mackenzie Jean Howay, Michael Robert Blashock, Charlotte Marilyn Cambra, and Jakob Richard Clause.

### ST. RICHARD SPRING BASKET RAFFLE

Our annual fundraising event begins this Friday, May 15th, and continues Saturday, with drawings beginning on Sunday, May 17th at 1:00PM. Please consider donating a basket for this fundraiser. **To donate**, contact Joann at 570-640-1034, OR Jack at 570-225-1771, or the Parish Office at 570-467-2315. **FINAL PRE-SALE TICKETS** will be sold before and after all Masses **this weekend** in the Vestibule. Cost is \$20

**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.

**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.

**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 every gift counts. Please visit [www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org](http://www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org) 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.

**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.

**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.

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