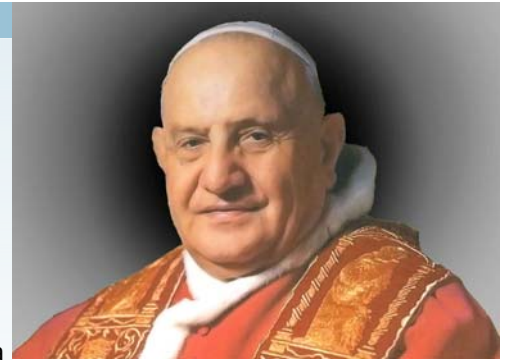


# Saint John XXIII Parish Newsletter

August 2, 2016  
Volume 3, Issue 1



Dear Parishioners,

Many of you may remember this “I want you” image that was used in the past to recruit young men to military service. Is it still used today? I think if



we changed the picture of Uncle Sam to Jesus the message would easily be the same. Jesus wants you to be a part of His “army”, that is, His army of Intentional Disciples. Jesus wants you on His army bus!

This past July, my message series, “Trademarks, Brands & Tattoos” was all about some of the things that we, as a parish community, must value. I spoke of three things: Evangelization, Intentional Discipleship and Service. Throughout the Gospels these are three values, behaviors or tasks that Jesus asks of anyone who is a part of His “army”. If you missed these messages, you may listen to them by visiting the parish website and clicking on the “Pastor’s Page” link.

As a part of the message series, I gave some examples of what these three values mean and how to put them into practice. The examples that I gave were just that, examples. They did not constitute an exhaustive list! There are many ways to evangelize, many ways to become an Intentional Disciple and many ways to serve. However, the best way to do these things is within the context of the parish, the local community of believers.

The Church teaches that a parish is a “definite community of the Christian faithful established on a stable basis within a particular church [diocese]; the pastoral care of the parish is entrusted to a pastor as its own shepherd under the authority of the diocesan bishop”. (COCL 515) Any organization worth its salt has definite values and expectations that it makes known to those who wish to be a part of that organization. This is equally true of a Catholic Parish.

Here at St. John XXIII Parish, I have attempted, in my role as pastor, to highlight values and expectations that are rooted in the Gospel and the teachings of the Catholic Church. Individuals who want to be a part of St. John XXIII Parish should find ways to make these values part of their daily life. “Why?” As a response to Jesus’ promise that those who are faithful to him and his message will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

It is through the power and working of the Holy Spirit that the Church will grow and flourish. We must be a growing community. All of our programs and activities are organized as a means to help all those who participate to evangelize, become Intentional Disciples and serve so that our community grows and flourishes.

This is why it is so important to get involved in the life of your parish community. Start by making sure you get to Mass each week. Then participate in the activities advertised in this newsletter.

Peace & Blessings

Fr. John

## PARISH STAFF

- Rev. John A. Frink, M.Div., Pastor
- Mrs. Jane Habel, Director of Youth Evangelization
- Mrs. Kristin Osenbach, Director of Parish Ministries
- Mrs. Amy Hannis-Miskar, Principal of St. Jerome Regional School
- Mrs. Donna Plasko, Administrative Assistant
- Mr. Frank Pentz, Business Manager
- Mrs. Pattie Radocha, Bookkeeper
- Mrs. Lisa Frederick, Alpha Coordinator

## PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Center .....570-225-7410  
Parish Fax.....570-668-4406  
Religious Education.....570-668-1211  
Parish Ministries .....570-225-7412  
St. Jerome Reg. School.....570-668-2757

## WEB SITE AND E-MAIL

- Parish Website — [www.sj23tamaqua.org](http://www.sj23tamaqua.org)
- Pastor’s e-mail — [pastor@sj23tamaqua.org](mailto:pastor@sj23tamaqua.org)
- Parish e-mail — [secretary@sj23tamaqua.org](mailto:secretary@sj23tamaqua.org)
- Youth Evangelization e-mail — [religiously@sj23tamaqua.org](mailto:religiously@sj23tamaqua.org)
- Parish Ministries e-mail — [adultformation@sj23tamaqua.org](mailto:adultformation@sj23tamaqua.org)
- Alpha email — [sj23alpha@gmail.com](mailto:sj23alpha@gmail.com)
- St. Jerome Regional School — website: [www.sjrschool.com](http://www.sjrschool.com), e-mail: [altssj@ptd.net](mailto:altssj@ptd.net)

## PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN

- Safe Environment Coordinator: Sister Meg Cole, SSJ, MS, LMFT 610-332-0442 x19
- Office of Victims Assistance: Ms. Wendy Krisak, NCC, LPC Direct Number: 1-800-791-9209

“Saint John XXIII Parish is a Catholic Community dedicated to loving God with all our minds, hearts and souls. We seek to announce the Good News and unite the Lost, Unchurched and Church Families, as Jesus commands us as His disciples.”

## News from the Parish Office

From the Desk of Donna Plasko...

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE / WEDDINGS

Arrangements should be made with our Parish Priest 1 year (and not less than 6 months) prior to the wedding. Wedding dates cannot be secured until the engaged couple meets with the Parish Priest. To avoid any conflict with our weekend celebrations, no wedding will be celebrated after 1:00 p.m. on a Saturday and no weddings are scheduled on Sundays.

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If a Parishioner is seriously ill, please call the Parish Center. Hospitalized Parishioners who are in serious condition should request the Priest assigned to the hospital to be called for an anointing (**Remember** with the new privacy laws, hospital patient information is not given out as freely as it was previously). Parishioners are encouraged to request the Sacrament of the Sick prior to going into the hospital for any serious procedure.

### BAPTISMS

Celebrated on Sundays following the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Catholic parents and godparents should be practicing their faith. A Certificate of Eligibility is required of all godparents. Parents are required to attend a pre-baptismal meeting scheduled prior to the baby's birth. Please call the Office of Youth Evangelization to schedule a meeting.

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PARISH WEBSITE QRC

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# News from the Office of Parish Ministries

Mrs. Kristin Osenbach, Director of Parish Ministries

We held our first **CONNECT23** Session for new Parishioners and those interested in joining our Parish on Sunday, July 10. The staff and I thoroughly enjoyed meeting with the attendees and those who attended seemed to like the session. Some of the feedback we received on our surveys included:

“Felt very welcomed and impressed. How very friendly the Parish Staff was to the New Parishioners.”

“Great welcoming.”


“It was an opportunity to be informed about the Parish and to be aware of the services and programs offered to the Parishioners.”

**St. John XXIII Parish Invites You to**

## CONNECT23


**You are invited to learn more about**

- ◆ Our Mission & Vision
- ◆ Programs & Services
- ◆ Dedicated Staff
- ◆ Your God given *gifts and talents* and how they can bring you joy



266 West Broad St.  
Tamaqua, PA 18252  
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loveGOD  
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<b>WHAT?</b>	A single session (Light refreshments will be served)
<b>WHEN?</b>	Monday, August 22, following the 7:00 pm Mass and concluding at 9:00 pm
<b>WHERE?</b>	St. John XXIII Parish Center, 266 W. Broad Street
<b>HOW?</b>	<b>RSVP to Kristin, Director of Parish Ministries</b> 570-225-7412 or <a href="mailto:adultformation@sj23tamaqua.org">adultformation@sj23tamaqua.org</a>

## MEMORIAL OFFERINGS

As you prepare your last Will and Testament, please consider including St. John XXIII as a beneficiary. Donations to the Parish Memorial Fund may be given at any time in memory of your deceased family members or friends.

## PARISH MEMBERSHIP

If you live within the Parish Boundaries, please register at the Parish Office. New Parishioners are always welcomed. If you are moving out of the area or change your address or phone number, please notify the Parish Center so we can maintain accurate records.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

Every September, adults who are interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith, as well as, adult Catholics who are in need of preparation for Penance, Eucharist and / or Confirmation are invited to join in this Parish program. Please contact the Parish Center.

## FUNERAL / BURIALS


Please check the availability of the Church and Priest before finalizing any Mass day or time with your Funeral Director. Catholics are strongly encouraged to be buried in Catholic Cemeteries.

## CERTIFICATES OF ELIGIBILITY

A Certificate will be issued only to those who: are registered in the Parish and have reached their 16th Birthday, received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist and are faithfully attending Mass in our Parish Community.

## CARE OF THE SICK

Holy Communion is brought to the Parish Shut-Ins two Sundays each month, as well as, First Friday each month. The parish priest visits the home bound four times each year.

<p><b><i>The Dog Haus</i></b> 209 W. Broad St., Tamaqua 570-952-1505 “No hot dog order too big” 100% Fresh Burgers Chili Dogs Fresh Cut Fries</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Dr. Robert F. Marcin, O.D.</b> <i>Therapeutic Certified Optometrist ~ Complete Eye Care</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>570-668-4362</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Accepting Medicare and Other Insurance</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">125 West Broad Street, P.O. Box 24, Tamaqua, PA18252</p>
<p><b>KOTCH NOTARY SERVICE</b> DOROTHY T. KOTCH MICHELLE D. KRELL Jack M Kotch Bruce Krell 226 South Center Street Tamaqua, PA 18252 570-668-1438</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <p style="font-size: small;">“Country fresh Ice Cream” cloverleaf dairy</p> </div> <p>743 Catawissa Road, Tamaqua, PA 18252 Phone: 570-668-3399 Closing Sept. 28 until April <a href="http://www.heislersedairy.com">www.heislersedairy.com</a></p>
<p><b>State Farm Insurance</b> Providing Insurance and Financial services.</p> <p><b>Marybeth Leitzel, Agent</b> 2 Dennison St. Tamaqua, PA 18252 Bus: 570-668-4310</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <p><a href="mailto:marybeth.leitzel.bu4b@statefarm.com">marybeth.leitzel.bu4b@statefarm.com</a></p>	

# Alpha ?

## Confirmation 2017

In the Diocese of Allentown students in Grade 8, who have been properly prepared, and who are participating in their parish community may request the Sacrament of Confirmation. Those students preparing for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation are called candidates.

In the Parish of Saint John XXIII the candidates will begin their preparation by attending **Alpha - Confirmation** beginning this September 18.

Alpha is a beginning. So, it is appropriate that before the candidates request and learn about the sacrament of confirmation, they have an opportunity to ask and explore questions about our faith.

For ten weeks the candidates will enjoy a meal, then meet with their mentors in small groups where they will watch a short video presentation and then have the opportunity to answer questions to help them think about our faith and what they believe.

"Why am I here?" "Who is Jesus?" After the candidates have had time to think about these and other questions, their mentors will help them to become more intentional in learning our faith and focus on the Sacrament of Confirmation.

If you are new to our parish, or missed the June meeting for the parents of candidates, an informational meeting will be held on **Sunday, August 21**, at the conclusion of the 5:00 p.m. Mass at Ss. Peter & Paul Church. Please contact me, Jane Habel, to confirm that you are attending.

**Is there more to life?** Alpha gives everyone the opportunity to explore the meaning of life in a relaxed, friendly setting. The Alpha course usually meets once a week for 10 weeks, in our church hall, with a one day away retreat in the middle of the course. Sessions begin with a meal, followed by a short talk and time to discuss the topic.

During the discussion, everyone is welcome to contribute their opinions and no question is considered hostile or too simple. Questions might include – Is there a God? Why am I here? Where did I come from? Where am I going?

**Alpha is for everyone** – no question is out of bounds and you are free to discuss as much or as little as you wish. **We don't assume any background knowledge or belief in Christianity and everyone is welcome.**


**What to expect, A typical Alpha** — Alpha runs in cafés, churches, universities, homes, bars — you name it. No two Alphas look the same, but they generally have three key things in common: food, a talk and good conversation.

**First up, there's Food** — Whether it's a group of friends gathered around a kitchen table or a quick catch-up over coffee and cake, food has a way of bringing people together. It's no different at Alpha. We start with food, because it's a great way to encourage community and get to know each other.


**Then a Talk** — The talks are designed to engage and inspire conversation. Generally, 30 minutes long, they are given as a live talk or played as a video. Talks explore the big issues around faith and unpack the basics of Christianity, addressing questions such as *Who is Jesus?* and *How can we have faith?*

**Followed by Discussion** — Probably the most important part of any Alpha – the chance to share thoughts and ideas on the topic and simply discuss it in a small group. There's no obligation to say anything. And there's nothing you can't say. It's an opportunity to hear from others and contribute your own perspective in an honest, friendly and open environment.

**Is Alpha OK for Catholics?** If you have questions about Alpha and how it relates to Catholics, check out endorsements from many Catholic Leaders of our time, including Pope Francis at: [alpha.org/Catholics](http://alpha.org/Catholics)



**Alpha**  
Come and See what Alpha is all about!

Pre-Registration Required		Sundays September 18 at 6:00 PM
Sign Up NOW for our 3 Fall Sessions		Wednesdays September 21 at 9:00 AM
		Fridays September 23, at 6:00 PM

To Pre-Register or for more info:  
Contact Lisa, Alpha Coordinator at St. John XXIII Parish,  
[sj23alpha@gmail.com](mailto:sj23alpha@gmail.com) or (570) 225-5584

<p><b>Edwards Flowers</b> 501 West Broad Street Tamaqua, PA 18252 570-668-0480</p> 	<p><b>Hometown Village Pharmacy</b> 220 Claremont Ave., Suite 2 Tamaqua, PA 18252 "Let our Pharmacy family be your family Pharmacy"</p>	<p>For more information, please contact Lisa, Alpha Coordinator, at <a href="mailto:sj23alpha@gmail.com">sj23alpha@gmail.com</a> or (570) 225-7410.</p>
<p><b>Michael S. Greek</b> Attorney At Law 42 East Patterson Street Lansford, PA 18232 570-645-2200</p>	 <p>Services: Physical Therapy; Fitness Programs; Manual Therapy</p>	<p><b>219 Claremont Avenue</b> Tamaqua, PA 18252 Phone: 570-668-1889 Fax: 570-668-6115 <a href="http://www.physical-therapy-at-st-luke's">www.physical-therapy-at-st-luke's</a></p>
 <p><b>E. FRANKLIN GRIFFITHS</b> <i>Funeral Home &amp; Cremation Services, Inc.</i> Telephone: 570-668-2550 <a href="http://www.griffithsfuneralhomes.com">www.griffithsfuneralhomes.com</a> Onsite—secure crematory</p>		 <p><b>Grande Pizza</b> 1209 Rt. 209 Tamaqua Plaza Tamaqua, 18252 570-668-1115 Sun &amp; Mon—closed Tue to Sat-11:00AM to 9:00PM Pizza; salads; beverages Hot and cold sandwiches</p>

# News from the Office of Religious Education

Mrs. Jane Habel, Director of Youth Evangelization

ANGELIC ACES



FEARLESS FOLLOWERS



I was twenty-seven the first time that I heard the letters D.R.E. (Director of Religious Education). Sr. Anne Francine, I.H.M. said that I would be needed in the future to be a D.R.E. at our parish. I responded with a nervous smile and chuckle. I believed that nuns (religious sisters) and priests were responsible for the formal teaching of children. Lay volunteers, like me could help, but we could never organize the programs. I was wrong. Seven years later, I was hired by the pastors in the Tamaqua Area as the Director of Religious Education. I happily served the parishes of St. Bartholomew, St. Bertha, Ss. Peter & Paul and St. Jerome until the new formation of the Parish of St. John XXIII in 2014.

This Fall, we begin new programs for our children and youth with a focus on evangelization. At our baptism we become part of the Body of Christ and receive the responsibility of sharing the Gospel. The names for our new programs (credit to Mary Ann Mansell) are: Angelic Aces for students in Grades 1 through 4, and Fearless Followers for students in Grades 5 through 7.

The **Angelic Aces** will come to the 10:00 AM Mass at St. John XXIII with their families each week. After the opening prayer, they will be invited to come forward and will go into the Saint Jerome Regional School Building for instruction based on the Sunday Gospel and Father Frink's message. They will return to Mass during the Offertory Procession in time for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Two Sundays per month, Grades 1 and 2 will have an extended period with their teachers. They will dismiss from the main entrance of SJRS at the conclusion of Mass (11:00 AM). Grades 3 and 4 will return each week during the Offertory Procession. At this time, Angelic Aces is only offered during the 10:00 am Mass.

The **Fearless Followers** will also come to the 10:00 AM Mass with their families, and will be called forward after the opening prayer. They will also go to the SJRS building to learn about the Sunday Gospel and Father Frink's message. They will return each week during the Offertory Procession so that they may fully participate in the Liturgy of the Eucharist (receive Communion). Fearless Followers will also be offered during the 5:00 PM Sunday evening Mass.

Both **Angelic Aces** and **Fearless Followers** will follow the Curriculum Guidelines published by the Allentown Diocese for Grades 1 - 8.

I wonder if Sr. Anne knew what would come from the seed she planted? Evangelizing the youth of our parish and helping them know the "Good News" of the Gospel, and their role in proclaiming that message, have become very important to me. Whom has God sent to plant that seed in you? What is His plan for you? How will you respond?

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### Sunday

8:00 AM—Mass at SS. Peter & Paul

10:00 AM—Mass at St. John XXIII

4:00—4:45 PM—Confessions at SS. Peter & Paul

5:00 PM—Mass at SS. Peter & Paul

### Monday

7:00 PM—Mass at St. John XXIII

### Tuesday

8:00 AM—Mass at SS. Peter & Paul

### Wednesday

8:00 AM—Mass at SS. Peter & Paul, followed by Eucharistic Adoration

7:00 PM—Parish Holy Hour with Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy followed by Benediction

### Thursday

8:00 AM—Mass at SS. Peter & Paul

### Friday

5:00 PM—Mass at SS. Peter & Paul

### Saturday

3:00—3:45 PM—Confession at St. John XXIII

4:00 PM—Mass at St. John XXIII

Please consult the weekly announcement sheet for changes in the Liturgical Schedule. The Liturgical Schedule is kept up to date on the parish website:

[www.sj23tamaqua.org](http://www.sj23tamaqua.org)

Anyone wishing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) may approach Father at any time.



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# C.O.R.E.

To help keep everyone informed of what is happening here at the Parish, Fr. John has asked the Parish staff to present a one to two-minute segment prior to the start of all the weekend Masses called **CORE**.

**CORE** is a great way for the Staff to keep everyone up to date on what's happening here at St. John the 23rd Parish!

As we continue to grow and welcome new Parishioners, this quick segment is an opportunity for us as a Parish Family to:

*Come together*

*Open up*

*Respond to the Holy Spirit and*

*Engage in Church Community*

We will do our best to keep the segment short and sweet and to the point. We hope you find it helpful and informative!

## Alpha Fall 2016



Mrs. Lisa Frederick, Alpha Coordinator

Here at St. John XXIII Parish, we will be starting our 3<sup>rd</sup> Alpha Course this September 2016. **Pre-Registration is required** for the planning of the session for food and other arrangements needed by our Alpha Team of Hosts and Helpers.

### SUNDAY Evening

An opportunity for families to attend Alpha. Starting on September 18, 6:00 – 8:30 PM, following the 5:00 PM Mass at St. Peter & Paul Church in the Church Hall. Sundays include: **Alpha for Adults and Alpha Youth (Grades 9-12) and Alpha Youth for Confirmation Candidates (Grade 8) Childcare will be available.** Please preregister for the following week with the child's name and age. Details will follow.

### WEDNESDAY Morning

An opportunity during a weekday morning for adults to attend Alpha. Starting on September 21, 9:00 – 11:30 AM, following the 8:00 AM Mass at St. Peter & Paul Church. Location TBD depending on the number of guests registered

### FRIDAY Evening

An opportunity during a weekday evening for adults to attend Alpha. Starting on September 23, 6:00 – 8:30 PM, following the 5:00 PM Mass at St. Peter & Paul Church in the Church Hall.

**Please note:** Relationships are of up-most important to us. Information is confidential and kept within the group setting: We ask for your complete corporation and respect. The session you register for will be your weekly time. We ask that you do not make-up any missed sessions on days other than the one to which you are registered.

### NEW HOST & HELPER TEAMS NOW FORMING

Attention Alpha Guests from the last two courses: if you have completed an Alpha course in the past, we are forming our Teams of Host and Helpers for the Fall 2016 Courses. We would love to have you continue your growth as an Intentional Disciple. There are many ways you can use your gifts. Our Alpha Angels can help as: Kitchen Angels, Digital Techie's, Tidy Up Team, Glad Greeters, Creative Decorators, Music Makers, Childcare Crew and Prayer Ministry.

### Registration Information for all: New Alpha Guests or Host / Helper Training

To learn more about being a New Alpha Guest or a Host / Helper, please contact Lisa at [sj23alpha@gmail.com](mailto:sj23alpha@gmail.com) or (570) 225-7410. Registration Forms can be found on the Alpha page on the Parish Website by clicking the **Preregistration for Training** and **Pre-register for New Guests** Forms.

<p><b>Hope's Collision &amp; Towing</b> 1500 W. Broad St Tamaqua, PA 570-668-4113</p> 	<p><b>Knights of Columbus</b> Council 2711 meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday at 200 East Miner St., Coaldale. <i>We serve savory noontime dinners every 3rd Sunday.</i> 570-645-3896</p> 	<p><b>WALTERS MONUMENT CO.</b></p>  <p>Cemetery Memorials Craig Walters – owner 570-645-3415 ~ Fax: 570-645-2158 <a href="http://waltersmonument.com">waltersmonument.com</a></p>
<p><b>Tom's Auto-body &amp; Marine</b> S. Greenwood St. &amp; Mtn. Ave. Tamaqua, PA 570-668-5066 Since 1964 Expert Auto-body repair, Rhino Lining truck bed coating, Propane, and Fishing Store. <a href="http://tomsautobodyrepair.com">tomsautobodyrepair.com</a></p>	<p><b>St. John XXIII Parish Website:</b> <a href="http://www.sj23tamaqua.org">www.sj23tamaqua.org</a></p>	<p>May God Be With You Throughout this Week <i>Compliments of Shafer's Pharmacy</i></p>
<p> <b>AUTO PARTS</b></p> <p><b>TAMAQUA AUTO PARTS, INC.</b> NAPA Auto &amp; Truck Parts Serving the Community Since 1975 1101 East Broad Street Tamaqua, 18252 ~ 570-668-1790</p>	<p> <b>DUCTLESS AIR CONDITIONING AND HEATING</b> <i>Call for Installation</i> RESIDENTIAL— COMMERCIAL—INDUSTRIAL</p> <p><b>L&amp;S ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION</b> PA001683</p> <p>SUMMIT HILL 570-645-5293 LEHIGHTON 610-377-3713</p>	<p>GEOTHERMAL; GAS; OIL; WIRING DUCT CLEANING; GENERATORS; PLUMBING</p>

# St. John XXIII Parish 2015-2016 Financial Report

## Summary of report submitted to the Diocese of Allentown

	2015-2016 <u>Actual</u>	2015-2016 <u>Budget</u>
<b>REGULAR INCOME</b>		
<i>Sunday Collections</i>	471,046.08	480,000.00
<i>Other Collections</i>	0.00	0.00
<i>Christmas Collection</i>	25,908.00	23,000.00
<i>Easter Collection</i>	16,371.00	17,000.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total Collections &amp; General Income</b>	<b>591,094.98</b>	<b>607,000.00</b>
<b>Total Religious Education</b>	<b>16,037.32</b>	<b>15,250.00</b>
<b>Parish Picnic</b>	<b>(2,385.17)</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Investment Income</b>	<b>53,418.46</b>	<b>47,500.00</b>
<b>ADJUSTED INCOME</b>	<b>658,165.59</b>	<b>669,750.00</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>ASSESSMENT &amp; SUBSIDY OBLIGATIONS</b>		
<i>Diocesan Assessment</i>	(87,455.00)	(80,000.00)
<i>Subsidy - Parish to SJRS</i>	(150,000.00)	(150,000.00)
<i>Loan - Parish to SJRS</i>	(149,999.92)	(150,000.00)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total Assessment Obligations</b>	<b>(387,454.92)</b>	<b>(380,000.00)</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL NET INCOME</b>	<b>270,710.67</b>	<b>289,750.00</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>SALARIES, BENEFITS &amp; PAYROLL TAXES</b>		
<b>Total Administration</b>	(128,229.33)	(130,042.00)
<b>Total Religious Education</b>	(44,929.63)	(69,555.33)
<b>Total Church</b>	(73,479.40)	(72,922.00)
<b>Total Rectory</b>	(1,169.91)	(878.00)
<b>Total Personnel Costs</b>	(247,808.27)	(273,397.33)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Total Parish Administration</b>	(38,181.92)	(31,600.00)
<b>Total Religious Education</b>	(28,697.29)	(21,800.00)
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	(66,879.21)	(53,400.00)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>BUILDING OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE &amp; INSURANCE</b>		
<b>Total Church</b>	(63,377.89)	(85,000.00)
<b>Total Rectory</b>	(33,336.22)	(37,100.00)
<b>Total Social Hall</b>	0.00	(2,100.00)
<b>Total Insurance &amp; Misc.</b>	(32,004.00)	(30,000.00)
<b>Total Building Operations</b>	(128,718.11)	(154,200.00)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total Capital Improvements</b>	<b>(1,759.08)</b>	<b>(20,000.00)</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL OPERATIONAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>(445,164.67)</b>	<b>(500,997.33)</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(174,454.00)</b>	<b>(211,247.33)</b>

For everyone's information, you can view the Parish Financial Report in a summary form as it was sent to the Diocese of Allentown.

As you can see, there is a significant deficit for this fiscal year. One large factor in creating that deficit was the support that we gave to St. Jerome Regional School. I expect this coming fiscal year that we will not be giving as much.

While our income was down a bit, consider this: for the 2014-15 fiscal year we had a monthly average of 3,686 individuals attending Mass contributing a monthly total of \$38,237; for the 2015-16 fiscal year we had a monthly average of 3,440 individuals attending Mass contributing a monthly total of \$38,905. In other words, fewer people giving more money.

We work very hard to keep our expenses in check — in fact there is little we can do to “cut” our expenses.

With that in mind, I offer two thoughts: first, remember, I will not ask anyone to give more to the Sunday Collection. However, I do ask that you are smart and thoughtful about your giving. Please consider setting aside each month a percentage of your income for your contribution.

Secondly, no matter what or how you give: THANK YOU. Thank you for your generosity. Your financial support of your parish enables us to fulfill the mission and values that we hold to: Loving God, Loving Others and Making Disciples.

## A Prayer for the New Evangelization...

The Parish of Saint John XXIII

266 West Broad Street

Tamaqua, Pennsylvania

The Parish of Saint John XXIII was established by the decree of the Most Reverend John O. Barres, DD, Bishop of Allentown as a merger of St. Jerome Parish and SS. Peter & Paul Parish on July 1, 2014.

The Church of St. John XXIII (formerly St. Jerome Church) is the mother church of the parish and location for the Sacraments of Initiation. SS. Peter & Paul Church will be retained for Sacred Worship including weddings and funerals.

*Heavenly Father, Pour forth your Holy Spirit to inspire me with these words from Holy Scripture. Stir in my soul the desire to renew my faith and deepen my relationship with your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ so that I might truly believe in and live the Good News.*

*Open my heart to hear the Gospel and grant me the confidence to proclaim the Good News to others. Pour out your Spirit, so that I might be strengthened to go forth and witness to the Gospel in my everyday life through my words and actions.*

*In moments of hesitation, remind me: If not me, then who will proclaim the Gospel? If not now, then when will the Gospel be proclaimed? If not the truth of the Gospel, then what shall I proclaim?*

*God, our Father, I pray that through the Holy Spirit I might hear the call of the New Evangelization to deepen my faith, grow in confidence to proclaim the Gospel and boldly witness to the saving grace of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

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