

# Welcome

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

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

*December 8, 2024*

*Second Sunday of Advent*



**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 & Wednesday ~ 9:00AM-2:00PM

Thursday ~ 9:00AM-12:00PM

### **Parish Staff**

Reverend Joseph T. Whalen, Pastor Emeritus

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  
victimsassistance@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.

<p><b>Saturday, December 7</b>                  2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ                  3:30PM Mass: SJ                    5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR                  5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p><b>Vigil to the Second Sunday of Advent</b>                    Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. John XXIII and St. Richard Parishes                    Mass Intention: Deceased Members of the Karlavage Family</p>
<p><b>Sunday, December 8</b>                  8:30AM Mass: SJ                    10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p><b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>                  Mass Intention: Larry Petrole                    Mass Intention: John McTiernan</p>
<p><b>Monday, December 9</b>    <b>8:00AM Mass: SJ</b>  <b>7:00PM Mass: SR</b></p>	<p><b>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)</b>                  Mass Intention: Helen Grier                  Mass Intention: Vocations to the Priesthood</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, December 10</b>                  8:00AM Mass: SJ                  8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration/Benediction: SJ                  8:30AM – 9:00AM Confessions: SJ</p>	<p><b>Advent Weekday</b>                  Mass Intention: Paul Nester Sr., Ruth Nester, and Paul Nester Jr.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, December 11</b>                  8:00AM Mass: SR                  8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration/Benediction: SR                  8:30AM – 9:00AM Confessions: SR                  7:00PM – 7:30PM Advent Confessions: SR</p>	<p><b>Advent Weekday</b>                  Mass Intention: Aunt Margie</p>
<p><b>Thursday, December 12</b>                  8:00AM Mass</p>	<p><b>Our Lady of Guadalupe (USA)</b>                  Mass Intention: Mike Konidas</p>
<p><b>Friday, December 13</b>  <i>No Mass at either church</i></p>	<p><b>St. Lucy, Virgin, Martyr</b></p>
<p><b>Saturday, December 14</b>                  2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ                  3:30PM Mass: SJ                    5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR                  5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p><b>Vigil to the Third Sunday of Advent</b>                    Mass Intention: Paul Gerard Yacobowsky                    Mass Intention: Mr. &amp; Mrs. Michael Sniscak</p>
<p><b>Sunday, December 15</b>                  8:30AM Mass: SJ                    10:30AM Mass: SR                    6:00PM – 8:00PM Advent Confessions: SJ</p>	<p><b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>                  Mass Intention: Russell Triano                    Mass Intention: Brian McCue and Christa Vecchione</p>

**TODAY’S LITURGY OF THE WORD:** The first reading offers a vision of Jerusalem restored, proclaiming a day when mountains will be made low and God will lead Israel in joy. In the second reading, Paul says that the one who began a good work in us will continue to complete it. In the Gospel, the word of God comes to John the Baptist who proclaims the words of Isaiah crying out in the desert. When the path to salvation appears rocky, we can be assured that God will lower mountains and level depths to lead the faithful into his glory. This holy season, we rejoice to be remembered by God because he draws near and unites himself to us through Emmanuel – God with us.

**TODAY’S RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15:** Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

<p><b>St. John XXIII</b></p> <p><b>The Order of Mass</b> can be found starting on page 140 in the Journeysongs Hymnal.</p> <p><b>The Latin Chant Mass</b> can be found on the following pages:                  Kyrie – 168 / Sanctus – 170 / Memorial Acclamation – 171 / Amen – 172 / Agnus Dei – 174</p> <p>The prelude is <b>Be Comforted My People</b> by Lani Smith (1934-2015)                  The postlude is <b>Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland</b> by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)</p>
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## PRAYER LIST FOR BOTH PARISHES

**Please remember in your prayers...**

Joseph Izaguirre, Roy Paisley, Valerie Higgins, Marie Kalpinsky, Stanley Kozlowski, Craig Goida, Monica Surfield,  
David Rickert, Ellie Setlock, Chase Schaller, Ellen Kemmerer, Joe McDonald / Bruce Rang, William Swank,  
Andrew Eremus, Magnolia Pavlovich, Marlene Labella, MaryAnn Seltzer, Rolanda Moussa, Michael Pogwist,  
Theresa Klatka, Bill Savage / Francis Burke, Jean Hunsinger

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

Walter Kruczek

Patrick McAndrew

Judy Hadesty

## DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

**St. John XXIII**

**Sanctuary Lamp**

In Memory of Charlie Odorizzi

**Crucifix Candle**

In Memory of Larry Petrole

**St. Richard**

**Blessed Virgin Mary**

Special Intention

**St. Francis**

In Loving Memory of my husband Francis Trackim

**St. Richard**

In Memory of Tom Flaherty

## YOUTH FORMATION

**Childrens' bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule**

**St. John XXIII**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2024-2025**

PARENTS AND STUDENTS WILL DISMISS  
TO THE UPSTAIRS CLASSROOMS  
FOLLOWING THE RECESSIONAL HYMN  
8:30AM Mass until 10:45AM

**Sunday, December 8** – Youth Formation Grades 2-8  
(*Sacramental Prep Parents meet in the Conference Room*)

**Sunday, December 15** – Family Mass Day & Youth  
Formation Grades 2-8

**GRADE 1 Sacramental Prep begins January 5th!**  
**Registration Forms can be found in the Parish Hall.**  
**Registration Fee = \$30**

**St. Richard**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2024-2025**

**CCD/PREP CLASSES:**

Grades 1-4; Sunday, December 8th at 9:30AM  
Grades 5-8; Sunday, December 15th at 9:00AM  
Grades 5-8; Sunday, December 22nd at 9:00AM  
Grades 1-8; Sunday, December 29th ~ No Classes

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

**Annual Children's Christmas Pageant**

Sunday, December 22nd at 6:00PM  
St. Richard Parish

**SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS**

**Cub/Boy Scouts** – No updates available.

## ADULT FORMATION

**Advent Jesse Tree Reflections/Adult Small Group:** See description on the next page or the flyer for more information.

**Bible Study:** Wednesday evenings from 6:30PM until 8:00PM in St. Richard Parish Hall. All are invited to attend.

**RCIA:** RCIA stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. If there is an adult who wishes to become Roman Catholic and receive their Sacraments of Initiation, this is the process to make that happen. Adult Christians who have been attending Mass for several years may complete their Catholic initiation through a period of instruction; then Reconciliation, Profession of Faith, Confirmation, and Reception into Full Communion which often occurs during the Vigil of Easter but can also occur at other times of the year. Adults may be Baptized also in an extended process as well. New inquiries are welcome. Please let us know if you or someone you know would like to become Catholic.

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today's second collection is for the Retired Religious.

**Upcoming collections are...**

12/15 ~ Stained Glass Window Renovation: SR / Parish Cemeteries: SJ    12/22 ~ Parish Utilities    12/25 ~ Christmas

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

This Week	
Sunday	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass
Monday	<b>Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)</b> – Masses: 8:00AM at SJ and 7:00PM at SR 5:30PM St. John XXIII Fundraising Meeting in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall
Tuesday	7:00PM Fundraising Meeting in the St. Richard Parish Hall
Wednesday	7:00PM – 7:30PM Advent Confessions at St. Richard
Thursday	6:00PM St. John XXIII Parish Choir rehearsal
Upcoming Events	
December 15	3:00PM-5:00PM – M&J Big Band Holiday Concert in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall – Tickets \$20 5:00PM-6:00PM – Pizza dinner for concert patrons who are staying for Advent Adoration & Confession 6:00PM-8:00PM – Advent Adoration and Confession with cake and coffee in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall
December 21	9:00AM-11:00AM St. Vincent de Paul Baby Food Distribution – St. John XXIII Parish Hall – 570-225-8620 10:00AM – Church decorating at St. Richard
December 29	7:00PM Men's Group in the St. Richard Meeting Room

### A WORD OF WELCOME

We thank Fr. Karpyn for being the guest celebrant at the Saturday Masses at both parishes this weekend. We also thank Fr. Richard from the Apostles of Jesus for being the guest celebrant at the Sunday Masses at both parishes this weekend.

### GIVING TREE UNDER WINDOW IN PARISH HALL

In addition to our BIRTHRIGHT gift card giving, we also have a Catholic Charities Giving Tree. Birthright accepts gift cards or monetary donations, while Catholic Charities accepts: diapers size 3 and up, baby wipes, infant/toddler clothing, bottles, and small infant-safe toys. Gift cards/monetary donations for BIRTHRIGHT can be placed in the offering box or sent to the St. John XXIII Parish Office (make sure it is clearly marked for BIRTHRIGHT). Items for Catholic Charities can be placed under the Giving Tree in the Parish Hall. **Please do not wrap the items.** Thank you for your generosity in helping those less fortunate during this holiday season.

### 2025 MASS BOOK IS NOW OPEN AT ST JOHN XXIII

Masses and candles can be purchased during regular business hours in the Parish Office as well as today, Sunday, December 8th after the 8:30AM Mass in Parish Hall. There is a **limit of two Masses, one Sanctuary Lamp, and one Crucifix Candle.** All requests must include the 2025 updated form and be filled out completely, along with a \$10 stipend per request. Forms are in the Parish Office and the Parish Hall. We will not take request forms in the offering baskets nor online nor via mail. All requests must be made in person. Questions may be directed to Lisa in the Parish Office.

### ADVENT ADULT SMALL GROUP

A Jesse Tree Calendar will be your guide to follow daily Advent reflections that we will explore more deeply during our group discussions. The group will meet on Tuesdays from 10:00AM until 11:30AM in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall. Contact Cheryl with any questions: 484-866-3835.

### 2025 LOTTERY CALENDARS AT ST. JOHN XXIII

Lottery calendars are available for purchase in the Family Room before and after Mass for \$25.

### AVAILABLE AT BOTH PARISHES

The St. Joseph Missals \$5 each, Parish Calendars free and the Christmas Wafers \$4 per packet are in the Vestibule/Family Room. Please use the appropriate envelopes provided.

### THE ST. JOHN XXIII CAFE IS OPEN TODAY

Please join us in the Parish Hall immediately after Mass.

### FEAST OF ST. NICHOLAS

This weekend of December 7th and 8th, the children can pick up their shoes after Mass and maybe if they were lucky St. Nicholas will have left them a treat!

### CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PAGEANT

St. Richard's is hosting the children's pageant this year. It will be held on December 22nd at 6:00PM. If your child(ren) are interested in participating, please contact Krissy Wonsock. This is open to all children in both parishes.

### 2025 MASS INTENTION BOOK AT ST. RICHARD

The Mass Book has OFFICIALLY OPENED. Requests will be accepted through the Revised Mass Intention Form (found in church or online) and may be mailed, placed in the collection, or dropped at the office. You may also come to the office during business hours, whichever is more convenient. The forms must be fully completed with the enclosed \$10 per Mass stipend/Candle fee. As there is an overflow of Masses and Mass times are limited; we cannot guarantee a specific date and time for Mass intentions. To try and accommodate the intentions (*which also includes reserved dates*), there is a limit of three Masses. Please also consider having a weekday Mass or remembering your loved one through the Eternal Remembrance Society (contact the Parish Office), the Sanctuary Lamp or one of the Devotional Candles.

### FUNDRAISING UPDATES AT ST. RICHARD

#### Lottery Calendars (12/2024 and 1/2025):

Thank You and Good Luck to everyone who purchased our Lottery Calendars so far. Winning numbers will be published in the bulletin so keep an eye on your December ticket. Remember you are still able to purchase January tickets until December 30th.

**Boyer's Shopping Spree:** \$10 per ticket. Event details are on the ticket. If you are unable to purchase or sell, please return all the unsold tickets as soon as possible. **Sellers needed** call/text Joann at 570-640-1034.

### WINTER COAT DRIVE FOR KIDS

The coat drive wraps up today, thank you to everyone who participated and brought in coats, gloves, and scarfs. All items collected will benefit students of Mahanoy Area and Tamaqua Ares School Districts.

### 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.

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### **ST. JOHN XXIII CAFÉ IN THE PARISH HALL**

Please join us in the Parish Hall immediately after Mass for coffee, cookies, and fellowship!

### **CLEANING HELPERS NEEDED**

Is there anyone who is willing to donate some time to clean the stairways and hallway by the classrooms on the upper level? The stairways and hallway really should be mopped a few times a year. Please speak to Dale or Lisa in the Parish Office if you would be willing to help clean these two areas.

### **PILGRIMAGE FROM PARIS TO LOURDES**

Join Holy Family Parish of Minersville as we participate in our Parish Pilgrimage from Paris to Lourdes, France, April 27 - May 6, 2025. Highlights include Mass every day including the newly reopened Notre Dame Cathedral of Paris, tours of the Louvre, Versailles and dinner in the Eifel Tower. We will also visit the Mother House of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Lyon and the Papal Palace of Avignon with a wine tasting at the Papal Vineyards of Châteauneuf du Pape. The tour culminates with our visit to the grotto of Lourdes where the Blessed Mother visited St. Bernadette as we celebrate Mass and participate in the Eucharistic and Candle Lit Marian Processions. Please contact Fr. Stokes for more information at Holy Family Parish of Minersville 570-544-4741.

