

Welcome

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

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

December 28, 2025

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph



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 or by calling 800-276-1562.

SJ = St. John XXIII**SR = St. Richard**

Saturday, December 27 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR	Vigil to The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph Mass Intention: Lillian Sedar Mass Intention: Edward J. Lucyk
Sunday, December 28 8:30AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph Mass Intention: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Arner Sr. Mass Intention: Stephen McCarthy
Monday, December 29 No 7:00AM Mass today	Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
Tuesday, December 30 No 7:00AM Mass today 8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration/Benediction: SJ	Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
Wednesday, December 31 No 7:00AM Mass today 4:00PM Mass: SJ	Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord Vigil of The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God (New Year's Eve) Mass Intention: Christopher Dunn
Thursday, January 1 10:00AM Mass: SR	The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God (New Year's Day) Mass Intention: God's Blessings for both parishes in the new year
Friday, January 2 <i>No Daily Mass at either church</i>	Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
Saturday, January 3 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR	Vigil to The Epiphany of the Lord Mass Intention: Joseph Leskosky Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parishes
Sunday, January 4 8:30AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR	The Epiphany of the Lord Mass Intention: Mary Wagner Mass Intention: Mary Helen Rehatchek

TODAY'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: The first reading teaches that respecting family members brings blessings. In Colossians, we are encouraged to cultivate the virtues of humility, kindness, and patience, which foster loving relationships. The Gospel recounts how God speaks to Joseph through dreams, instructing him to lead the Holy Family to safety. Jesus was born and grew up within a family which was marked by holiness, love, and fidelity to the will of God. Their example calls us to strive to do the same. Today's readings provide an example of ideal relationships among families. Even in the midst of broken relationships, the virtues that Paul names can send all of us on the road to healing and reconciliation.

TODAY'S RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, JAN 4: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

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:

Gloria – 226 / Holy, Holy, Holy – 227 / Memorial Acclamation – 228 / Amen – 231 / Lamb of God – 232

The prelude is **Prelude on “Stille Nacht”** by Gordon Young (1919-1998)

The postlude is **Fantasia on “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”** by L.S. Clark (1889-1963)

The Christmas flowers are in memory of all the people listed in the Christmas Memorials that are placed upon the altar.

PRAYER LIST FOR BOTH PARISHES

Please remember in your prayers...

Alonzo Borja, Marlene Fatula, Roy Paisley, Marie Kalpinsky, Ellie Setlock, Chase Schaller, Kathy Sanchez, Quinn Derlunas, Sue Mannello, Dr. Walter Setlock, Christine Lawrence, Sean McGeehan, / Magnolia Pavlovich, Regina Zoba, Jeff Zoba, Joan Manos, Kiersten Guers, Fred Holman, Jane Grier, Ron Kelly, Eileen Wolfinger, Romaine Karnish / David Rickert, Andrew Eremus, George Koval, Marci Bonner, Mary Sloboda, Jack Praskac, Mildred Cara

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

Colleen Agosti

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

St. John XXIII

Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of the Deceased of the Angelus Family

Crucifix Candle

In Memory of Jean Hunsinger

St. Richard

Sanctuary Lamp

Virginia Subolish

Blessed Virgin Mary

Special Intention

Sacred Heart

Special Intentions of the Jack Hurst Family

St. Richard

Special Intention

YOUTH FORMATION

Children's bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule

St. John XXIII

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026

*All students will meet in the upstairs classrooms
after the 8:30AM Mass until 11:00AM*

Sunday, December 28 – No Youth Formation

Sunday, January 4 – Kids Small Groups Grades 3-6

*We wish all our parish youth and their families
a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.*

*We also thank all the children who participated
in the Christmas pageant last Sunday and everyone
who came out to support them. It was such a nice evening.*

St. Richard

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026

CCD/PREP CLASSES:

Grades 5-8; Sunday, December 21st at 9:00AM

Grades 1-8; Sunday, December 28th No Classes

Christmas Break

Grades 5-8; Sunday, January 4th at 9:00AM

Grades 1-4; Sunday, January 11th at 9:30AM

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

Any questions, please contact
Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433

SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS Cub Scouts

Meetings held every Sunday from 4:00PM until 6:00PM
in the St. Richard Parish Hall

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 (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 Stained-Glass Window Renovation: SR / Parish Cemeteries: SJ

Upcoming collections are...

1/1 ~ Solemnity of Mary

1/4 ~ Parish Facility Fund

1/11 ~ Parish Utilities

ST. JOHN XXIII AND ST. RICHARD NEWS AND UPDATES

This Week

Sunday	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass
Mon. - Wed.	No 7:00AM Mass
Wednesday	New Year's Eve Vigil Mass: 4:00PM at SJ
Thursday	New Year's Day Mass: 10:00AM at SR

Upcoming Events

January 5	9:00AM both Parish Offices reopen 6:30PM St. John XXIII Fundraising Meeting in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall
January 13	7:00PM St. Richard Fundraising Meeting in the Parish Hall

CHRISTMAS THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who made both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day so beautiful. Many elves helped decorate and prepare, so much goes on behind the scenes to get everything ready. We also thank the choir for surprising us with that beautiful traditional Lithuanian and Polish carol. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way!

CHRISTMAS CANDY SALE THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas candy sale, and especially to everyone who made the various items.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT THANK YOU

Last Sunday we hosted the Christmas Pageant in our Parish Hall. It was such a memorable evening for everyone who attended. Thank you, Melissa, and everyone who made such a heart-warming event possible.

JANUARY LOTTERY CALENDARS ON SALE NOW

They are only \$5 each and can be purchased before or after Mass in the St. John XXIII Family Room.

GIVING TREES AT BOTH PARISHES

Thank you for all the unwrapped gifts, gift cards, and monetary donations left at the Giving Tree for both Birthright and Catholic Charities.

2025 DEADLINE FOR FINANCIAL GIVING

To receive accurate credit for 2025, please return your 2025 Collection Envelopes by Wednesday, December 31st.

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.

ST. JOHN XXIII CAFÉ AFTER MASS IN THE HALL

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

NEW YEAR WISHES

On behalf of Fr. Finlan, Deacon Ed, Deacon John and all the staff from St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parishes, we would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Both St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parish Offices will be closed until Monday, January 5th for the New Year Holiday.

REMINDER

Bulletin announcements including flyers must be emailed or called in no later than Tuesday at noon to the Parish Office.

WINTER LOTTERY CALENDARS AT ST. RICHARD

The lottery calendar for only January 2026 is \$5.00. Please return the ticket either in the collection or the "Fundraising" box on the rectory porch. **January tickets must be returned by December 31st.**

Next Round December Lottery Winners

- 12/14** #469, Mary Cumers, \$25
- 12/15** #250, No Winner, \$25
- 12/16** #059, No Winner, \$25
- 12/17** #200, No Winner, \$25
- 12/18** #948, M&T, \$25
- 12/19** #762, Jane Baker, \$25
- 12/20** #467, No Winner, \$50

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL AT ST. RICHARD

We currently have a few vacant seats in the Parish Pastoral Council. If you are interested in becoming a part of the council, please contact the office during business hours or email strichardadmin@ptd.net.

2026 MASS INTENTION BOOK AT ST. RICHARD

All requests will only be accepted through the 2026 Revised Mass Intention Form (found in church or online), along with the \$10 per Mass/Candle stipend and may be placed in the collection or dropped at the office. 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 remembrance through the many Devotional Candles (including the Sanctuary Lamp) or the Eternal Remembrance Society.

INCLEMENT WEATHER REMINDER

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

COMMUNION

Communion will be brought to the front pews of St. Richard and the handicap pews in the back of St. John XXIII Church.

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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.

BOYER'S KEY TAG PROGRAM REMINDER

Thank you to everyone who is continuing to participate in this ongoing fundraiser. Just have the cashier scan the key tag at checkout. Key fobs are located at both entrances.

FROM THE DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN

Many thanks to those who have already made a commitment to the *Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal*. The participation of all our parish families makes it possible to serve those in need. Remember that every gift counts. Please make your gift today at www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org.