

# Welcome

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

**Reverend Robert T. Finlan, Pastor**

**Deacon Edward J. Girard**

*August 17, 2025*

*Twentieth 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.

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| <b>Saturday, August 16</b><br>2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ<br>3:30PM Mass: SJ<br><br>5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR<br>5:30PM Mass: SR | <b>Vigil to the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br><br>Mass Intention: Bill Savage<br><br>Mass Intention: Firkal and Yurick Families        |
| <b>Sunday, August 17</b><br>8:30AM Mass: SJ<br><br>10:30AM Mass: SR  | <b>Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br>Mass Intention: Bella and David O’Leary<br><br>Mass Intention: Frank and Gladie Syzdek                |
| <b>Monday, August 18</b><br>8:00AM Mass: SJ  | <b>Weekday</b><br>Mass Intention: John J. Lazur   |
| <b>Tuesday, August 19</b><br>8:00AM Mass: SJ<br>8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration: SJ<br>8:30AM – 9:00AM Confession: SJ                         | <b>Weekday</b><br>Mass Intention: Mary Wagner   |
| <b>Wednesday, August 20</b><br>No Mass, Eucharistic Adoration or Confession: SR  | <b>St. Bernard, Abbot, Doctor of the Church</b>   |
| <b>Thursday, August 21</b><br>8:00AM Mass: SR  | <b>St. Pius X, Pope</b><br>Mass Intention: Kenneth Adam   |
| <b>Friday, August 22</b><br><i>No Daily Mass at either church</i>  | <b>The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>   |
| <b>Saturday, August 23</b><br>2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ<br>3:30PM Mass: SJ<br><br>5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR<br>5:30PM Mass: SR | <b>Vigil to the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br><br>Mass Intention: Betty Jane Boyer<br><br>Mass Intention: Donna Soley               |
| <b>Sunday, August 24</b><br>8:30AM Mass: SJ<br><br>10:30AM Mass: SR  | <b>Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b><br>Mass Intention: Kathryn Boyle<br><br>Mass Intention: Daniel F. Guinan Sr. and Daniel F. Guinan Jr. |

**TODAY’S LITURGY OF THE WORD:** In the first reading, Jeremiah is thrown into a muddy cistern and left to die because of his prophecy. A court official pleads with the king for mercy for Jeremiah and he is saved from the cistern. The author of Hebrews writes of Jesus who endured the cross. In the Gospel, Jesus longs to set the earth on fire through the baptism of his suffering and death. He announces that he has not come to bring peace on earth, but division. Jesus warns us that following him will not always bring peace into our lives. In fact, if we follow his ways, we might encounter division, even within our own families. Jesus taught his followers a new way of living which is contrary to the “ways of the world.” With his grace, we can be faithful to this call to witness to the ways of God.

**TODAY’S RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Lord, come to my aid!

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, AUG 124:** Is 66:18-21; Ps 117:1,2; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30

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| <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:<br/>                 Holy, Holy, Holy – 199 / Memorial Acclamation – 201 / Amen – 203 / Lamb of God – 204</p> <p>The prelude is <b>Allegro from Water Music</b> by George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)<br/>                 The postlude is <b>The Heavens Are Telling</b> by Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)</p> <p>The altar flowers and the flowers by Mary are in memory of Florence Polinsky and Bill Savage.</p> |
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## PRAYER LIST FOR BOTH PARISHES

### Please remember in your prayers...

David Rickert, Barbara Karnish, Andrew Eremus, John Dietrich Jr., George Koval, Sue Mannello, Marci Bonner / Roy Paisley, Marie Kalpinsky, Ellie Setlock, Chase Schaller, Kathy Sanchez, Quinn Derlunas, Mary Sloboda, Joseph Holly / Magnolia Pavlovich, Paul Goida, Joe McDonald

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

Jacqueline Riotto

## DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

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| <b>St. John XXIII<br/>Sanctuary Lamp</b><br>In Memory of Kathryn Boyle<br><b>Crucifix Candle</b><br>In Memory of Theresa Ligenza | <b>St. Richard<br/>Blessed Virgin Mary</b><br>Special Intention |
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## YOUTH FORMATION

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

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| <b>St. John XXIII<br/>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026</b><br><br>Youth Formation is right around the corner! <b>Registration will be open until Sunday August 24th.</b> Registration forms are available in the Parish Hall. Forms can be returned with cash or check in an envelope labeled "Youth Formation."<br><b>Grade 1</b> (Classes will begin in January!)<br><b>*Grade 2 Registration- \$70</b><br><i>Blessed First Reconciliation/ First Communion</i><br><b>*Grade 3-6 Registration- \$70</b><br><i>A Family of Faith</i><br><b>*Grades 7 &amp; 8 (Confirmation) Registration- \$70</b><br><i>Chosen</i> | <b>St. Richard<br/>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026</b><br><br><b>CCD/PREP CLASSES:</b><br><b>Registration is now open.</b><br>Need registration information or have questions, please contact Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433.<br><br><b>SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS</b><br><b>Cub Scouts</b> – Sunday, August 24th<br>4:00PM – 6:00PM in the Parish Hall |
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## ADULT FORMATION

**Adult Small Group:** Thank you to everyone who participated in our most recent small group series: "A Biblical Walk Through the Mass." We hope to announce the next series of Adult Small Groups soon.

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

Upcoming collections are...

8/24 ~ Mission Cooperation

8/31 ~ Parish Utilities

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

### This Week

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| Tuesday | 6:00PM St. Richard 75th Anniversary Committee Meeting in the Parish Hall |
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### Upcoming Events

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| August 24       | Back to School Blessing for all students at both parishes following both Sunday Masses<br>Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass |
| September 1     | Labor Day – both Parish Offices closed   |
| September 7     | 12:00PM-3:00PM St. Richard Halupki Dinner in the Parish Hall   |
| September 11/12 | St. Richard Basket Raffle in the Parish Hall: 4:00PM – 7:00PM Shop/Drop  |
| September 13    | St. Richard Basket Raffle in the Parish Hall: 9:30AM – 12:30PM Last Call ~ 1:00PM Drawings begin   |
| September 18    | Thank You Dinner at Basile's for anyone who volunteers in any way at St. John XXIII – see write-up below   |

### A WORD OF THANKS

We thank everyone who organized and participated in the Altar Server Night Out at Heisler's this past Thursday and the bus trip to Atlantic City this past Friday.

### SAVE THE DATE – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th

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. Mark your calendar now! 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.

### ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

A Special Mass will be held in honor of St. Teresa of Calcutta on Friday, September 5th at 12:00PM in St. Teresa Church, 600 W. Mahanoy Street, Mahanoy City.

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

Bosco'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.

### ST. JOHN XXIII BASKET RAFFLE

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

### A PROFOUND ACT OF STEWARDSHIP

As Catholics, we are called to lead lives of Stewardship. **August is National Make-A-Will Month**, and an ideal time to put this calling into action. The Diocese of Allentown wants to encourage all of our community members to set aside time this month to think through their estate plans. To help you make your will and make your impact, we've partnered with "FreeWill" to offer an online estate planning service. Through their platform, you can create your will and have access to other essential estate planning documents for free. The process is simple and secure. By creating your will and estate plans now, you can have:

**Peace of mind:** A will allows you to provide for your loved ones and safeguard all the blessings God has entrusted to your care.

**Security:** Creating your will and estate plan allows you to communicate important financial and healthcare decisions, so you're prepared for whatever the future may hold.

### 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.

### FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE

Just a reminder as Fr. Finlan has mentioned in June and again this past weekend, schools are opening and his assignment at Marian will begin. This will require some flexibility on mass schedules at both parishes. Please pay close attention to the bulletin each week as Daily Mass schedules will change, possibly on a weekly basis. Thank you for your understanding as we work together to provide for the spiritual needs of three communities of faith.

### ANNUAL FOOD FESTIVAL UPDATE

This year's annual food festival has come to an end. Our current recorded profit was \$10,804.20! Thank you again to everyone who made our parish festival a HUGE success we could not have done it without you! And do not forget to patronize our business sponsors. God Bless! Hope to see you all next year!

### BACK TO SCHOOL NEWS AT ST. RICHARD

The Back to School Blessing is next **Sunday, August 24th** following the 10:30AM Mass. We also give each child a goodie bag and we could use a few donations. We need 40 each in individual size: cereal boxes, juice box/bag/bottle, tissue packs, hand sanitizer, pencils, glue sticks, skittles, and mints. Able to donate? Contact Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433.

### ATTENTION ALTAR SERVERS!

We are growing, which is AMAZING! So, help us out and sign up for the Masses that work for your schedule. We ask that you consider signing up for one Saturday a month, as that is the Mass where servers are most needed. If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server, or know someone who is, please reach out to Deacon Ed or Krissy Wonsock or Melissa Grimminger to schedule your training!

### 2025-2026 CCD/PREP AT ST. RICHARD

2025-2026 CCD/PREP registrations are now being accepted. Those currently in our program please check your email. If your child is not currently enrolled and you need information, please contact Krissy Wonsock and collect the paperwork located in the vestibule. Your child should be entering grades 1st through 8th and must be an active parishioner of St. Richard's Parish. If newly joining our program, we will need a copy of your child's Baptismal certificate. Please reach out to Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433 with any questions.

### ST. RICHARD BASKET RAFFLE

Our Basket Raffle is Saturday, September 13th. We are accepting donations for this fundraiser in which proceeds will 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.

### **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.

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

We just received a rebate from Boyer's Food Markets totaling \$128.32! 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.

### **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](http://www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org).

### **“FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS” AT ST. RICHARD**

Boscov's annual event shopping passes are here! They are currently in the St. Richard vestibule and on the small table entering from the handicap ramp. Please take a pass and leave your \$5 donation per pass in the envelope provided.

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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