

Welcome

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

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

February 22, 2026
The First Sunday of Lent



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 or by calling 800-276-1562.

<p>Saturday, February 21 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Vigil to the First Sunday of Lent Mass Intention: Michael P. Pogwist Mass Intention: Francis Keiser</p>
<p>Sunday, February 22 8:30AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>The First Sunday of Lent Mass Intention: Carmen Castagna Mass Intention: Suzanne Hurst</p>
<p>Monday, February 23 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>)</p>	<p>Lenten Weekday Mass Intention: John Gerlach</p>
<p>Tuesday, February 24 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard</i>) 8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration: SJ 9:00AM Stations/Benediction: SJ</p>	<p>Lenten Weekday Mass Intention: Katherine Miller</p>
<p>Wednesday, February 25 7:00AM Mass: SR 6:30PM Lenten Confessions: SR 7:00PM Exposition/Stations/Benediction</p>	<p>Lenten Weekday Mass Intention: Betty and Chip Reed</p>
<p>Thursday, February 26 7:00AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Lenten Weekday Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parishes</p>
<p>Friday, February 27 <i>No Daily Mass at either church</i></p>	<p>Lenten Weekday</p>
<p>Saturday, February 28 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Vigil to the Second Sunday of Lent Mass Intention: Charles Gillot Mass Intention: Setlock and Falls Families</p>
<p>Sunday, March 1 8:30AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>The Second Sunday of Lent Mass Intention: Mary Ann Grabowski Mass Intention: Elizabeth Tarutis</p>

TODAY’S LITURGY OF THE WORD: In today’s first reading from Genesis, God creates man and places him in a garden. Adam and Eve disobey God by eating from the tree of knowledge. In the second reading, Paul compares the disobedience of Adam to Jesus’ obedience, transgression to gift. The Gospel recounts Jesus’ time in the desert, where he is tempted by the devil. Throughout the Old Testament, the Scriptures use metaphorical language to speak of Israel as God’s son. Yet like us today, the Israelites persist in disobedience, straying from their Father’s will. God thus sends Jesus, who is tempted in the desert to disobey God. Jesus’ example of obedience reveals what true sonship requires.

TODAY’S RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, MAR 1: Gn 12: 1-4a; Ps 33: 4-5, 18-19, 20, 22; 2 Tm 1: 8b-10; Mt 17: 1-9

<p style="text-align: center;">St. John XXIII</p> <p>The Order of Mass can be found starting on page 140 in the Journeysongs Hymnal.</p> <p>The Latin Chant Mass can be found on the following pages: Kyrie – 168 / Sanctus – 170 / Memorial Acclamation – 171 / Amen – 172 / Agnus Dei – 174</p> <p>There are no preludes for the duration of Lent. The postlude is Andantino in A Minor by Jacob Blied (1844-1884)</p> <p>There are no altar flowers for the duration of Lent.</p>
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PRAYER LIST FOR BOTH PARISHES

Please remember in your prayers...

David Rickert, Andrew Eremus, George Koval, Marci Bonner, Mary Sloboda, Jack Praskac, Mildred Cara, Anne Krukus / Jerry Christensen, Alonzo Borja, Marlene Fatula, Roy Paisley, Marie Kalpinsky, Ellie Setlock, Chase Schaller, Kathy Sanchez, Quinn Derlunas, Sue Mannello, Dr. Walter Setlock, Barbara Houser, Mischa Rush, John Hechler, Linda Wertman, Shelley Lazarchick / Magnolia Pavlovich, Barbara Karnish, Joan Manos, Fred Holman, Kevin Druckenmiller, Marc Lesniak, Michael Dannenfesler, Amy DeBenedict Behler, Bernard Bruni

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

Romaine Karnish

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

<p>St. John XXIII Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of Anne Valentini Crucifix Candle In Memory of Francis G. Roman</p>	<p>St. Richard Blessed Virgin Mary "Lourdes"-Happy Feast Day to our Blessed Mother Sacred Heart Special Intention</p>
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YOUTH FORMATION

Children's bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule

<p>St. John XXIII RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026 <i>All students will meet in the upstairs classrooms after the 8:30AM Mass until 11:00AM</i></p> <p>Sunday, February 22 – No Youth Formation</p> <p>Sunday, March 1 – Kids Small Groups Grades 3-6 and Family Mass</p> <p><i>Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for preparing and serving brunch to our 8th Grade Confirmands and their families after the Confirmation retreat!</i></p>	<p>St. Richard RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026 CCD/PREP CLASSES: Grades 1-4; Sunday, February 22nd at 9:30AM Grades 5-8; Sunday, March 1st at 9:00AM Grades 1-4; Sunday, March 8th at 9:30AM</p> <p>*All classes are held in the Parish Hall <u>unless</u> noted.</p> <p>Any questions, please contact Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433</p> <p>SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS Cub Scouts Meetings held every Sunday from 4:00PM until 6:00PM in the St. Richard Parish Hall</p>
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ADULT FORMATION

Lenten Adult Small Group: Join us for a Lenten discussion group: *The Way of Beatitude: Living Radical Hope in a World of Division and Despair*. The group will meet on Monday mornings through March 30 from 10:00AM until 11:30AM in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall. We will be using The Way of Beatitude book, written by Father Casey Cole, OFM to explore different perspectives on using the Beatitudes in our world today, how we can be agents of peace in our polarized world, and how to try to prevent discouragement and despair. To sign up, contact Cheryl at 484-866-3835.

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 Black and Indian Missions.

Upcoming collections are...

3/1 ~ Parish Facility Fund

3/8 ~ Parish Utilities

3/15 ~ Easter Flowers

ST. JOHN XXIII AND ST. RICHARD NEWS AND UPDATES

This Week	
Sunday	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass
Monday	10:00AM Lenten Adult Small Group in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall
Wednesday	12:00PM-1:30PM Catholic Charities Cafe Food Truck in the St. John XXIII parking lot
Thursday	6:00PM St. John XXIII Choir Rehearsal in the balcony – new members are always welcome
Upcoming Events	
March 2	6:30PM St. John XXIII Fundraising Meeting in the Parish Hall
March 10	6:00PM St. Richard Fundraising Meeting in the Parish Hall

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The sacrament will be administered following all Masses this weekend at both churches. Please be seated in the front pews immediately after Mass.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS REMINDER

Stations of the Cross followed by Benediction are every week during Lent: Tuesdays at 9:00AM at St. John XXIII Church and Wednesdays at 7:00PM at St. Richard Church.

LENTEN EMBER DAYS

Holy Mother Church provides many opportunities to refresh and renew. The Lenten Ember Days provide reminders to continue and persevere in the spirit of conversion and penance. The fasting and abstinence would follow the current laws of the Church. The Lenten Ember Days for 2026 are as follows: Wednesday, February 25th, Friday, February 27th, and Saturday, February 28th.

PIANO CONCERT THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who assisted with and/or attended Andrew Sheranian's piano concert this past Friday. This concert was sponsored, in part, by the Boyle and Odorizzi families, and the reception was sponsored by Basile's Restaurant and the Parish Choir. We are grateful for our sponsor's generosity.

CONFESSIONAL REMODEL IN PROGRESS

The Diocese of Allentown is requiring all churches that have face-to-face confessionals like ours to be rebuilt. Our current confessional has been demolished, and a new one is being built in its place. The new confessional will be ADA compliant and have a chair, but there will no longer be the face-to-face option. During this construction project, Saturday confessions will take place in the Family Room.

FUNDRAISING NEWS AT ST. JOHN XXIII

Our fundraising committee normally meets at 6:30PM on the 1st Monday of each month in the Parish Hall. Our next meeting is on March 2nd. New members (and old ones) are ALWAYS welcome! Tickets for our May 3rd BINGO at the West Penn Township Fire Company go on sale this weekend in the Family Room. Tickets are \$25.

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.

ST. JOHN XXIII CAFÉ AFTER MASS IN THE HALL

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

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 Adoration at St. John XXIII, we will follow the Tamaqua Area School District.

UPCOMING LENTEN RETREATS

The *Bishop's Commission for Women* will host their annual Lenten retreat at the Cathedral Church of St. Catharine of Siena in Allentown on March 7th from 8:00AM until 3:00PM. The retreat is entitled: Love Hope and Holiness – The Antidote for the Attack on Our Family and Faith. The full day retreat will consist of talks, music, lunch, Adoration and Mass celebrated by Bishop Schlert. To register, please contact Mary Ann Guman at allentowndiocesecfw@gmail.com.

Men Alive in Christ invites you to explore authentic masculinity through the lens of St. John Paul II's "Theology of the Body." The day will include Mass, coffee, and donuts, and presentations by Hannah Shafer, Assistance Director of Programs and Fr. Nikolai Brelinsky, Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph the Worker Parish. The event will take place on March 14th from 8:00AM-12:00PM at Marian Catholic High School. Any questions, please contact Glenn Mummey at gmummey@gmail.com.

FROM THE DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN

The Office of Permanent Diaconate Formation announces the Institution of Acolytes at Vespers on Sunday, March 1st (Second Sunday of Lent) at 4:00PM at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena. One of the candidates is Glenn L. Mummey, III a parishioner from St. Richard Parish. For more information, please see the bulletin board in the Vestibule.

BOYER'S KEY FOB PROGRAM AT ST. RICHARD

We just received a rebate from Boyer's Food Markets totaling \$122.42! Thank you to everyone who is continuing to participate in this ongoing fundraiser. It is an easy way to earn money for our parish. If anyone would like a key fob, they are located at both entrances of the church.

2026 MASS INTENTION BOOK AT ST. RICHARD

All requests must include the 2026 Mass Intention Form and the \$10 per Mass/Candle stipend fee. Since there is a limit of three Masses, please consider having a weekday Mass, or through the many Devotional Candles (including the Sanctuary Lamp) or the Eternal Remembrance Society.

COMMUNION

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

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

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 of St. Richard Church and on the table in the Family Room and in the Parish Hall of St. John XXIII Church.

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 at www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org.

REMINDER

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

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

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