

# Welcome

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

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

*December 29, 2024*

*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**

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 28</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 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph</b>                   Mass Intention: Sister Josita Karnish                   Mass Intention: Yanacek and Harvan Families</p>
<p><b>Sunday, December 29</b>                  8:30AM Mass: SJ                   10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p><b>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph</b>                  Mass Intention: Casimira Pokola                   Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parishes</p>
<p><b>Monday, December 30</b>                  8:00AM Mass: SJ</p>	<p><b>Sixth Day Within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</b>                  Mass Intention: Sara Patusky</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, December 31</b>  <b>No Morning Mass: SJ</b>   <b>4:00PM Mass: SJ</b></p>	<p><b>Seventh Day Within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</b>   <b>Vigil to the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)</b>                  Mass Intention: David Sweeney</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, January 1</b>   <b>9:00AM Mass: SR</b></p>	<p><b>The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)</b>                   Mass Intention: Blessings for our parish</p>
<p><b>Thursday, January 2</b>                  No Daily Mass: SR</p>	<p><b>Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church</b></p>
<p><b>Friday, January 3</b>  <i>No Mass at either church</i></p>	<p><b>Christmas Weekday</b></p>
<p><b>Saturday, January 4</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 Epiphany of the Lord</b>                   Mass Intention: James “Jimmer” Young Jr.                   Mass Intention: Pat Skelson</p>
<p><b>Sunday, January 5</b>                  8:30AM Mass: SJ                   10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p><b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b>                  Mass Intention: Samuel S. Lazarchick and Scott Ferryman                   Mass Intention: Suzanne Hurst</p>

**TODAY’S LITURGY OF THE WORD:** In today’s first reading, Sirach writes of the proper relationship between parents and children. In the second reading, Paul instructs the community on how to conduct themselves as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved. In the Gospel, Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem as Mary and Joseph made their way home. They found him in the temple, and he said: Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house? Our readings today point to the importance of reverencing one another with respect and charity. We are to honor our parents and let the peace of Christ control our hearts. We are to put on love and strive always to live with gratitude

**TODAY’S RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord!

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

<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 Heritage Mass</b> can be found on the following pages:                  Gloria – 226 / Holy, Holy, Holy – 227 / Memorial Acclamation – 228 / Amen – 231 / Lamb of God – 232</p> <p>The prelude is <b>Prelude on “Stille Nacht”</b> by Gordon Young (1919-1998)                  The postlude is <b>Fantasia on “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”</b> – L.S. Clark (1889-1963)</p> <p>The Christmas flowers are in memory of all the people listed in the Christmas Memorials that are placed upon the altar.</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, 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 / Francis Burke, Jean Hunsinger, Ed Surfied, Monica Surfied, Diane Cavanaugh, Anne Palmer, Elizabeth Tarutis

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

Patrick Coleman

Wanda Zammer

Michael Gallagher

## DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

### St. John XXIII Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of the Deceased of the Angelus Family

### Crucifix Candle

In Memory of Sandra McGlinchey

### St. Richard Blessed Virgin Mary

Special Intention

### Sacred Heart

In Loving Memory of Robert "Ben" Blue

### St. Joseph

In Loving Memory of my husband Francis Trackim

## 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

*We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year!  
See you on January 5, 2025!*

**Sunday, December 29** – No Youth Formation

**Sunday, January 5** – Youth Formation Grades 1-8  
(Sacramental Prep Parents meet in the Conference Room)

**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 1-8: Sunday, December 29th ~ No Classes

Grades 5-8; Sunday, January 5th at 9:00AM  
Grades 1-4; Sunday, January 12th at 9:30AM  
Grades 5-8; Sunday, January 19th at 9:00AM  
Grades 1-4; Sunday, January 26th at 9:30AM

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

**SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS**  
**Cub/Boy Scouts** – No updates available.

## ADULT FORMATION

**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 Parish Utilities.

### Upcoming collections are...

1/1 ~ Solemnity of Mary

1/5 ~ Parish Facility Fund

1/12 ~ Parish Utilities

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

### This Week

Sunday	7:00PM Men's Group in the St. Richard Meeting Room
Tuesday	New Year's Eve Mass: 4:00PM at St. John XXIII ( <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i> )
Wednesday	New Year's Day Mass: 9:00AM at St. Richard ( <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i> )
Thursday	The regularly scheduled St. John XXIII Parish Choir rehearsal is cancelled for today
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
January 6	9:00AM both Parish Offices reopen ( <i>Please note: revised Office Hour days and schedule for St. Richard</i> )
January 12	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass

### A WORD OF THANKS

We thank everyone who assisted in any way at all the Christmas Eve/Day Masses. It was wonderful to see such large crowds in church for the holiday. We of course also thank all the decorators who helped make our church look so beautiful for Christmas.

### ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOK RECIPE DEADLINE

The deadline for recipes for our parish cookbook is being extended until January 31st. God bless and we hope you had a wonderful Christmas, we wish you a happy new year, and don't forget to submit your favorite recipes!

### GIVING TREE

Thank you for all the gifts left at the Giving Tree in our Parish Hall. Catholic Charities plans to collect everything on Monday January 6th, so you can still donate until January 5th. These items will be used to replenish Catholic Charities inventory of supplies to give to families in need throughout the year, not just at Christmastime.

### PILGRIMAGE FROM PARIS TO LOURDES

Join Holy Family Parish of Minersville as we participate in our Parish Pilgrimage from Paris to Lourdes, France from 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.

### 2024 DEADLINE FOR FINANCIAL GIVING

To receive accurate credit for 2024, please return your 2024 Collection Envelopes by Tuesday, December 31st.

### 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 call the Parish Office if you can help.

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

Please join us in the 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.

### 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.

### NEW YEAR BLESSINGS

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 and their families a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

### ST. RICHARD PARISH NEW OFFICE HOURS

Beginning January 6, 2025, the Parish Office business hours will change. The new schedule will be Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 9:00AM-2:00PM. (The St. John XXIII Parish Office business hours remain unchanged.)

### ST. RICHARD FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

As 2024 is coming to an end, the committee would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who made our fundraisers a success! With the volunteers, prep and clean-up crews, kitchen helpers, servers, patrons, purchasers, sellers, businesses and those behind the scenes – you all make these events possible! May God continue to bless every one of you for your time and dedication to our parish! Hope to see you all in 2025!

### DECEMBER LOTTERY WINNERS

The Lottery Calendar winners for the previous week were not available at printing time. Please refer to next week's bulletin for the up-to-date winners. Sorry for any inconvenience. Just a reminder, there are still January lottery calendars for sale 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 unsold tickets as soon as possible. **Sellers needed** call/text Joann at 570-640-1034. You may also purchase the Spree tickets in the Parish Office during business hours.

### JUBILEE YEAR 2025 – PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Pope Francis has declared 2025 a Jubilee Year in the Universal Church, a prayerful celebration that will begin in the Diocese of Allentown with a special Mass at 4:15PM on Saturday, December 28th, at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena in Allentown. Attending the opening Mass is a way for the faithful of the Diocese to join in solidarity with Catholics around the world: Masses to inaugurate the Jubilee Year will be celebrated on the same weekend in every Cathedral across the globe.

### INCLEMENT WEATHER

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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**2025 MASS BOOK AT ST. RICHARD**

The Mass Book is open. Intentions accepted using the **current** 2025 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 Mass stipend/Candle fee.