

Welcome

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

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

December 1, 2024

First 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-Thursdays ~ 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 or by calling 800-276-1562.

<p>Saturday, November 30 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ</p> <p>5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Vigil to the First Sunday of Advent</p> <p>Mass Intention: Eugene A. Ritsick</p> <p>Mass Intention: Dennis Malarkey</p>
<p>Sunday, December 1 8:30AM Mass: SJ</p> <p>10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>First Sunday of Advent Mass Intention: Leonard Zoba Jr.</p> <p>Mass Intention: Jack and Antoinette Ryan</p>
<p>Monday, December 2 No Daily Mass</p>	<p>Advent Weekday</p>
<p>Tuesday, December 3 No Daily Mass</p>	<p>St. Francis Xavier, Priest</p>
<p>Wednesday, December 4 No Daily Mass</p>	<p>Advent Weekday</p>
<p>Thursday, December 5 No Daily Mass</p>	<p>Advent Weekday</p>
<p>Friday, December 6 No Daily Mass</p>	<p>Advent Weekday</p>
<p>Saturday, December 7 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ</p> <p>5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Vigil to the Second Sunday of Advent</p> <p>Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. John XXIII and St. Richard Parishes</p> <p>Mass Intention: Deceased Members of the Karlavage Family</p>
<p>Sunday, December 8 8:30AM Mass: SJ</p> <p>10:30AM Mass: SR</p>	<p>Second Sunday of Advent Mass Intention: Larry Petrole</p> <p>Mass Intention: John McTiernan</p>

TODAY’S LITURGY OF THE WORD: In the first reading, Jeremiah prophesies that the days of fulfillment are coming. A shoot will come from the line of David, and it will be a time of security and justice. In the second reading, Paul prays for the Thessalonians and exhorts them to conduct themselves as pleasing to God. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples what it will be like at the coming of the Son of Man, and that they are to be vigilant in anticipation of that day. As we begin Advent, our readings today offer wisdom in discerning what it means to prepare our hearts for the Lord. They are beckoning us to wake up and be attentive to what is around us, for God’s time is at hand. We have the blessing of this season to prepare for the coming of the Lord, and to allow our hearts to be transformed.

TODAY’S RESPONSORIAL PSALM: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

<p>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>The prelude is Wachet Auf (Sleepers Wake) by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) The postlude is Lo He Comes With Clouds Descending by R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)</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, Judy Hadesty / Francis Burke, Jean Hunsinger, Patrick McAndrew

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

Donna Mashakas

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

<p>St. John XXIII Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of Deceased Members of the Quinn and Coleman Families Crucifix Candle In Memory of Stan Karnish</p>	<p>St. Richard Sanctuary Lamp In Loving Memory of my parents Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sniscak Blessed Virgin Mary Special Intention Sacred Heart Brian McCue Jr. And Christa Vecchione</p>
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YOUTH FORMATION

Childrens' bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule

<p>St. John XXIII RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2024-2025</p> <p>PARENTS AND STUDENTS WILL DISMISS TO THE UPSTAIRS CLASSROOMS FOLLOWING THE RECESSIONAL HYMN 8:30AM Mass until 10:45AM</p> <p>Sunday, December 1 – No Youth Formation</p> <p>Sunday, December 8 – Youth Formation Grades 2-8 <i>(Sacramental Prep Parents meet in the Conference Room)</i></p> <p>Sunday, December 15 – Family Mass Day & Youth Formation Grades 2-8</p> <p>GRADE 1 Sacramental Prep begins January 5th! Registration Forms can be found in the Parish Hall. Registration Fee = \$30</p>	<p>St. Richard RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2024-2025</p> <p>CCD/PREP CLASSES: Grades 1-8; Sunday, December 1st - No Classes Grades 1-4; Sunday, December 8th at 9:30AM Grades 5-8; Sunday, December 15th at 9:00AM</p> <p>*All classes are held in Parish Hall <u>unless</u> noted.</p> <p>10th Annual Christmas Party Friday, December 6th at 6:30PM St. Richard Parish Hall</p> <p>Annual Children's Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 22nd at 6:00PM St. Richard Parish</p> <p>SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS Cub/Boy Scouts – No updates available.</p>
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ADULT FORMATION

<p>Advent Jesse Tree Reflections/Adult Small Group: See description on the next page or the flyer for more information.</p> <p>Bible Study: Wednesday evenings from 6:30PM until 8:00PM in St. Richard Parish Hall. All are invited to attend.</p> <p>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.</p>

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today's second collection is for the Parish Facility Fund as well as Christmas Flowers.

Upcoming collections are...

12/8 ~ Retired Religious

12/15 ~ Stained Glass Window Renovation: SR / Parish Cemeteries: SJ

ST. JOHN XXIII AND ST. RICHARD NEWS AND UPDATES

This Week	
Sunday	Rosary for Peace – immediately after the 8:30AM Mass in the church near the statue of the Blessed Mother
Tuesday	5:30PM – Advent Dinner Celebration in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall – see flyer for more details
Thursday	9:00AM-1:00PM SVdP prepares and delivers Christmas baskets for homebound/nursing home parishioners 6:00PM St. John XXIII Parish Choir rehearsal
Friday	10th Annual Christmas Party – Friday, December 6th at 6:30PM – St. Richard Parish Hall
Upcoming Events	
December 8	Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass
December 9	Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation – Masses: 8:00AM at SJ and 7:00PM at SR 5:30PM St. John XXIII Fundraising Meeting in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall
December 11	7:00PM Advent Confessions at SR
December 15	3:00PM-5:00PM – M&J Big Band Holiday Concert in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall – Tickets \$20 6:00PM-8:00PM – Advent Adoration and Confession with cake and coffee in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall

MANY WORDS OF THANKS

Thank you to everyone who participated in, or helped organize, our Advent Wreath Making Day on Saturday. We also thank the helpers who decorated the Parish Hall and greened the church. We thank Brian Turner and Mark O’Hearn for making our beautiful Advent Wreath. And finally, we thank Fr. Karpyn for being the guest celebrant at all the weekend 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 INTENTION BOOK AT ST. JOHN XXIII

Opens this Wednesday December 4th at 10:00AM. The dates/times to book Masses and candles are as follows:

- *Wednesday, December 4th – 10:00AM–12noon and 1:00PM- 3:00PM in Parish Office
- *Thursday, December 5th – 10:00AM-12noon and 1:00PM-3:00PM in Parish Office
- *Sunday, December 8th – 9:30AM-11:00AM following 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.

LECTOR WORKBOOKS

The workbooks for the new liturgical year are in the sacristy. Please pick up yours before or after Mass today.

FEAST OF ST. NICHOLAS IS DECEMBER 6TH

We are inviting children to leave a shoe in the vestibule **prior** to December 6th. The weekend of December 7th and 8th, the children can pick up their shoes after Mass and maybe if they are lucky St. Nicholas will have left them a treat!

ANNUAL CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday, December 6th at 6:30PM in St. Richard Parish Hall. This year’s movie will be “The Star”! As usual lots of pizza, popcorn and crafts! Jammies and blankets welcome. \$10 per child, children under 5 years old **must be** accompanied by an adult. To sign up, please message Krissy Wonsock.

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.

2025 MASS INTENTION BOOK AT ST. RICHARD

The Mass Book OFFICIALLY OPENS Wednesday, December 4th at 10:00AM. No requests will be accepted prior to the above date. 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. 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): The 2-sided lottery calendars are \$10 for both months - \$5 for December 2024 and \$5 for January 2025. The month of December side of the ticket are no longer available for purchase however the January tickets are still available 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

Accepting all sizes of new or gently used coats, hats and gloves. The items collected will benefit students of Mahanoy Area and Tamaqua Ares School Districts. Donation boxes are in the Vestibule at St. Richard and the Narthex at St. John XXIII.

2025 LOTTERY CALENDARS AT ST. JOHN XXIII

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

ST. JOHN XXIII CAFÉ IN THE PARISH HALL

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.

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 Parish 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.

