

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 or by calling 800-276-1562.

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

St. John XXIII The Order of Mass can be found starting on page 140 in the Journeysongs Hymnal. The Mass of Spirit and Grace can be found on the following pages: Holy, Holy, Holy – 199 / Memorial Acclamation – 201 / Amen – 203 / Lamb of God – 204 The prelude is Allegro from Water Music by George Frideric Handel (1685-1759) The postlude is The Heavens Are Telling by Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) The altar flowers and the flowers by Mary are in memory of Florence Polinsky and Bill Savage.

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

St. John XXIII Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of Kathryn Boyle Crucifix Candle In Memory of Theresa Ligenza	St. Richard Blessed Virgin Mary Special Intention
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YOUTH FORMATION

Children's bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule

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

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

August 24	Back to School Blessing for all students at both parishes following both Sunday Masses 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.

“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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