

Welcome

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

Reverend Robert T. Finlan, Pastor

Deacon Edward J. Girard

November 23, 2025

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



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.

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| Saturday, November 22 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR | Vigil to Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Mass Intention: Michael J. Bubel Jr. Mass Intention: Clara and John Ogrodnick |
| Sunday, November 23 8:30AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR | Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Parishioners of St. John XXIII and St. Richard Parishes Mass Intention: Alfred Peca |
| Monday, November 24 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard Church</i>) | St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs Mass Intention: Anthony F. Gentile Sr. |
| Tuesday, November 25 7:00AM Mass: SJ (<i>held at St. Richard Church</i>) 8:30AM Eucharistic Adoration/Benediction: SJ | Weekday Mass Intention: Anita Rubeck |
| Wednesday, November 26 No 7:00AM Mass: SR (<i>No Eucharistic Adoration or Confession</i>) 7:00PM Mass: SR | Weekday Thanksgiving Vigil Mass Mass Intention: Thanksgiving Blessings for our Parish |
| Thursday, November 27 No 7:00AM Mass: SR | Weekday (Thanksgiving Day) |
| Friday, November 28 <i>No Daily Mass at either church</i> | Weekday |
| Saturday, November 29 2:45PM – 3:15PM Confessions: SJ 3:30PM Mass: SJ 5:00PM – 5:15PM Confessions: SR 5:30PM Mass: SR | Vigil to the First Sunday of Advent Mass Intention: Eugene Ritsick Mass Intention: Francis Trackim |
| Sunday, November 30 8:30AM Mass: SJ 10:30AM Mass: SR | First Sunday of Advent Mass Intention: Leo Davidovich Jr. Mass Intention: Living and Deceased Members of St. Richard and St. John XXIII Parishes |

TODAY'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: The first reading recalls the anointing of David as king of Israel. In the second reading, Saint Paul describes the divine dignity of Christ, who is the firstborn of all creation in whom all things hold together. In the Gospel, the rulers and soldiers mock Jesus and ask why he does not save himself. One of the criminals crucified next to Jesus asks to be remembered when he comes into his kingdom. Today's solemnity, which marks the close of the liturgical year, reminds us that Christ is king, judge, and ruler of all. He is the image of the invisible God and the firstborn of all creation in whom all power and authority have been invested. By our baptism we share in that royal identity so that we might witness to his glory and kingship before the world.

TODAY'S RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, NOV 30: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

St. John XXIII

The **Order of Mass** can be found starting on page 140 in the Journeysongs Hymnal.

The **Heritage Mass** can be found on the following pages:

Gloria – 226 / Holy, Holy, Holy – 227 / Memorial Acclamation – 228 / Amen – 231 / Lamb of God – 232

The prelude is **We Gather Together** by Franklin Ritter (1934-2015)

The postlude is **Now Thank We All Our God from Cantata No. 74** by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The harvest display at the altar is in thanksgiving for all God's blessings to our parish.

(*Thank you to everyone who brought in pumpkins, gourds, mums, and Indian corn to make this beautiful harvest display.*)

PRAYER LIST FOR BOTH PARISHES

Please remember in your prayers...

David Rickert, Andrew Eremus, George Koval, Marci Bonner, Arabella & Magnolia (*infant twins*), Tracey Miller, Gregory Slivka / Alonzo Borja, Marlene Fatula, Roy Paisley, Marie Kalpinsky, Ellie Setlock, Chase Schaller, Kathy Sanchez, Quinn Derlunas, Sue Mannello, Dr. Walter Setlock, Christine Lawrence, Sean McGeehan, / Magnolia Pavlovich, Regina Zoba, Jeff Zoba, Joan Manos, Kiersten Guers, Craig Goida, Fred Holman, Jane Grier

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

Donald Weaver

Kathryn Nester

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

St. John XXIII Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of Thomas Milot

Crucifix Candle

In Memory of Leo Davidovich Jr.

St. Richard Sanctuary Lamp

Sister Margaret

Blessed Virgin Mary

Healing Prayers for Amy Gurcsik

Sacred Heart

Special Intention

St. Joseph

Antonio Cusati

YOUTH FORMATION

Children's bulletins are available in Narthex/Vestibule

St. John XXIII RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026

*All students will meet in the upstairs classrooms
after the 8:30AM Mass until 11:00AM*

Saturday, November 22 – First Reconciliation 10:00AM

Sunday, November 23 – Sacramental Prep Grades 2, 7 & 8

*And don't forget about Advent Wreath Making on
Saturday, November 29th at 9:00AM in the Parish Hall.
This is a great event for the whole family.
Sign-up sheets are in the Family Room and the Parish Hall.*

St. Richard RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026

CCD/PREP CLASSES:

Grades 5-8; Sunday, November 23rd at 9:00AM

Sunday, November 30th – No Classes

Thanksgiving Weekend

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

Any questions, please contact
Krissy Wonsock at 732-687-0433

SCOUT MEETINGS / EVENTS

Cub Scouts

Meetings held every Sunday from 4:00PM until 6:00PM
in the St. Richard Parish Hall

ADULT FORMATION

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.

OCLIA (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 the diocesan collection for Poverty Relief.

Upcoming collections are...

11/27 ~ Thanksgiving

11/30 ~ Christmas Flowers

ST. JOHN XXIII AND ST. RICHARD NEWS AND UPDATES

This Week

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| Sunday | Communion to the Homebound immediately after the 8:30AM Mass |
| Monday | 6:00PM Pastoral Council Meeting in St. Richard Parish Hall (meeting includes members from St. John XXIII) |
| Tuesday | 9:00AM Mahanoy Area Ministerial Association Annual Thanksgiving Breakfast at St. Paul's UCC 7:00PM Tamaqua Area Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at Trinity UCC, 22 Lafayette Street, Tamaqua |
| Wednesday | Catholic Charities Community Café Food Truck – noon until 1:30PM in the St. John XXIII parking lot 7:00PM Thanksgiving Day Vigil Mass at St. Richard Church |
| Thursday | Thanksgiving Day – No Mass at either Church – both Parish Offices closed Thursday and Friday St. John XXIII Parish Choir Rehearsal cancelled for today, regular rehearsals resume next week |

Upcoming Events

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| November 29 | 9:00AM until 11:00AM Advent Wreath Making in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall – More details on flyer |
| December 2 | 6:30PM Welcoming Advent Event in the St. John XXIII Parish Hall – More details on flyer |
| December 5 | 5:00PM Annual Children's Christmas Party in St. Richard Parish Hall |
| December 6 | 9:00AM until 11:00AM Breakfast with St. Nicholas in St. Richard Parish Hall |

ADVENT WREATH MAKING IS THIS SATURDAY

Don't forget to sign up in the Family Room for our Advent Wreath Making event this coming Saturday, November 29th. It is a fun event for children and adults of all ages.

LECTOR WORKBOOKS AT ST. JOHN XXIII

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

ST. JOSEPH MISSALS AT ST. JOHN XXIII

The 2026 Sunday Missals are on the table in the Family Room. They are \$5 each, please use the envelopes provided.

CHRISTMAS WAFERS AT ST. JOHN XXIII

They will go on sale next weekend, the First Sunday of Advent, and will be available in the Family Room for \$4 per packet.

WELCOMING ADVENT EVENT ON DECEMBER 2nd

Join us on Tuesday, December 2nd at 6:30PM in St. John XXIII Parish Hall for a night of celebration to start Advent off with the right heart and help us keep the focus on God. The night includes a relaxing environment, light refreshments, candlelit Scripture and prayer, and Christmas songs. There is no charge for this night, only an open heart – Limited seating – A sign-up sheet is located in the St. John XXIII Narthex or contact Cheryl at 484-866-3835. More information about the event is on the flyer.

GIVING TREE IN THE ST. JOHN XXIII PARISH HALL

Starting on the First Sunday in Advent, we will have a Giving Tree for both BIRTHRIGHT and Catholic Charities in our Parish Hall. BIRTHRIGHT only 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.

2026 MASS INTENTION BOOK

The Mass Intention Book will officially open Wednesday, December 10th at 10:00AM. No intention requests will be taken until that date. Please refer to the weekly bulletin for updates and specific guidelines for each parish.

ST. JOHN XXIII CAFÉ IN THE PARISH HALL

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

ADVENT BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30th

2026 St. Joseph Missals (\$5 each) and Christmas Wafers (\$4 per packet) are in St. Richard Vestibule. Please use the appropriate envelopes provided and place in the collection or the secure box on the Rectory porch.

ATTENTION LECTORS

The new liturgical workbooks are in the sacristy. Please pick up your workbook before or after Mass this weekend.

75th ANNIVERSARY ORNAMENTS

St. Richard Parish is offering a 75th Anniversary Keepsake ornament for \$10 each. They will be available before/after all weekend Masses or stop by the Parish Office during business hours. They make great gifts too!

WINTER LOTTERY CALENDARS AT ST. RICHARD

Need a gift or stocking stuffer? Look no further. December 2025/January 2026 Lottery calendars are on sale now! The 2-sided lottery calendars are \$10 for both months! Please return all tickets either in the collection or the "Fundraising" box on the rectory porch. December tickets must be returned by November 30th. Seller's bonus—sell 5 tickets and get 1 free! To become a seller, call/text Joann at 570-640-1034.

GIVING TREE AT ST. RICHARD

Starting Sunday, November 30th, there will be a Giving Tree in the church vestibule for both BIRTHRIGHT and Catholic Charities. BIRTHRIGHT only accepts monetary donations or gift cards however; Catholic Charities also accepts certain items. A list of suggested items is on the bulletin board in the vestibule. BIRTHRIGHT donations can be placed in the collection basket or in the secure box on the Rectory porch. Catholic Charities donations (please do not wrap) may be placed under the tree. Thank you for helping these organizations as they help others in the Season of Giving!

WARM THEIR HEARTS COAT DRIVE

We are participating in a winter coat drive for children within the local community. This collection ends next Sunday, November 30th. A drop-off box has been placed in the vestibule of St. Richard and the Narthex of St. John XXIII.

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.

JANUARY LOTTERY CALENDARS FOR SALE NOW

They are only \$5 each and make great stocking stuffers. They are available in the St. John XXIII Family room before and after weekend Masses.

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.

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

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.

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.

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