



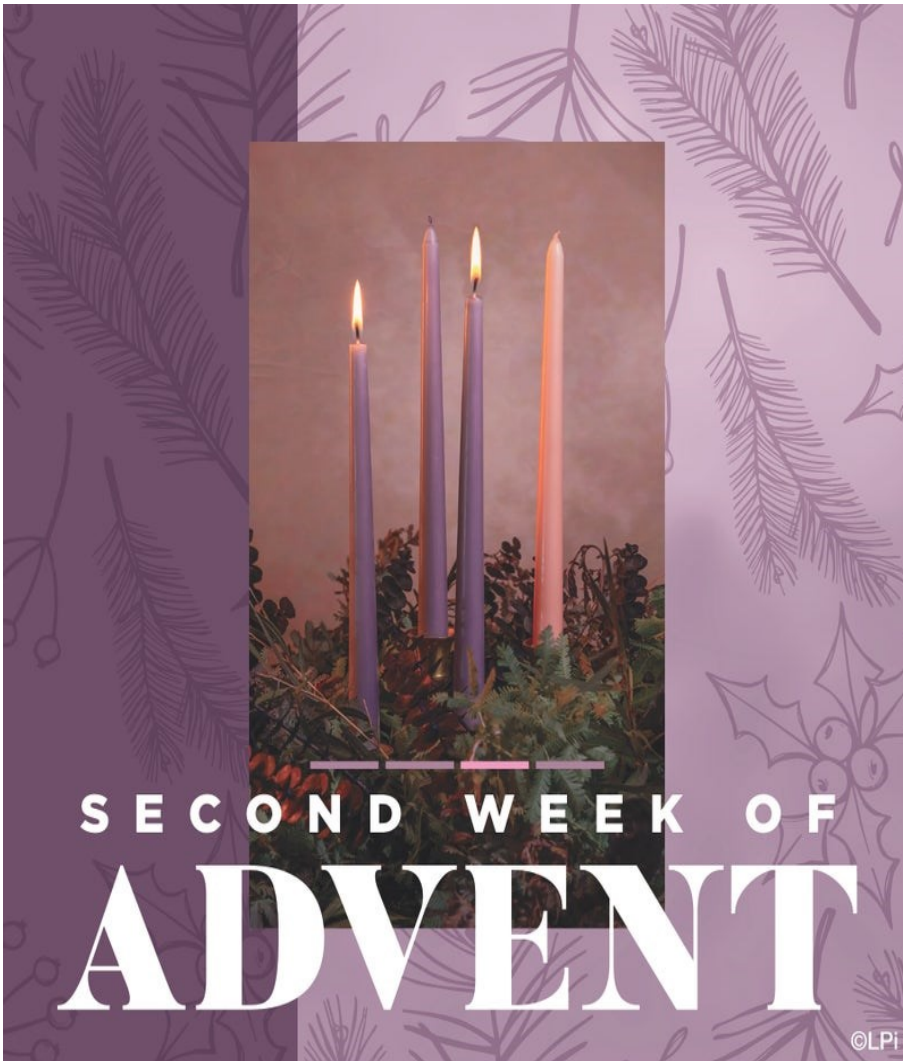
Saint Thomas the Apostle Church  
203 W. Washington Street  
Corry, PA 16407

# THE PARISHES OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE AND ST. TERESA OF AVILA



Saint Teresa of Avila Church  
9 Third Avenue  
Union City, PA 16438

## December 4, 2022



**NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

St. Thomas the Apostle     St. Teresa of Avila

Please drop this information into Offertory Basket or mail to Parish Office.

**Rev. Matthew J. Strickenberger**  
*Pastor*  
pastor@stparish.org

**Rev. Mr. Randy Kondrlik**  
*Deacon*  
deacon@stparish.org

**Melissa Silka**  
*Business Manager and  
Director of Faith Formation*  
business@stparish.org

**Susan Johnston**  
*Secretary*  
secretary@stparish.org

**Susan Vinca**  
*Coordinator of St. Thomas &  
St. Elizabeth Cemeteries*  
cemetery@stparish.org

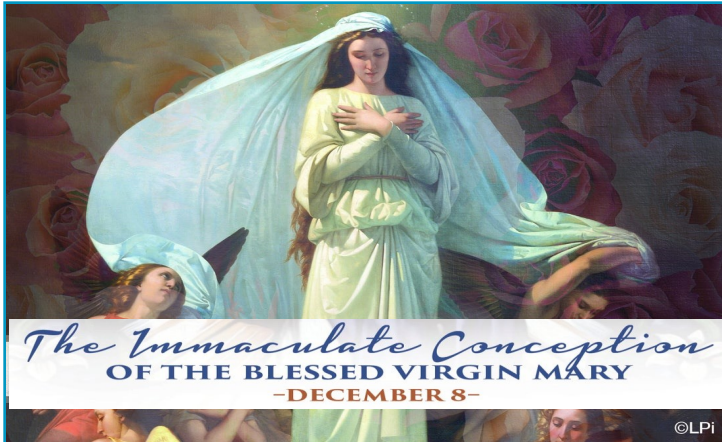
**Chris Slocum**  
*Coordinator of St. Teresa Cemetery*  
814-462-6375

**Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish**  
[www.stthomastheapostle.church](http://www.stthomastheapostle.church)

**Saint Teresa of Avila Parish**  
[www.st-teresa-unioncity.org](http://www.st-teresa-unioncity.org)

**Partnered Parish Offices**  
203 W. Washington Street  
Corry, PA 16407  
814-663-3041

**Partnered Parish Office Hours**  
Monday: 12:30pm—3:30pm  
Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:30am—3:30pm  
Thursday: 8:30am—12:00pm noon  
Friday: Closed



Mass Times for the Holy Day of Obligation

- **Wed., December 7—7:00PM Vigil Mass at St. Teresa Church in Union City**
- **Thurs., December 8—8:00AM Holy Day Mass at St. Thomas Church in Corry**

Mass Readings for the Week of December 4, 2022

Sun.: Isaiah 11:1-10 ♦ Romans 15:4-9 ♦ Matthew 3:1-12  
 Mon.: Isaiah 35:1-10 ♦ Luke 5:17-26  
 Tues.: Isaiah 40:1-11 ♦ Matthew 18:12-14  
 Wed.: Isaiah 40:25-31 ♦ Matthew 11:28-30  
 Thur.: Genesis 3:9-15, 20 ♦ Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12 ♦ Luke 1:26-38  
 Fri.: Isaiah 48:17-19 ♦ Matthew 11:16-19  
 Sat.: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11 ♦ Matthew 17:9a, 10-13  
 Next Sun.: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10 ♦ James 5:7-10 ♦ Matthew 11:2-11

In this age when personal data can be misused by scam artists, please be aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, its clergy and entities such as parishes and schools, will never solicit your personal or business information by any method unless initiated by you. Should you receive an unsolicited request for such information – including a request for gift cards of any type – exercise extreme caution. Contact the person or entity by using official contact information only. Do not use the contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request.

**WINTER MASS SCHEDULE**  
*September 10, 2022 thru May 21, 2023*

**Saturday 4:00PM**  
**St. Thomas Church (Corry)**  
 September, November, January, March, May

**St. Teresa Church (Union City)**  
 October, December, February, April

**Sunday**  
**8:00AM at St. Thomas Church (Corry)**  
**10:00AM at St. Teresa Church (Union City)**

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**Confessions**  
**Saturday from 3:00pm—3:30pm**  
**at the church where Saturday Mass is celebrated**  
**OR by appointment—please call the parish office**



**Monday, December 5**  
 8:00a.m. †Bernard & Helen Gluvna by Ed Bitters, Rod, and Penny (St. Teresa, Union City)

**Tuesday, December 6**  
 5:15p.m. Communion Service at St. Thomas Church, Corry

**Wednesday, December 7**  
 No morning Mass at St. Thomas today.  
 7:00p.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes (St. Teresa, Union City)

**Thursday, December 8—Immaculate Conception / Holy Day**  
 8:00a.m. †Paul Suchar by Family (St. Thomas, Corry)

**Friday, December 9**  
 8:00a.m. †Sherry Davis by Joe & Jane LaDuke (St. Teresa, Union City)

**Saturday, December 10**  
 4:00p.m. †Paul Mongera, Jr. by Family (St. Teresa, Union City)

**Sunday, December 11**  
 8:00a.m. †Rod, Marilyn & Mike Knowlton and Marty Roehrig by Punk, Lana and Jenna Messina (St. Thomas, Corry)  
 10:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes (St. Teresa, Union City)

**Parish Office Closed on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**  
 Our Partnered Parish Office will be CLOSED on the Holy Day of Obligation, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Sorry for any inconvenience. We will reopen for business on Monday, December 12 at 12:30pm.

**WELCOME**  
 If you are new to our Parishes, we extend a warm welcome and hope you will find here a place where your faith will be nourished.

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP**  
 New Parishioners are welcome to register by completing the form on the front of the bulletin and returning it to the Offertory Collection or the Parish Office.

**BAPTISM**  
 Please contact the Parish office to schedule a Baptism.

**MARRIAGE**  
 Please contact the Parish office at least six months in advance to schedule a Wedding.

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK**  
 Please let the Parish office know of anyone in need of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, or anyone who is unable to get to Mass and would desire weekly Holy Communion to be brought to them.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
 Confessions are offered at the following times/locations:  
 3:00pm—3:30pm on Saturdays at St. Thomas Church, Corry and/or at St. Teresa Church, Union City (when Mass is celebrated that evening); and other times by request made to the parish office.

# St. Thomas Parish News

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: November 19/20, 2022**

<b>Amount in Envelopes: (59)</b> .....	\$2,401.00
(Total Envelopes sent: 187 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 128)	
<b>Loose</b> .....	\$214.00
<b>Online Giving (9)</b> .....	\$275.00
<b>Total Offertory Income</b> .....	\$2,890.00
<b>Average Weekly Expenses</b> .....	\$7,656.00
<b>Weekly Average Shortfall</b> .....	\$(-4,766.00)

Thanks to everyone who regularly uses his/her envelopes.

Please write checks to St. Thomas Church.

If checks are to go to our parish cemeteries—please make them to St. Thomas Cemetery or St. Elizabeth Cemetery.

Thank you.



Please know that you can now give all your donations online by visiting our parish website at

[www.StThomastheApostle.Church](http://www.StThomastheApostle.Church) and click 'Donate Online'.

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: November 26/27, 2022**

<b>Amount in Envelopes: (63)</b> .....	\$2,941.00
(Total Envelopes sent: 187 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 124)	
<b>Loose</b> .....	\$203.00
<b>Online Giving (10)</b> .....	\$300.00
<b>Total Offertory Income</b> .....	\$3,444.00
<b>Average Weekly Expenses</b> .....	\$7,656.00
<b>Weekly Average Shortfall</b> .....	\$(-4,212.00)



**Holiday Pastries Available at Mass on December 11<sup>th</sup> at St. Thomas Church**

The Altar Rosary Society has a few pastries still available for sale. Look for their table before and after Mass on Sunday, Dec. 11. **Cost is \$15 for Kolachi and \$12 for Baklava.** Treat your family to something delicious for the holidays. Thank you to everyone who supported our efforts.

**2022 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 11/28):**

**Our Parish Goal is \$78,564.00**

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$47,894.00

Total Paid to date = \$45,964.00

# of Families who made a pledge = 132

# of Families who did not pledge = 213

We appreciate your generosity to the CSA. Prayerfully consider what God is leading you to give. **Please make a pledge today. Thank you.**

**Be sure to make your check payable to**

**'ST. THOMAS CHURCH' when making a CSA payment.**



**PRAYER LINE... call:** Gerrie (814-665-6944), Shirley (814-392-5411), Pam (814-664-7459), or Diane (814-663-3753).

Since prayer is an important ministry of trust, know that all requests are kept confidential.



**The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of December 4<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Ed Giacoma.**

**Homebound Ministry at St. Thomas Church**

If you have a family member who is not able to make it to Mass due to health reason and would like to be visited and receive the Eucharist, please call Pat at 814-964-3262 or the parish office.



**Congratulations to Corry Knights of Columbus, Council #425**

Who were recently recognized for their council's efforts for 2021-2022. They received 3 Awards: The Columbian, Father McGivney and Founders' Award. Picture is Grand Knight Ed Bogert receiving a plaque from State Warden David Spacht at their Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Also, Corry Council #425 of the Knights of Columbus welcomes Mike Hanlin as our newest member and he completed his Degree on November 14, 2022.

**Public Rosary on Christmas Eve**

The St. Thomas Altar Rosary Society will **not** hold a public Rosary at St. Thomas Church on Saturday, December 24 at 9:00am due to the holiday. They encourage all to pray The Rosary at home.

**"Question of the Week" - Second Sunday of Advent**

**Question for Children:** Beyond toys and other things, what do you hope will happen in your family this Christmas?

**Question for Youth:** What are the greatest challenges you face as a young person today in terms of allowing Christ to be your teacher and following him?

**Question for Adults:** Name the one thing in your life which you must "move out of the way" in order to make more room for Christ – a grudge, a possession, a memory, hurt, or feeling.

## St. Teresa Parish News

**ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: Nov. 20, 2022**  
**Amount in Envelopes: (31)** ..... \$1,075.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 126)  
**Loose** ..... \$38.00  
**Continuing the Vision** ..... \$20.00  
**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$1,133.00

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: Nov. 20, 2022**  
**Amount in Envelopes: (2)** ..... \$40.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 28)  
**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$40.00


**St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income** ..... \$1,173.00  
**Average Weekly Expenses** ..... \$4,777.00  
**Weekly Average Shortfall** ..... \$(-3,604.00)

*Thanks to everyone who regularly uses his/her envelopes.  
 Please write checks to St. Teresa Church or  
 Our Lady of Fatima Church.*

**ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: Nov. 27, 2022**  
**Amount in Envelopes: (58)** ..... \$1,945.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 99)  
**Loose** ..... \$49.00  
**Continuing the Vision** ..... \$40.00  
**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$2,034.00

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: Nov. 20, 2022**  
**Amount in Envelopes: (8)** ..... \$415.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 22)  
**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$415.00

**St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income** ..... \$2,449.00  
**Average Weekly Expenses** ..... \$4,777.00  
**Weekly Average Shortfall** ..... \$(-2,328.00)

 **The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of December 4<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Sherry Davis by Larry, Kim and boys.**

*You may sponsor the candle at St. Teresa in memory/honor of a loved one for \$10, please call the parish office if you wish to do so. Thank you.*



Very Rev. Chris Hamlett, V.F., Rev. Msgr. John Herbein, Rev. Thomas Brooks, **Rev. Matthew Strickenberger**, Rev. Msgr. Robert Smith, Rev. Joseph Staszewski, and Rev. David Perry

**Reminder for St. Teresa Rosary Altar Members**

We will not hold a meeting in December for Rosary Altar Society at St. Teresa. Our next meeting will be held on Epiphany Sunday, January 8, 2023 at 1:00pm in the St. Teresa Parish Center. This will be a meeting and party for the members of the St. Teresa Rosary Altar Society. Please be sure to mark your calendar.

**St. Teresa Church Organizations / Groups**

- Rosary—Altar Society**  
Meets the first Monday of each month at 4:30 PM
- Knights of Columbus**  
Meet every third Wednesday at 7:00 PM
- Religious Education Guild**  
Meets during the school term

**Local Red Kettle Campaign Seeking Bell Ringers**

The Salvation Army needs bell ringers for this year’s annual Red Kettle campaign! Volunteers are needed to fill shifts Monday-Saturday starting at 11:00am and ending at 6:00pm until Christmas Eve. Ringers will be inside the (heated!) lobby of Tops in Union City. This is a wonderful way for families to give back during the holidays. To sign up, please contact Elizabeth Malec at 814-490-7394 via text message or phone call.



Our prayers & sympathy to the family and friends of Dorothy Mongera who passed away this week from Saint Teresa Parish. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

**A Family Perspective**

Like John the Baptist, every parent “prepares the way of the Lord” in the hearts of their children. Advent is a good time to ask; “Do I help or hinder my children to know Jesus?”

**Thanksgiving Food Baskets –Thank You!**

Thanks to all who helped with donations of food, turkeys, or cash, to the Thanksgiving Food Baskets. Our collective efforts helped to make the holiday better for many people. We appreciate everyone’s generosity —Thank You!



 **PRAY WITHOUT CEASING** 

**2022 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 11/28):**

Our Parish Goal is \$52,346.00  
 Total Amount Pledged to date = \$37,125.00  
 Total Paid to date = \$34,285.00  
 # of Families who made a pledge = 93  
 # of Families who did not pledge = 201

We appreciate your generosity to the CSA. Prayerfully consider what God is leading you to give. **Please make a pledge today. Thank you.**

**Be sure to make your check payable to  
 ‘ST. TERESA CHURCH’ when making a CSA payment.**





**A Letter from our Bishop**

November 21, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Another year has passed, and we are again approaching the annual collection for our Retired Religious to be held in parishes on December 10th and 11th. This event has significant benefits for the retired Sisters in our diocese, as well as the over 30,000 retired religious throughout the country.

The **Retirement Fund for Religious** offers financial support for those Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests who worked for years for little or no stipends. Last year, the people in this diocese contributed \$145,858 to help defray the costs of medication, nursing care, medical equipment, transportation, physical and occupational therapy and other necessary needs. Your generous gift provides vital support for their ongoing health care, helping them to age in safety with dignity and comfort.

Senior Religious are our treasure in the Church. Their dedication and hard work laid the foundation for Catholic schools, religious education programs, hospitals, social service agencies and countless other ministries throughout our diocese; many still serve those in need today. Those who are no longer able to serve actively support all that is being done through their ministry of prayer, while continuously remembering all those who support them.

Some of you may not presently know consecrated men and women, but they have affected your lives through their ministry to your parents and grandparents and through the many organizations now in place due to their foresightedness and generosity. Ministries started by Sisters have had a tremendous influence in this diocese and they stand as a legacy to those generous women who dedicated their lives in service to the reign of God and continue to find ways to minister to others.

I join you in praising God for their faithful and generous service to the Church in the past and in the days and years to come. I understand you are asked to support many worthy causes. I invite you only to give what you can. Most importantly, please continue to pray for an increase of vocations to the consecrated life and for God's blessing on all our women and men religious. Know that you remain in their prayers. Please join me in supporting this year's **Retirement Fund for Religious**.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*+ Lawrence T. Persico*  
 The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL  
 Bishop of Erie

**Early Submission Deadlines for Bulletin Items**

The holidays are upon us and with it comes early deadlines for the bulletins. Please see the following schedule:

- For Dec. 11, 2022; bulletin items due by Monday, Dec. 5
- For Dec. 18, 2022; bulletin items due by Wed., Dec. 7
- For Dec. 25, 2022; bulletin items due by Wed., Dec. 14
- For Jan. 1, 2023; bulletin items due by Dec. 22
- For Jan. 8, 2023; bulletin items due by Jan. 2, 2023

Please send items for publication to the parish office at secretary@stparish.org. All bulletin items are subject to approval and editing for content and space. Thank you for your cooperation with these deadlines.

**Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News**

**Religious Education Classes**

Classes are Sundays following Mass. Students in Corry attend class from 8:45am until 10:00am in the former school building. Union City students attend class from 10:45am until 12:00pm (noon) at St. Teresa Parish Center.



**Class Schedule for December and the holidays**

- Sunday, Dec. 4—Class
- Sunday, Dec. 11—Class / Student Confessions (grades 3-11)
- Sunday, Dec. 18—Class
- Sunday, Dec. 25—CHRISTMAS / No Class
- Sunday, January 1—New Year's Day / No Class
- Sunday, January 8—Class

**Religious Education:**  
 Helps to build a strong foundation



**#IGIVECATHOLIC**



If you missed the online Giving Tuesday date on November 29, it's not too late to still participate. We will accept donations to both Sts. Thomas and Teresa parishes for the #iGiveCatholic campaign until the end of day on Monday, Dec. 5. Donations of cash or check must be brought to the parish office on Monday, Dec. 5 to be credited. Thanks to everyone for their generosity!



**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

The following are opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Advent Season at Sts. Thomas and Teresa Parishes:

- Every Saturday of Advent from 3:00PM – 3:45PM at St. Teresa Church, Union City
- Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:00PM – 6:45 PM at St. Teresa, Union City
- Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30PM – 7:00PM at St. Thomas, Corry
- Immediately following ALL weekend Masses at Sts. Thomas and Teresa December 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>

*Come to experience God's love and healing mercy.*