



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

July 23, 2023



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest.'" - Mt 13:29-30

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1979 CCD. ©LPI

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. Thomas J. Whitman
Pastor

Rev. Mr. Randy Kondrlik
Deacon
rkondrlik@eriercd.org

Rev. Mr. William Saborsky
Deacon—Retired

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

Saint Teresa of Avila Parish
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

Notes from the Pastor

One of the things from my first weekend at St. Thomas, St. Teresa, and Our Lady of Fatima is that there are a number of people who are ill at home and on hospice. I want to address this issue in a variety of ways right from the start.

1. First Friday of the Month: If there is someone from the parish who is homebound, please call the parish office and give us their name, address and phone number, so we can add them to the list of people we will visit each first Friday of the month. I hope to visit each of these people beginning in August to bring them Communion and the Anointing of the Sick.

2. Anointing of the Sick after Mass: I hope to schedule at least two opportunities for the Anointing of the Sick to take place after Mass on a certain weekend. The first of these will take place after each of the Masses on the weekend of September 9 & 10.

3. Education on the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. There is a great deal of misunderstanding about this sacrament and the old notion of what we called "Last Rites." Our understanding of this sacrament changed quite drastically 60 years ago, but many people have not updated their understanding of the sacrament.

The Anointing of the Sick is one of the sacraments that only a priest or bishop can administer because it involves the forgiveness of sins. Deacons are not able to give this sacrament because they do not have the ability to sacramentally forgive sins. The easiest way to describe this sacrament is to compare it to what people know about "Last Rites." Last Rites was only permitted to be received ONCE and so people waited until their last few breaths to call the priest to administer the sacrament. Sometimes the people waited too long, but the priest was able to still administer the sacrament even AFTER the person had died. The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick can be received AS MANY TIMES AS NEEDED but CANNOT BE GIVEN TO SOMEONE WHO HAS DIED. There are NO sacraments that are given to the dead. Sacraments are for the living. The Anointing of the Sick is to be given to people who are seriously ill, weakened by old age, or preparing for serious surgery. The sacrament does involve forgiveness of sins and time to pray for strength in their struggle with illness and to pray for healing.

- Fr. Tom

Readings for the week of July 23, 2023

Sun.: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 ♦ Psalm 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 (5a) ♦
Romans 8:26-27 ♦ Matthew 13:24-43 or 13:24-30
Mon.: Exodus 14:5-18 ♦ Exodus 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6 ♦ Matthew 12:38-42
Tues.: 2 Corinthians 4:7-15 ♦ Psalm 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 ♦
Matthew 20:20-28
Wed.: Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15 ♦ Psalm 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28 ♦
Matthew 13:1-9
Thur.: Exodus 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b ♦ Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 ♦
Matthew 13:10-17
Fri.: Exodus 20:1-17 ♦ Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11 ♦ Matthew 13:18-23
Sat.: Exodus 24:3-8 ♦ Psalm 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15 ♦ John 11:19-27 or
Luke 10:38-42
Next Sun.: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12 ♦ Psalm 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130
(97a) ♦ Romans 8:28-30 ♦ Matthew 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

**Sunday, July 23**

- 8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes
(St. Thomas, Corry)
10:00a.m. ✠ Anna Harnak by Elizabeth Tomcho
(St. Teresa, Union City)
11:00a.m. ✠ Gerry Vandever by John & Rita Mineo
(Our Lady of Fatima, Canadohta Lake)

Monday, July 24

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Milda Layden by her estate
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, July 25

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Frank Karkoski by Carl & Mary Buckshaw
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, July 26

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Clyde Ross by Diane Hall
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, July 27

No Mass or Service at both Sts. Thomas & Teresa today.

Friday, July 28

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Paul Mongera by Ilene Zakovitch
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, July 29

- 4:30p.m. ✠ Jane Farver by Richard & Jean Farver
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Sunday, July 30

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Deceased & Living Members of the Rushin and
Hennings Families by Steve & Julie Rushin
(St. Thomas, Corry)
10:00a.m. ✠ Harold O'Connor by Cheryl & Steve Mongera
(St. Teresa, Union City)
11:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes
(Our Lady of Fatima, Canadohta Lake)

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 ten (10) 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:
3:30pm—4:00pm 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: July 15 & 16, 2023

Amount in Envelopes: (79)	\$2,979.00
(Total Envelopes sent: 174 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 95)	
Loose	\$158.85
Online Giving (9)	\$295.00
Faith Formation / Rel. Ed. (1)	\$20.00
Total Offertory Income	\$3,452.85
Average Weekly Expenses	\$7,656.00
Weekly Average Shortfall	\$(-4,203.15)

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 and click 'Donate Online'.

Holy Father/Peter's Pence: (29)\$570.75

This is a special diocesan collection which was taken up on July 2, 2023 which supports the charities/causes of Pope Francis. Thank you for your generous support.

2023 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 07/16):

St. Thomas Diocesan Goal is \$39,417.00

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$42,210.00

Total Paid to date = \$37,760.00

of Families who made a pledge = 107

Prayerfully consider what God is leading you to give.

If you have not yet pledged to the 2023 CSA, please do so today.

Be sure to make your check payable to

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

Thank you to those who already made their pledge to this year's CSA. Please remember, that every dollar raised above our diocesan goal stays right here in the parish to help with our designated project of much needed repairs to the church roof at St. Thomas. *Remember, no gift is too large or too small!*

Catholic Daughter's Meeting at Mead Park—July 27th

Our yearly picnic meeting will be this Thursday, July 27 at 6:00pm in the pavilion across from the new bathrooms. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service. *Hope you will join us.*

Seeking Volunteers to Help Sell Tickets at the Sparty Fair

The Corry Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring the Sparty Fair Fundraiser Selling Gate Tickets at this year's fair all week in early September (Sept. 4th—9th). This is annual fundraiser that benefits both the Corry Knights of Columbus and St. Thomas Parish. Volunteers must be 18 years of age or older to sell tickets at the gates. For more information and available time slots, please contact Len Clark (814-664-8740) or Deacon Bill Saborsky (814-664-8077) or the parish office (814-663-3041).



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.

A Family Perspective

Parents plant values in their children anticipating the tiny seeds of honesty, respect, commitment and fidelity will grow with their child and one day become "a safe haven" to many.



We wish to congratulate the newly married Michael & Emily (Dingfelder) Tenney who celebrated their wedding at St. Thomas the Apostle Church on July 22, 2023. May Christ be ever-present in their marriage and family life together.

"Question of the Week" - 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: What are the things that keep you from being a friend of Jesus?

Question for Youth: The good and the bad have the same opportunity to rule our life. What are you doing (bad habits, poor choices, etc.) that you need to weed out? Who can help you with that?

Question for Adults: How would you describe "the weeds" which have polluted your own faith, or the faith of people whom you know.

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING



Support our Parishes & Cemeteries through ERIE GIVES (www.eriegives.org)

This year's Erie Gives 2023 is **Tuesday, August 8**, between the hours of 8:00am and 8:00pm. All you have to do is go online at www.ErieGives.org and search for **St. Thomas the Apostle Church and/or St. Teresa of Avila Church (and/or our cemeteries: St. Thomas Cemetery, St. Elizabeth Cemetery and St. Teresa Cemetery)** as a charity to receive your donation. Donations may be made online by Visa, Master Card or Discover; the minimum gift amount is \$25 per nonprofit. **You will also find a link to Erie Gives on our parishes' websites. If you prefer to give using a check, you must include an "Erie Gives Check Contribution Form" which is available in the in the church, the parish office and on our websites.** Checks must be delivered to The Erie Community Foundation (459 West 6th St. Erie, PA 16507) no later than Monday, August 7. Checks can also be dropped in the collection basket or sent to the parish office, just be sure to mark your envelope 'Erie Gives' and have them to us no later than August 4. **ALL CHECKS for Erie Gives must be made payable to The Erie Community Foundation.** Please ask family and friends to consider participating. The donations made to our parishes and its cemeteries through Erie Gives will help with the many expenses incurred with running and maintaining our properties. Thank you in advance for considering a donation to the parishes on this unique giving day. Questions—please feel free to contact the parish office.

St. Teresa Parish News

ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: July 16, 2023

Amount in Envelopes: (44) \$1,552.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 113)
Loose \$90.00
Continuing the Vision (2) \$40.00
Total Offertory Income \$1,682.00

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: July 16, 2023

Amount in Envelopes: (10) \$178.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 20)
Loose \$113.00
Total Offertory Income \$291.00

St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income \$1,973.00
Average Weekly Expenses \$4,777.00
Weekly Average Shortfall \$(-2,804.00)

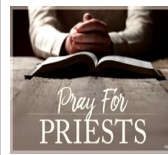
*Thanks to everyone who regularly uses his/her envelopes.
 Please write checks to St. Teresa Church or Our Lady of Fatima.*

Holy Father/Peter's Pence: (25) \$357.00

This is a special diocesan collection which was taken up on July 2, 2023 which supports the charities/causes of Pope Francis. Thank you for your generous support.



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of July 23rd burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Michael Kirik by Candy and family.



The Most Rev. Lawrence Persico, Rev. Philip Billotte, Pray for Consecrated Life, Rev. Msgr. Thomas McSweeney, Rev. Msgr. Bruce Allison, Rev. John Fischer, Rev. Thomas Curry, OSB



Our Lady of Fatima
 36198 Lake Road
 Union City, PA 16438

Our Lady of Fatima News

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sin seems to be inevitable, both in us as individuals and in our society. Sadly, we are sinners, capable of wrong-doing; but also through God's love we can receive mercy and forgiveness. Our gospel today reminds us that weeds sown among the wheat will not destroy the final harvest. When we choose virtue over vice, we may question the importance of our individual contributions to the common good, but scripture tells us that great things can come from what seems small or insignificant. We may not see immediate results, but through faith and hope and the help of the Holy Spirit who makes up for what is lacking in our actions, we can accomplish marvelous things. The good that we do, even if it seems as small as a mustard seed or as insignificant as a bit of yeast, will grow and expand and help change the world.

Farewell Mass for Bishop-Elect Lohse

It was a joy-filled and blessed event recently at St. Peter Cathedral as the people of the Erie Diocese gathered to send forth Bishop-Elect Edward Lohse as he moves on to shepherd the Diocese of Kalamazoo, Michigan. Bishop Lohse was born, raised, ordained, and served the majority of his priesthood in the Erie area, and we are proud of him. He remarked during the farewell Mass that he saw fellow priests and people in the congregation from all eras of his life. Our partnered parishes had many in attendance. We pray that Bishop-Elect Lohse will be warmly welcomed in Kalamazoo, and that the Holy Spirit will guide him in his ministry in the Michigan diocese.

Notable Dates

Tuesday, July 25, is the Feast of St. James, the Apostle. When James asked to sit at Jesus's right hand in His kingdom, Christ asked him if he could "drink of the cup I drink," an encounter that prefigured James's death as the first of the Apostles to be martyred. Wednesday, July 26, is the memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne. The Blessed Virgin's parents, Saint Joachim and Saint Anne played a key role in God's plan of salvation. Their daughter Mary gave birth to the Savior. On Saturday, July 29 we remember Sts. Martha, Mary, and Lazarus; siblings who were friends and followers of Jesus and welcomed Him in their home.

FUELING the MISSION
 together

2023 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 07/16)

St. Teresa Diocesan Goal is \$24,055.00

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$36,390.00

Total Paid to date = \$33,060.00

of Families who made a pledge = 78

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.

Thank you to those who already made their pledge to this year's CSA. WE REACHED OUR DIOCESAN GOAL! All money raised now goes directly to the parish to help with our designated project of much needed repairs to the roofs at both St. Teresa Church and St. Teresa Parish Center. Remember, no gift is too large or too small!

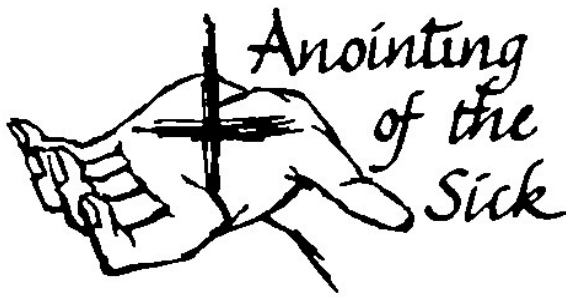
Annual Lawn Festival

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this year's Lawn Festival on Thursday, July 20th, a success. We wish to thank Matt & Beth Moon as coordinators for organizing this year's festival. We will provide a financial report on the festival in an upcoming bulletin. Great job!



Build Your Business and Help Us Grow a Vibrant Faith Community

Tim Weir, from LPi, our bulletin provider, will be securing new ads for our parishes this week. Church bulletin advertising is cost-effective. To learn more, contact Tim at 716-602-4588 or email: tweir@4lpi.com.



A brief review of the sacrament and those who are eligible to receive it may be needed. This sacrament is meant to help a person cope with their illness and confront the limitations that being human imposes on our souls: our hopes, our dreams, our desire to be meaningful. That sickness does not just affect our bodies but also our spirits and our attitudes. It is intended to heal the anguish of the soul.

"Anointing of the Sick," is not a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death. Hence, as soon as any one of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time for that person to receive this sacrament has certainly already arrived." (Constitution on the Liturgy, Vatican Council II)

What might constitute "in danger of death from sickness or old age (serious illness)? Or who is eligible to receive the sacrament?

- A person who becomes ill and the illness becomes more serious;
- A person may be anointed before surgery whenever a serious illness is the reason for the surgery;
- Elderly people may be anointed if they have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present;
- Sick children are to be anointed if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this sacrament. In a case of doubt whether a child has reached the use of reason, the sacrament is to be conferred;
- Some types of mental illness are now classified as serious. Those who are judged to have a serious mental illness and who would be strengthened by the sacrament may be anointed (depression, paranoia, etc...);
- In case of doubt as to whether the illness is serious or not, the person should be anointed.

The Anointing of the Sick was started 60 years ago as a way to better minister to those who were seriously ill and dying. Some of you may remember what the church called last rites. Last Rites was a sacrament that could be received only once in a lifetime and thus people waited until their last breathe to receive it. Sometimes the priest arrived in time and sometimes he didn't. Priests even anointed dead bodies. The Catholic Church no longer has what is called "last rites." It has been replaced with the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. It is surprising that people 60 years later are still using the term "last rites" and even talking about the sacrament in terms that we stopped using 60 years ago.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is a healthy revision of what was called Last Rites. The Anointing of the Sick can be received as many times as a person needs it, where last rites were given only once. The Anointing of the Sick still carries with it forgiveness of sins, a prayer for physical healing, and a prayer for strength in the midst of one's suffering. The Anointing of the Sick is intended to strengthen people in faith and hope in the midst of their struggle with illness and even death. We try to minister to people in their illness and suffering rather than just waiting until they are at the moment of their last breath. Today, a priest is not allowed to anoint someone who has died – sacraments are for the living, not the dead. Anyone who has a serious or chronic illness, is preparing for major surgery, or who is struggling with a serious mental illness can be anointed. Even children who have sufficient use of reason to understand the effects of the sacrament can be anointed in case of serious or chronic illness. If you are not sure if the illness is serious or not, the person should be anointed. The sacrament can be received as many times as needed.

Wedding Anniversary Celebration with Bishop Persico

Diocesan Anniversary Celebration for couples celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 or more years of marriage in 2023 will be held on **Sunday, August 6 at Our Lady of Peace, Erie at 2:00pm**. Couples may complete a registration form online at <http://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html>, call the parish office or contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at 814-824-1210.