



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 16, 2023



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." - Mt 13:23

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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

I just want to offer a few words of thanks for the warm welcome I have received. Your kindness and graciousness have made me feel very welcome. I want to thank Fr. Tom Suppa and our parish staff, especially Melissa, Susan, and Brian, for keeping things running smoothly for the past few months. I also want to thank Deacons Bill and Randy for all they have done to provide Communion Services and assistance to the priests who have been filling in on the weekends. There are so many things in a parish that go on behind the scenes and often these are the people who do so much for us. We need to be grateful for all they do and for all they do above and beyond their normal job descriptions.

Just a few words of introduction about me. I was born and raised in Erie and grew up in Our Lady of Peace Parish. I went to high school at Cathedral Prep and then entered the seminary. I earned a degree in Mathematics at Gannon while in the seminary. I then spent four years studying in Rome: three years at the Pontifical Gregorian University to earn an STB degree and then a one year Masters degree in Moral Theology at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas.

I was ordained in 1987, along with six other classmates, by Bishop Michael Murphy. I was a parochial vicar at St. Joseph Parish in Warren before spending two years teaching at Cathedral Prep and helping at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Girard. I was parochial vicar for six years at St. Jude Parish before I became pastor of St. Matthew in the Woods and St. Cyprian parishes. While I was pastor there, we were able to combine the parishes into what is today All Saints Parish. After 15 years as pastor in those communities, I was named pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Sharon. I was pastor there for the past 9 years. I am looking forward to making a new start here with all of you.

- Fr. Tom

THANK YOU to Our Deacons

We wish to express our deepest gratitude to our deacons—**Deacon Randy Kondrlik** and **Deacon Bill Saborsky**, who have so generously given of their time to help guide us through the last seven months during our parishes' times of transition. They helped at all the weekend Masses in the absence of a permanent priest and presided at communion services during the week, always making sure the needs of our parishioners were met. We are fortunate to have them in our parish. *Thank you for your continued service to God's people and our parishes. God bless you in your ministry.*

Readings for the week of July 16, 2023

Sun.: Isaiah 55:10-11 ♦ Psalm 65:1, 11, 12-13, 14 (Luke 8:8) ♦ Romans 8:18-23 ♦ Matthew 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
 Mon.: Exodus 1:8-14, 22 ♦ Psalm 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8 ♦ Matthew 10:34—11:1
 Tues.: Exodus 2:1-15a ♦ Psalm 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34 ♦ Matthew 11:20-24
 Wed.: Exodus 3:1-6, 9-12 ♦ Psalm 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7 ♦ Matthew 11:25-27
 Thur.: Exodus 3:13-20 ♦ Psalm 105:1 and 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27 ♦ Matthew 11:28-30
 Fri.: Exodus 11:10—12:14 ♦ Psalm 116:12-13, 15 and 16bc, 17-18 ♦ Matthew 12:1-8
 Sat.: Song of Songs 3:1-4b or 2 Corinthians 5:14-17 ♦ Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 ♦ John 20:1-2, 11-18
 Next 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

**Sunday, July 16**

- 8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas and Teresa Parishes (St. Thomas, Corry)
 10:00a.m. ✠ Jerry Adams by Diana Adams (St. Teresa, Union City)
 11:00a.m. ✠ Sonny Rusilko by Elaine Rusilko and family (Our Lady of Fatima, Canadohta Lake)

Monday, July 17

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Antionette Ranyak by an altar server (St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, July 18

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Louise Zajac by Jeff & Janice Zajac (St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, July 19

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Clyde Ross by the Craker family (St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, July 20

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

Friday, July 21

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Jim Hiltabidel by Michael Marchini (St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, July 22

- 4:30p.m. ✠ Deceased and Living Members of the Vinca and Buccolini Families by Julie and Steve Rushin (St. Thomas, Corry)

Sunday, July 23

- 8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas and 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)

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 8 & 9, 2023

Amount in Envelopes: (84)	\$3,669.00
(Total Envelopes sent: 174 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 90)	
Loose	\$260.04
Online Giving (10)	\$325.00
Faith Formation/Rel. Ed. (1)	\$5.00
Total Offertory Income	\$4,259.04

Average Weekly Expenses\$7,656.00
Weekly Average Shortfall \$(-3,396.96)

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'.



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 July 16th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of our loved ones.

Marriage & Banns

Emily Dingfelder and Michael Tenney

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)

FUELING the MISSION
together

2023 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 07/09):

St. Thomas Diocesan Goal is \$39,417.00

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$41,370.00

Total Paid to date = \$36,360.00

of Families who made a pledge = 105

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!*

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING



Diocese of Erie

NATIONAL NFP AWARENESS MASS & LUNCHEON

JULY 23 • 11 AM
 ST. PETER CATHEDRAL
 230 W. 10TH ST. ERIE, PA 16501
 LUNCHEON TO FOLLOW AT MOTHER TERESA HALL

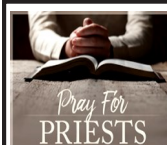
more information at:
www.eriecd.org/chastity/awareness-mass.html

A Message from Msgr. Richard Mayer

He wishes to convey to the people of St. Thomas that on July 3rd (Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle) he celebrated Mass and offered it for all the people of St. Thomas Parish—he remembers everyone with affection from his former parish. *May God continue to bless Msgr. Mayer in his retirement.*

Last Call for Baby Bottles

Baby bottles for the LifeCare fundraiser were due to be returned to the church a few weeks ago. If you forgot your bottle/donation, please bring it to the church or parish office as soon as possible. Thank you for supporting LifeCare.



Rev. Andrew Boyd, Rev. William Laska, Bishop-Elect Edward Lohse, VG, Rev. Msgr. Bernard Urbaniak, Rev. Christopher Beran, Rev. Joseph Petrone, and Rev. Michael DeMartinis



St. Teresa Parish News

ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: July 9, 2023

Amount in Envelopes: (60) \$2,530.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 97)
Loose \$148.00
Continuing the Vision (6) \$120.00
Total Offertory Income \$2,798.00

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: July 9, 2023

Amount in Envelopes: (18) \$399.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 12)
Loose \$134.00
Total Offertory Income \$533.00

St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income \$3,331.00
Average Weekly Expenses \$4,777.00
Weekly Average Shortfall \$(-1,446.00)

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

FUELING the MISSION
together

2023 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 07/09)

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!

This is how all will know that you are my disciples: if you have love for one another, says the Lord. John 13:35

Quo Vadis Days

Quo Vadis Days is a four-day camp for Catholic young men in grades 9-12 who are considering the priesthood or seminary formation or who are wondering if God is calling them to a religious vocation. Quo Vadis Days will be held July 30 – Aug. 2 at St. Mark Seminary, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie. The registration form can be found at www.erievocations.org/events/quo-vadis-days. Contact Father Scott Jabo, vocations director, with any questions at 814.824.1198 or SWJabo@eriercd.org.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of July 16th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Jerry Adams (for his birthday) by Diana Adams and family.



St. Teresa's Lawn Festival

Union City, Pennsylvania

Thursday, July 20, 2023

5:00pm to 9:00pm



**CASH PRIZES
GIFT CARDS
GAS CARDS
CHINESE AUCTION**

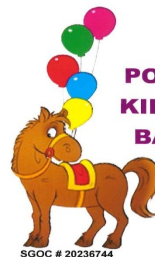
PRIZES DRAWN AT 9:30



**POPCORN
COTTON CANDY
WAFFLE CAKES
BAKE SALE**

BOOTHS - FUN - FOOD - GAMES

CRAFTS AND PLANTS



**PONY RIDES
KIDDIE LAND
BALLOONS**

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE



Lawn Festival Notes

We need help with setting up and tearing down for our Lawn Festival this week, if you're able. Times are Monday, July 17 from 5pm-7pm; Tuesday, July 18 from 5pm-7pm; Wed., July 19 from 5pm-7pm; and Friday, July 21 from 10am-1pm. Also, don't forget we need the following items to make our festival a success: Plants, Items for the Chinese Auction, 2 liter Bottles of Pop (lots of them), Baked Goods, and YOUR TIME. If you can help working one of the many booths for a couple of hours, please reach out to Matt Moon at 814-490-1494. Please find raffle tickets and signs in the back of the church. Sold tickets can be returned in an envelope marked 'Lawn Festival' and placed in the collection basket or returned the evening of the festival before 8:00pm. Thank you.

Help Needed from Bakers in Our Parish

The Rosary Altar Society are asking members of our parish for baked goods to support the Bake Sale booth at the St. Teresa Lawn Festival. Please drop off items by 4pm on Thursday, July 20. We know that we have some wonderful bakers in our parish—so please help, it would be greatly appreciated. Thanks.

We Are the Church

People make up the church, not buildings. Our **Parishioners**, staff, and clergy affect the future direction of our parishes. We need your help to REVIVE our churches! Parishioners are invited to join us for brainstorming meetings to share ideas to help our parishes. The first meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 18 at St. Teresa Parish Center at 6:30pm** and a second meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 8 at 6:30pm. Imagine the possibilities TOGETHER! *Hope to see you there.*

A Family Perspective

The stress and anxieties of family life are like "thorns which choke off" any opportunity to reflect on God's presence in our lives. Notice in today's gospel Jesus "went out of the house" so He could connect with the people he loved. Grasp five minutes each day to appreciate the people you love.

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!

"Question of the Week" - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: Who helps you to grow deeper in your faith?

Question for Youth: When the sower, in this week's Gospel, sowed his seed, not all of it fell in "good soil." What can you do in the coming week to make sure that you are open to God in your life? What is getting in the way of your being "good soil?"

Question for Adults: Using the parable of Jesus in this reading, describe how faith has been planted in your life? How long did it take for that seed to land "on good soil?"

**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.



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

Our Lady of Fatima News**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Worshiping in a more rural area of Pennsylvania, it is easy to comprehend the farming images used in today's scripture readings that teach about God's powerful word, and about our response to that word. We are in a season of growth environmentally; and hopefully spiritually too! Today's gospel speaks of the miraculous power of God present in the ministry of Jesus. We must be receptive to God's word in order for it to grow in our hearts. Are our lives shallow or hardened by worldly actions, or are our hearts open and ready to accept the teachings of Christ? Some can find it difficult to follow the way of the Lord when the going gets tough. Our faith must be nourished in order to flourish! How can we accomplish this? We must pray, read the Bible, and worship within a supportive community of believers. The Lord has given us the seeds of faith; it is our responsibility to cultivate those kernels of truth and propagate God's word to others so that His kingdom will yield an abundant harvest. Those who hear the word of God and believe and act on that word are truly blessed.

Greetings

It is with great joy that we welcome our new pastor, Fr. Thomas Whitman, to our partner parishes of St. Teresa and St. Thomas churches, and Our Lady of Fatima! We are pleased to celebrate liturgy with him at Our Lady of Fatima, and offer Fr. Thomas the prayerful support of this faith community, as he lives out his ministry within our partnered parishes.

Floral Memorial

The flowers at the altar today are in loving memory of Sonny Rusilko by his wife Elaine, and the Rusilko family. May Sonny rest with the angels and saints in Paradise.

Notable Date

The memorial of St. Mary Magdalene, the Apostle to the Apostles, is on Saturday, July 22. She is the model of unswerving loyalty and wholehearted love. Jesus entrusted to her the news of the resurrection. St. Mary Magdalene became the first witness of the Risen Christ.

**Wedding Anniversary Celebration with Bishop Persico**

Diocesan Anniversary Celebrations for couples celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 or more years of marriage in 2023 will be held in our area on **Sunday, August 6 at Our Lady of Peace, Erie at 2:00pm**. Couples may complete a registration form online at <http://www.eriercd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html>, call the parish office or contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at 814-824-1210. Registrations are being accepted until July 21.