



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 30, 2023



### 17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." - Mt 13:44

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 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](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

Notes from the Pastor

Just a few items for thanks and clarification:

1. I just want to take a moment to thank everyone for the warm welcome, the various gifts, and the helpful assistance you have given to me. Your kindness and generosity have been overwhelming to me. Thank you for being so kind and thoughtful.

2. Thanks to all those who worked so hard to set up and work the Lawn Festival at St. Teresa last week. It was a wild and trying evening, but thanks to your hard work and level-headedness, we were able to make it through. We are grateful that everyone is safe.

3. I encourage you to call the parish office to alert us to people who are shut-in to their homes or in nursing homes, so that we can organize what we have long called, "First Friday Calls" in the Catholic church. Every first Friday of the Month, the priests, deacons, and Eucharistic Ministers take communion to those who are shut-in to their homes or in nursing homes. Other Eucharistic Ministers may take communion to them more frequently, but First Friday is a time where we make a dedicated effort to reach out to those who are shut-ins and for the priest to celebrate the sacrament of the anointing of the sick.

4. Hospital Visits: Please call the parish office to let us know if you or a family member are in the hospital. I will do my best to visit, certainly locally, but also if someone is in Erie. Please Note: Both Hamot and St. Vincent have priests on call in case of an Emergency. Let the nursing staff know that you would like a priest to come to anoint your loved one. I will certainly come to anoint them, but in an emergency, I may not get there in time. Allow the hospital to assist you in this when it is an emergency. You might also let your nurse know that you would like to receive communion and you are a Catholic. I believe both hospitals do have Eucharistic Ministers there on a regular basis to bring communion to patients.

5. Office Hours: I am generally in the office in Corry on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Thursday is typically my day off. Friday and Saturday, I am at the rectory in Union City. You can call the partnered parish office in Corry and the phone system will give you options to leave a message with me or a way to reach me in an emergency.

- Fr. Tom

Readings for the week of July 30, 2023

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  
Mon.: Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34 ♦ Psalm 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 ♦  
Matthew 13:31-35  
Tues.: Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28 ♦ Psalm 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13 ♦  
Matthew 13:36-43  
Wed.: Exodus 34:29-35 ♦ Psalm 99:5, 6, 7, 9 ♦ Matthew 13:44-46  
Thur.: Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38 ♦ Psalm 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11 ♦  
Matthew 13:47-53  
Fri.: Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37 ♦ Psalm 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab ♦  
Matthew 13:54-58  
Sat.: Leviticus 25:1, 8-17 ♦ Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 ♦ Matthew 14:1-12  
Next Sun.: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 ♦ Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 ♦ 2 Peter 1:16-19 ♦  
Matthew 17:1-9

**Sunday, July 30**

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Deceased and 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)

**Monday, July 31**

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Anna Harnak by Dorothy Rhodes (St. Teresa, Union City)

**Tuesday, August 1**

- 8:00a.m. ✠ James O'Brien by the Estate of Anna O'Brien (St. Thomas, Corry)

**Wednesday, August 2**

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Ann Price by Jane Creighton (St. Thomas, Corry)

**Thursday, August 3**

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

**Friday, August 4**

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

**Saturday, August 5**

- 4:30p.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes (St. Thomas, Corry)

**Sunday, August 6**

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Deceased Jeffords and Palmer Family Members by Dick & Jean Farver (St. Thomas, Corry)  
10:00a.m. ✠ Annie Ranyak by Valerie Downor (St. Teresa, Union City)  
11:00a.m. ✠ Virginia Poninsky by Pete & Carol Poninsky (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 22 & 23, 2023

**Amount in Envelopes:** (69) .....\$2,426.00

(Total Envelopes sent: 174 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 105)

**Loose** .....\$377.00

**Online Giving** (9) .....\$295.00

**Total Offertory Income** .....\$3,098.00

**Average Weekly Expenses** .....\$7,656.00

**Weekly Average Shortfall** ..... \$(-4,558.00)

*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'.*



### 2023 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 07/24):

**St. Thomas Diocesan Goal is \$39,417.00**

**Total Amount Pledged to date = \$42,235.00**

**Total Paid to date = \$37,935.00**

**# 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!*

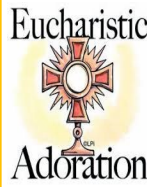
### Need a Summer Read?

Don't forget to browse the lending book rack in the main vestibule of St. Thomas Church. Books can be borrowed and returned anytime. This rack is intended for religious-themed books. Enjoy!



**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.*



### 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration THIS WEEK

Eucharistic Adoration is this Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> and continues until Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at Saint Thomas Church. **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament begins at 8:00am on Thursday and ends at 8:00am Friday morning.** All are welcome.

We are always looking for more 'adorers'. If you can commit to one hour a month to be with Our Lord, please call the office.

## PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

### First Friday of the Month

Please contact the parish office with the name, address, and phone number of people from either parish (Sts. Thomas or Teresa) who are homebound and wish to receive Communion and the Anointing of the Sick. We will add them to our list. They will be visited monthly, beginning on August 4.

### A Family Perspective

The man in today's gospel "sold all he had" for the treasure he found. Family relationships are "treasures" and demand our total personal investment. Invest yourself in the "treasure" of your family.

## O God, let all the nations praise you!

Psalm 67

### "Question of the Week" - 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Question for Children:** If you could be with Jesus, what would you trade from your own things for that?

**Question for Youth:** Today's gospel reminds us that God's kingdom is worth sacrifice. What do you need to sacrifice in order to follow God in your own life? Why are you willing to make that sacrifice?

**Question for Adults:** Using Jesus' parable as your starting point, describe in your own words what the Reign of God is for you personally, and use a parable to describe it: "The reign of God is \_\_\_\_."



### 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. 4<sup>th</sup>—9<sup>th</sup>). 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).

## St. Teresa Parish News

### ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: July 23, 2023

**Amount in Envelopes:** (43) ..... \$1,370.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 114)  
**Loose** ..... \$138.00  
**Continuing the Vision ( )** ..... \$0.00  
**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$1,508.00

### OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: July 23, 2023

**Amount in Envelopes:** (9) ..... \$260.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 21)  
**Loose** ..... \$271.00  
**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$531.00

**St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income** ..... \$2,039.00  
**Average Weekly Expenses** ..... \$4,777.00  
**Weekly Average Shortfall** ..... \$(-2,738.00)

*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 07/24)

**St. Teresa Diocesan Goal is \$24,055.00**

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$36,390.00

Total Paid to date = \$33,070.00

# of Families who made a pledge = 78

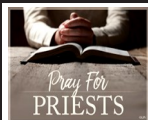
Prayerfully consider what God is leading you to give.

**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!



Pray for Vocations, Rev. Dennis Martin,  
 Rev. Raymond Gramata, Rev. Michael Kesicki,  
 Rev. Paul Siebert, and Rev. Msgr. Richard Mayer

## BINGO--All CASH prizes!!!

\* Instants \* 50/50 Game

**→Sunday, AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup>  
 ZABAWA KICK OFF!!!**

- Polish Falcons Club, 431 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St.
- 1:00pm, Doors Open at Noon
- \$25 Admission (1pk), \$5 each add'l pk.
- Kitchen Food Available
- Call 814-456-5300 to reserve your seat!
- Walk Ins Welcome
- **Fun giveaways!**
- **Purchase your food/beverage tickets early!**



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of July 30<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Michael Kirik by Candy and family.

### Eucharistic



### Adoration

### Eucharistic Adoration at St. Teresa THIS WEEK

Eucharistic Adoration will be on Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament begins after the 8:00am morning Mass and continues until 12:00pm (noon). All are welcome to join us during Adoration. If you wish to commit to one hour a month to be with Our Lord, please call the parish office.

### St. Teresa Parish's Lawn Festival



Thank you to everyone who helped and supported the Lawn Festival held on Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, at St. Teresa Parish. Even though it was stormy that evening, we had a good time and are grateful to all who came out to support us. Raffle tickets winners were: \$100 Gas Card—Melody Adams, \$100 Gas Card—Bernie Nothum, \$300 Walmart Card—David & Linda Wethli, \$500 Cash—Jim Averill, \$100 Cash—Dan Hoban, \$25 Cash (4 winners)—Irene Weaver, Cheryl Nothum, Cammie Amoroso, and Kerry Duncan. Congratulations to all the winners. Again thanks to Matt & Beth Moon, coordinators for organizing this year's festival. We will provide a financial report on the festival in an upcoming bulletin. *Great job everyone!*

*The seed is the word of God,  
 Christ is the sower;  
 all who come to Him will live for ever.*

### 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





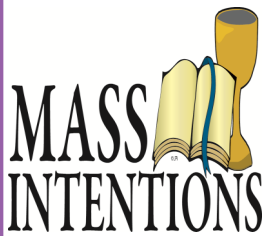


**Support our Parishes & Cemeteries through ERIE GIVES ([www.eriegives.org](http://www.eriegives.org))**

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](http://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 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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 a follow-up meeting to share ideas to help our parishes. The second meeting will be at **6:30pm on Tuesday, August 8** in the **St. Thomas multipurpose room**. Imagine the possibilities TOGETHER! *Hope to see you there.*



**Mass Intentions for Our Parishes**

When wishing to schedule Mass Intentions for your loved ones, please contact the partnered parish office at 814-663-3041. We will do our best to accommodate your date requests. The suggested stipend to have a Mass Intention said is \$10.

**There is a need for intentions to fill daily Masses. Please call the parish office to request your dates. Thank you.**

Please patronize the sponsors of our bulletin. It is through the paid advertising of these sponsors that we can publish the bulletin. Please see their ads on the back page and thank them for their support! If you wish to advertise in our bulletin, please contact the parish office or Tim Weir at LPi at 800-477-4574 x6568 or email: [tweir@4LPi.com](mailto:tweir@4LPi.com).

**NFP Supports God's Gifts of Love and Life in Marriage**

Did you know that modern methods of Natural Family Planning (NFP) can be used to reliably space children, help infertile couples achieve pregnancy, increase body literacy, and help diagnose and wholistically treat women's health issues? Explore by scanning the QR code.



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

**Our Lady of Fatima News**

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

What would we request if God said to us, "Ask something of me and I will give it to you"? In the Old Testament reading today Solomon asked for an understanding heart and God gave him great wisdom. Haven't all of us in our congregations prayed and asked God for something? What are we seeking? Have we discovered what is most important in our lives? We must pursue Christ-like values and strive for understanding, compassion, and perseverance that will help make the kingdom of God a reality for all. In our scriptures readings we are offered the perspective of the prophets and fathers of our faith in both the Old and the New Testament who instruct us that God is in control, and everything we experience is part of God's plan.

**Parables**

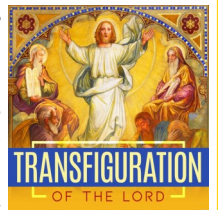
Recent Sunday readings from the Gospel of Matthew have included many parables. What is a parable? A parable is a story that compares the audience to whom the story is being told, to someone or something in the story. The function of a parable is to call the listeners to self-knowledge and conversion.

**Notable Dates**

This week we observe the memorials of several great saints of the Church. Monday, July 31, is the observance of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, priest, founder, and first Father General of the Society of Jesus, or Jesuits. Tuesday, August 1, is the memorial of Saint Alphonsus Liguori; Bishop and Doctor of the Church. After a successful career as a lawyer, he became a priest and founded the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, also known as the Redemptorists. The memorial of Saint John Vianney is on Friday, August 4. Ordained a priest because of his virtue, he became a catechist, confessor, and spiritual director, known as the "Cure' d' Ars", and is the patron saint of parish priests.

**Next Sunday (Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>) is the Transfiguration of the Lord**

The Transfiguration is one of the key events in Jesus' life. He took three apostles – Peter, James, and John – up to a high mountain to pray. As they were praying, His appearance changed, and His clothes became "dazzling white." At that point, Moses and Elijah appeared and spoke to the Lord about His



upcoming death. A cloud overshadowed the group, and God the Father's voice came from the cloud saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" The Church celebrates the Feast of the Transfiguration each year on August 6. According to Saint Thomas Aquinas, the Transfiguration occurred because the divine glory which was Christ's was allowed for a moment to shine through His human body. He did this so that they could taste for a short time the contemplation of eternal joy, in view of the persecutions they would suffer.