



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



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

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

September 3, 2023



22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." - Mt 16:24b-25

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

©LPI

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.

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

Rhonda Pierce
*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

PASTORAL PLANNING INPUT MEETINGS: The Preliminary Plan for our area of the Diocese will be presented this weekend. You are invited to make suggestions or improvements to the plan either online on the diocesan website, or you can make those comments in writing and mail them to the diocese. There will be two public meetings to make those suggestions this week. Wednesday, September 6 at St. Thomas in Corry at 6:30pm or Thursday, September 7 at St. Teresa in Union City at 6:30pm. You can also make these suggestions or improvements on your own and do not need to wait for these meetings to do so. Comments must be received at the Diocese of Erie by the end of September. The mailing address of the diocese is St. Mark Catholic Center, PO Box 10397, Erie, PA 16514-0397. The web address to make your suggestions or improvements is www.eriecd.org/planning.html

ANointing OF THE SICK: **We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick after all the masses on the weekend of September 9 & 10. We ask those taking part in this sacrament to come and sit in the very front row of the church after Mass.** This will let us know who is asking to be anointed and facilitate the actual anointing. We would ask others who are remaining in the Church after Mass to be quiet as we celebrate this sacrament. We will also be asking those who are receiving the sacrament to print their names on a paper we pass around that day so we can properly record the sacrament in our sacramental books. Thank You!

Just some reminders about who is eligible for this anointing.

- 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.

THANK YOU FOR HELP WITH THE FENCE: Thanks to Len Clark and Tom Dingfelder for organizing the workday to take down the fence around the playground. Thanks to all those men, women, and children who helped. It was a big job, but thanks to all those who showed up to help and those who brought all the right equipment, it was done very quickly. What a great tribute to your generosity and your ability to work together.

- Fr. Tom

New Mass Schedule Starts Next Weekend

Our Fall/Winter Mass Schedule begins the weekend of Sept. 9/10. Please be aware of the change.



Sunday, September 3

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Dan Ahl by Fred & Susie Ahl
(St. Thomas, Corry)
10:00a.m. ✠ Joan Bell by Jean Cason
(St. Teresa, Union City)
11:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes
(Our Lady of Fatima, Canadohta Lake)

Monday, September 4—Labor Day

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Cheryl O'Neil by Ed & Irene Weaver
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, September 5

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Ortha Ginkel by Janet Jawdy
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, September 6

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Dan Ahl by Shirley Skiff
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, September 7

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

Friday, September 8

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

Saturday, September 9

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

Sunday, September 10

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Margaret & Walter Komenda by their estate
(St. Thomas, Corry)
10:00a.m. ✠ Jane Zakovitch and Fred Zakovitch by
Ilene Zakovitch (St. Teresa, Union City)



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



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

2023—2024

**WINTER MASS
SCHEDULE**

**September 9th, 2023
thru May 19th, 2024**

Saturday 4:30PM

St. Thomas Church

September, November, January, March, May

St. Teresa Church

October, December, February, April

Sunday

8:00AM - St. Thomas Church

10:00AM - St. Teresa Church

Confessions

Saturday from 3:30PM—4:00PM

St. Thomas Parish News

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: August 26 & 27, 2023

Amount in Envelopes: (67)\$2,654.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 174 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 107)
Loose\$338.00
Online Giving (10)\$345.00
Faith Formation / Rel. Ed. (1)\$10.00
Total Offertory Income\$3,347.00

Average Weekly Expenses\$7,656.00
Weekly Average Shortfall\$(-4,309.00)

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 and click 'Donate Online'.



PRAYER LINE... call: Gerrie (814-665-6944), 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 September 3rd burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Rosie Dean by Patricia Keys.



You're Invited to Coffee and Donuts

Coffee and Donuts at Saint Thomas Parish will be served in the gym following the 8:00am Mass on Sunday, September 10th. Donations will be accepted to help cover the cost of the donuts. All are welcome to join us for a time of socializing and food.

Come to me, all who labor... and I will give you rest.

MATTHEW 11:28



FUELING the MISSION together

2023 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 08/28):

St. Thomas Diocesan Goal is \$39,417.00

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$42,870.00

Total Paid to date = \$39,685.00

of Families who made a pledge = 108

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. **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 church roof at St. Thomas. *Remember, no gift is too large or too small!*

Saturday Morning Rosary

All are invited to join us on Saturday mornings at St. Thomas Church at 9:00am as we pray The Rosary together in community.



"Question of the Week" - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: Jesus tells us that we each called to follow him. What is hard for you to do to follow Jesus?

Question for Youth: In order to follow Jesus, we have to do hard things, to carry our own crosses. What is a cross that you are carrying right now? In what ways can you ask Jesus to help you with your cross?

Question for Adults: Jesus gives us the core truth to life and eternal happiness — the cross. Name the cross that you carry. How is it bringing you closer to God?

Readings for the week of September 3, 2023

Sun.: Jeremiah 20:7-9 ♦ Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (2b) ♦ Romans 12:1-2 ♦ Matthew 16:21-27

Mon.: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 ♦ Psalm 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13 ♦ Luke 4:16-30

Tues.: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11 ♦ Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14 ♦ Luke 4:31-37

Wed.: Colossians 1:1-8 ♦ Psalm 52:10, 11 ♦ Luke 4:38-44

Thur.: Colossians 1:9-14 ♦ Psalm 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 ♦ Luke 5:1-11

Fri.: Micah 5:1-4a or Romans 8:28-30 ♦ Psalm 13:6ab, 6c ♦ Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Sat.: Colossians 1:21-23 ♦ Psalm 54:3-4, 6 and 8 ♦ Luke 6:1-5

Next Sun.: Ezekiel 33:7-9 ♦ Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8) ♦ Romans 13:8-10 ♦ Matthew 18:15-20

HELP

WANTED

Custodian Position Available at St. Thomas

We are seeking a person who is interested in working a custodial position for the parish. The job would be approximately 10 hours per week. Duties include cleaning the church, parish office, and other buildings of the parish. If interested, please contact the parish office (814-663-3041) or email Missy Silka, Business Manager, at business@stparish.org.

St. Teresa Parish News

ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: August 27, 2023
Amount in Envelopes: (58) \$2,017.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 99)
Loose \$117.00
Continuing the Vision (2) \$30.00
Total Offertory Income \$2,164.00

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: August 27, 2023
Amount in Envelopes: (13) \$460.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 17)
Loose \$102.00
Total Offertory Income \$562.00

St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income \$2,726.00
Average Weekly Expenses \$4,777.00
Weekly Average Shortfall \$(-2,051.00)

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



Please know that you can now give all your donations online by visiting our parish website at www.st-teresa-unioncity-org OR by scanning the QR code here.



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

Our Lady of Fatima News

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus' call to Peter and to all of us in today's Gospel is a call to the cross. Peter was not able to understand Christ's resolve to suffer and die on the cross. Jesus admonished Peter but acknowledged that human and divine thoughts are very different. What is our response to taking up our cross and following the Lord? Who wouldn't wrestle with many of the demands of discipleship to Christ? Our faith has called us, and grace strengthens us, to commit ourselves into the hands of God. Our surrender and acceptance of the will of God will ultimately bring us glory in Paradise.

End of Summer Closing

Today's liturgy ends the 2023 summer season at Our Lady of Fatima. Thank you to all who have helped in various ministries here. This is a living faith community because everyone works and prays together, giving of their time and talents to glorify the Lord and support each other in their faith journeys. We anticipate seeing many of our faith family join together with the St. Teresa parish community at Sunday liturgies in the ensuing months or at our partnered parish of St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Corry. God bless you all!

Labor Day Holiday

Welcome to all who are visiting the lake area for the Labor Day weekend. We hope your stay is enjoyable. It's great for working people to have a 3-day weekend and commemorate the last days of summer. Know that we will miss our seasonal friends as they close their cottages; but look forward to their return in the spring of 2024!

Spartansburg Community Fair

The Spartansburg Community Fair, will be held September 3 thru September 9. Senior Day (those 62 years of age and older) and Veterans and Active Military Day (with valid ID) is Thursday, September 7, with free admission all day.

Landscaping at Our Lady of Fatima

Wonderful volunteers help maintain the landscaping around the church and Our Lady of Fatima's shrine. Pam and Denny Hunter and Sue Ober volunteer many hours planting, watering, and grooming the flowers (which they provide) and shrubs on the grounds. Their gardening abilities have been a blessing to our faith community. We are grateful and thank Sue, Pam, and Denny for their willingness to assume responsibility for Our Lady of Fatima's landscaping.



2023 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 08/21)

St. Teresa Diocesan Goal is \$24,055.00

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$36,410.00

Total Paid to date = \$35,225.00

of Families who made a pledge = 80

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. **All money raised now goes directly to the parish to help with our designated project of much needed repairs to the roofs at both the church and the parish center.**

St. Teresa Rosary Altar Society Meeting

The members of St. Teresa Rosary Altar Society are reminded of their luncheon meeting this week on Tuesday, September 5th at the Union City Golf Course at 2:00pm. We hope you plan to join us—see you there.

A Family Perspective

Relationships live in a careful balance. If a person changes, the balance is altered requiring a shift in the relationship. In today's gospel Jesus announced a change and Peter resisted. Sometimes, those we count on for support may actually get in the way. Jesus told Peter: "You are an obstacle to me."

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!



A Letter from our Bishop

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I ask for your support of the Catholic Education Collection being held on the weekend of September 16-17.

This annual second collection supports lifelong education and faith formation opportunities for everyone throughout our entire diocese. Please generously support this collection. You play an integral part in our success in nurturing growth in mind, heart and spirit of the faithful.

Half of the funds raised from this collection remain in your parish to support your local education and faith formation programs. The other half provides funds across the diocese for ministry and leadership training, technology support, creative projects in faith formation, as well as tuition assistance for families attending Catholic schools. A small portion also supports The Catholic University of America.

Thank you for your generosity. Contributions can be made directly at your parish or online at <https://www.eriecd.org/cec.html>. Be assured of my prayers for you and your family. With every best wish, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie

Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News

New Religious Education Year for 2022-2023

We are finalizing the schedule for the new Religious Education Year and it will be published soon. Parent registration packets for Religious Education are available in the church at both parishes. Parents are asked to pick up a packet. Religious Education classes will begin on Sunday, September 17th. We are looking forward to an amazing year in Religious Education. Thank you for the opportunity to teach our Catholic faith to your children.



Important Parent Meetings for Grades 6—10

We are implementing two new programs, in conjunction with the diocese, for students in our middle and high school grades: EDGE for grades 6—8 and PURPOSE for our Confirmation students in grades 9 & 10. Parents are asked to attend one of the meetings pertaining to each child they may have in that grade level:

Grades 9 & 10

- St. Thomas on Saturday, Sept. 9th after the 4:30pm Mass in the multipurpose room.
- St. Teresa on Sunday, Sept. 10th after the 10:00am Mass in the parish center.

Grades 6—8

- St. Thomas on Sunday, Sept. 10th after the 8:00am Mass in the multipurpose room
- St. Teresa on Sunday, Sept. 10th after the 10:00am Mass in the parish center.

Pastoral Planning

PRELIMINARY PLAN for St. Thomas, St. Teresa and Our Lady of Fatima

On Tuesday the **preliminary** pastoral plan for Erie County was introduced by Bishop Persico. This plan is **preliminary**. You are invited to make suggestions to better the plan or to accept it as it is. Remember that this plan is based on the declining number of priests available to staff parishes and the decreasing number of people attending Mass in parishes throughout the diocese. A complete list of the parishes merged or partnered in this plan can be found at www.ErieRCD.org/planning.html

The **Preliminary** Proposal: St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Union City, with its secondary mission church, Our Lady of Fatima Church in Canadohta Lake, merges into St. Thomas the Apostle, Corry.

St. Teresa of Avila becomes a secondary mission church of St. Thomas the Apostle; Our Lady of Fatima becomes a secondary church of St. Thomas the Apostle.

What does this mean? Currently St. Teresa and St. Thomas are partnered parishes, which means they share a priest, but remain distinct parishes with one parish office and parish staff. Our Lady of Fatima is a mission church of St. Teresa that has seasonal Sunday Mass.

The merger means that St. Teresa and Our Lady of Fatima parishes are now combined into St. Thomas Parish. St. Teresa will still have Sunday and Holy Day Mass, but Sunday Mass will cease at Our Lady of Fatima. Merging means that all the people, churches, property, assets, debt, etc... of St. Teresa and Our Lady of Fatima will become consolidated under one parish which is St. Thomas the Apostle.

The two public meetings to make your suggestions and comments are: Wednesday, September 6 at St. Thomas in Corry at 6:30pm or Thursday, September 7 at St. Teresa in Union City at 6:30pm. You can also make these suggestions or improvements on your own and do not need to wait for these meetings to do so. Comments must be received at the Diocese of Erie by the end of September. Mail your response to the diocese at Pastoral Plan Feedback, St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, PA 16504. The web address to make your suggestions or improvements is www.eriecd.org/planning.html.

**Rejoice in hope, be patient in trials,
be consistent in prayer.**

Romans 12:12

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.