



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

## October 8, 2023



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

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." - Mt 21:42ab

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

**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](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

PRAYER: October is one of those months where we focus our attention on the Rosary as one form of prayer. I thought it might be good to do some columns on prayer during this month. Everyone is different in how they pray and what kind of prayer works for them. Hopefully, our prayer is leading us deeper into the ultimate prayer, the Eucharist, and into a deeper relationship with God. Hopefully, my reflections will be of some assistance to us as we make that journey into deeper relationship with God.

There are many different perspectives on prayer. Prayer can be private, like our personal prayer, or it can be public like our celebration of the Eucharist. Prayer can repeat the words of others, or what we might call formal prayer, or prayer can be spontaneous, using our own words. There are also forms of prayer that meditate on the Scriptures, some forms of prayer that engage us in contemplation and silence, and the list can go on to be quite lengthy. Sometimes people are looking for a new form of prayer as their form is becoming stale or routine, and maybe one of these other forms can be helpful in those times.

Let me focus today on the traditional forms of prayer in our Catholic Tradition that are summarized by the acronym, ACTS: Adoration, Contrition, Thanksgiving, and Supplication (Intercession).

Adoration is the kind of prayer where we give homage to God by remembering that God is goodness itself, and that God is always present to us and loving us. This type of prayer recognizes that God is the creator, and we are the creatures. We recognize the ways in which God is so far beyond us and yet so very near to us.

Contrition is the kind of prayer where we place ourselves humbly before God and recognize that at times our actions are not what God would hope for us. We recognize that at times we sin and need to ask God for forgiveness. We might do this in a daily examination of conscience and an act of contrition. We might do this also in the sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance or Confession as it is sometimes called).

Thanksgiving prayer is where we take time to acknowledge the many ways in which God has blessed us in the people we encounter in life, the gifts we have been given, and the blessings that come our way each day. One practice of this, that is difficult at first but becomes easier as you do it more and more, is to pause at the end of each day and call to mind 10 things you need to be thankful for from the day. As I said, it can be difficult at first to come up with 10, but as you practice this prayer, 10 becomes easy and you approach 20 or more. It is a great way to focus on the positive things in your life when there is so much negativity we are surrounded by.

Supplication, or Intercessory Prayer, is where we ask God for the things we need and more importantly, where we ask for things for other people. This is where we pray for those who are ill, those who are grieving, someone struggling with a problem, for an end to war and violence, or for peace in the world. This is the type of prayer that moves us beyond just asking for things for ourselves and include the needs of others. This helps to form a compassionate heart within us. ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡



**Sunday, October 8**

8:00a.m. ✠Madalyn Jawdy by Joe & Janet Jawdy  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

10:00a.m. ✠Dorothy Mongera by Steve & Cheryl Mongera  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Monday, October 9**

No Mass or Service today at either St. Thomas or St. Teresa

**Tuesday, October 10**

No Mass or Service today at either St. Thomas or St. Teresa

**Wednesday, October 11**

No Mass or Service today at either St. Thomas or St. Teresa

**Thursday, October 12**

No Mass or Service today at either St. Thomas or St. Teresa

**Friday, October 13**

8:00a.m. Communion Service at St. Teresa in Union City  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Saturday, October 14**

4:30p.m. ✠Patricia Arlet by Family  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Sunday, October 15**

8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

10:00a.m. ✠Jerry Adams by Diana and Family  
(St. Teresa, Union City)



**"Question of the Week" - 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Question for Children:** What makes you feel peaceful inside? What makes you feel restless?

**Question for Youth:** How do you thank God for the talents that you have? How do you give back to God through the use of your talent?

**Question for Adults:** What steps do you take each week to make sure you are doing as Paul directs: "Live according to what you have learned and accepted."?

➡ ➡ All these prayers we find in our greatest prayer, the Eucharist. At the beginning of each Mass, we call to mind our sins and humble ourselves in the presence of God. We call to mind the great mercy that God extends to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus that we celebrate in this Eucharist. We give praise to God in our singing of the Gloria and in the Eucharistic prayer. After the creed we pray the Universal Prayers or our Petitions (Intercessions) for all those in need. Our reception of Communion and our thanksgiving afterwards are moments when we acknowledge the saving power of God that we receive in the person of Jesus and thus in the Eucharist. Hopefully, we can recognize these forms of prayer and utilize them to enhance our Eucharistic Prayer.

- Fr. Tom



## St. Thomas Parish News

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:** Sept. 30 & Oct. 1, 2023

**Amount in Envelopes:** (71) .....\$3,281.00

(Total Envelopes sent: 174 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 103)

**Loose** .....\$328.00

**Online Giving (14)** .....\$755.00

**Faith Formation/Rel. Ed. (8)** .....\$102.00

**Total Offertory Income** .....\$4,466.00

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

**Weekly Average Shortfall** .....\$(-3,190.00)

*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'.*

**Catholic Education Collection:** .....\$601.00

This is a special diocesan collection was taken up on September 16/17, 2023 in our parishes. Half of the money raised stays in our parish to help support education programs. Thank you for your generosity

### A Family Perspective

Every family is visited by difficult times which can unite or divide. These hardships, which we would quickly reject, hold the potential to be the unifying "cornerstone" where we drop our pettiness and defenses and pull together, linked by a common bond and love for one another.

*"Do small things with great love."* St. Mother Teresa

### Wooden Fencing & Posts for Sale from St. Thomas Parish

The fence around the playground area at St. Thomas Parish was recently removed by Corry Knights of Columbus and other volunteers. Available for sale are 26 fencing sections (8' wide by 6' tall) at a cost of \$35 per section and 29 posts (8' length, 4x4) at \$10 each. If interested in purchasing some of the fencing and/or posts, please contact the parish office.



**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](mailto:business@stparish.org).

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**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 October 8<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Mary 'Gerri' Cragg.

### You're Invited to Coffee and Donuts

Join us for Coffee and Donuts in the multipurpose room at Saint Thomas after the 8:00am Mass TODAY (Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>). Donations will be accepted to help cover the cost of the donuts. Come for a time of socializing and food.



### Cemetery Prices to Increase on November 1<sup>st</sup>

Beginning Nov. 1, 2023, there will be an increase of fees associated with St. Thomas and St. Elizabeth Cemeteries. The cost to purchase cemetery plots will increase as follows:

Full Burial: current price is \$550/new price will be \$650

Cremation Burial: current price \$400/new price will be \$500

Those who wish to purchase plots in one of these cemeteries prior to the cost increase should call the office soon.

Any questions or concerns regarding our cemeteries, please contact Rhonda Pierce, Coordinator of Cemeteries, at our parish office.



### St. Thomas Altar Rosary Society Meeting

Ladies of the Altar Rosary Society are reminded of their meeting on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm in the multipurpose room at St. Thomas. We will be collecting the annual dues from all members at this meeting. Hope you will join us!

### **PA MARCH FOR LIFE BUS TRIP**



People for Life is arranging chartered bus transportation to the Third Annual Pennsylvania March for Life. The March will take place on October 16, in Harrisburg. The cost is only \$30 per seat.

Pay online with a credit or debit card. Payments may also be mailed to People for Life; P.O. Box 1126; Erie, PA 16512 or hand delivered to People for Life at 1625 W. 26th St., Erie. (A check or cash avoids bank processing fees.) Your payment reserves your seat(s).

Those interested in attending should contact Tim Broderick at the Erie People for Life Office (Phone: 814-882-1333 or 814-459-1333 / or go to [peopleforlife.org](http://peopleforlife.org)) or call Barbara Wascak (814-665-2313) for more information.



### 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.

## St. Teresa Parish News

### ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: Oct. 1, 2023

**Amount in Envelopes:** (55) ..... \$2,196.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 102)  
**Loose** ..... \$162.00  
**Continuing the Vision** (9) ..... \$235.00  
**Online Giving** (1) ..... \$30.00  
**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$2,623.00

### OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: Oct. 1, 2023

**Amount in Envelopes:** (6) ..... \$135.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 24)

**St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income** ..... \$2,758.00  
**Average Weekly Expenses** ..... \$4,777.00  
**Weekly Average Shortfall** ..... \$(-2,019.00)

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



St. Teresa  
Online Offertory

*Please know that you can now give all  
 your donations online by visiting our  
 parish website at  
[www.st-teresa-unioncity](http://www.st-teresa-unioncity.org)  
 -org OR by scanning the  
 QR code here.*



*Thanks for your generosity to our parish!*

### Catholic Education Collection: ..... \$585.00

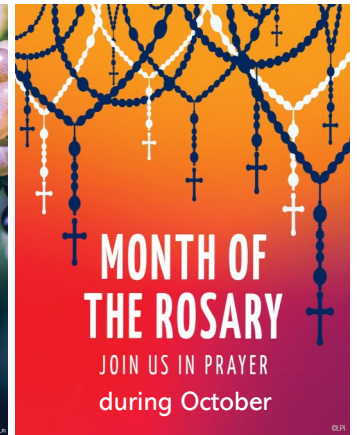
This is a special diocesan collection was taken up on September 16/17, 2023 in our parishes. Half of the money raised stays in our parish to support education programs. Thank you for your generous support.



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of October 8<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Josephine Knight.

### Congratulations to St. Teresa Parishioner 'Athlete of the Week'

We wish to congratulate Ava Tomcho who was recently named Erie County's Female 'Athlete of the Week' for her contributions to Union City's golf team. She was part of a foursome that had a first place finish in the Bear's Cup Tournament last week.



### SUPPORT OUR BAKE SALE

Please support the St. Teresa Rosary Altar Society by purchasing some delicious items from their Bake Sale following both Masses this weekend. Thank you!



### THE UNITY PRAYER

**My Adorable Jesus,  
 May our feet journey together.  
 May our hands gather in unity.  
 May our hearts beat in unison.  
 May our souls be in harmony.  
 May our thoughts be as one.  
 May our ears listen to  
 the silence together.  
 May our glances  
 profoundly  
 penetrate each other.  
 May our lips pray together to  
 gain mercy from the Eternal Father.  
 Amen.**



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

*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord!* Luke 1:42

## St. Teresa's Annual Harvest Moon Card Party



Sponsored By

**ST. TERESA'S  
Rosary-Altar Society**

Admission  
\$ 6.00

Includes Light Dinner  
with Coffee or tea

Door  
Prizes

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

7:00 P. M.

AT ST. TERESA'S CENTER  
UNION CITY



Bake  
Sale

Reservations Call ELAINE 814 438 3953





**2023—2024**

**WINTER MASS SCHEDULE**

**September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**thru May 19<sup>th</sup>, 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**

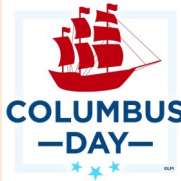


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203 W. Washington Street  
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Saint Teresa of Avila Church  
9 Third Avenue  
Union City, PA 16438

**Parish Office Closed on Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**

Our partnered parish office will be closed on Monday, Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> in observance of Columbus Day. Sorry for any inconvenience. We will be open Tuesday—Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>—12<sup>th</sup>, this week. Thank you.



**Deadline Extended for Responses to the Pastoral Plan**

**Parishioners have until OCTOBER 9<sup>th</sup> to complete the pastoral planning survey.** You are invited to make your suggestions and/or comments to the **preliminary** pastoral plan for Erie County. Please completing the pastoral planning survey either online or in writing. Mail your response to 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.](http://www.eriecd.org/planning.html)

**Readings for the week of October 8, 2023**

Sun.: Isaiah 5:1-7 ♦ Psalm 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20 (Isaiah 5:7a) ♦  
Philippians 4:6-9 ♦ Matthew 21:33-43

Mon.: Jonah 1:1—2:2, 11 ♦ Jonah 2:3, 4, 5, 8 ♦ Luke 10:25-37

Tues.: Jonah 3:1-10 ♦ Psalm 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8 ♦ Luke 10:38-42

Wed.: Jonah 4:1-11 ♦ Psalm 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10 ♦ Luke 11:1-4

Thur.: Malachi 3:13-20b ♦ Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 ♦ Luke 11:5-13

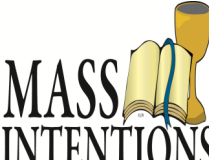
Fri.: Joel 1:13-15; 2:1-2 ♦ Psalm 92:3, 6 and 16, 8-9 ♦ Luke 11:15-26

Sat.: Joel 4:12-21 ♦ Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 ♦ Luke 11:27-28

Next Sun.: Isaiah 25:6-10a ♦ Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (6cd) ♦  
Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 ♦ Matthew 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

**Mass Intentions for Our Parishes**

Please contact the partnered parish office at 814-663-3041 to schedule Mass intentions for loved ones. We will do our best to accommodate your date requests. The suggested stipend is \$10.



## Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News

### **Calendar Reminder—NO CLASS TODAY**

Families of Religious Education students are reminded that there will be No Classes the week of October 8<sup>th</sup> (this includes the Wednesday evening Purpose class during this week).



### **Positive Change**

We introduced two new programs—EDGE for middle school students (grades 6-8) and PURPOSE for high school students (grades 9 & 10). We have had good feedback and response to these new programs. Please be on the lookout in future bulletins for unique needs/donations which will be used to run the new EDGE and PURPOSE programs to help make it more effective and enjoyable. Thank you.

If at any time you have questions or concerns regarding the upcoming Religious Education year, please contact Missy Silka, Director of Faith Formation, at the parish office (phone: 814-663-3041 or email: [business@stparish.org](mailto:business@stparish.org)).

### **Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments**

**October is Respect Life Month:** Our faith calls for us to uphold the value of human life and the dignity of the human person. The protection of children and vulnerable adults is the responsibility of the entire Church, including the faithful. The protection of children, youth and vulnerable adults from abuse and other harm is a respect life issue, and we must all do our part to uphold this ideal. Anyone who suspects or knows of abuse should report it immediately. For information on reporting child abuse visit <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/>.

**I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will remain.** John 15:16

### **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 Anointing of the Sick, or anyone who is unable to get to Mass and would desire Holy Communion to be brought to them.

### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Confessions are 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.

**THANK YOU** to all of our bulletin sponsors!

We appreciate their support of our parishes and ask our parishioners to please patronize these business.