

St. Teresa of Avila Parish

St. Teresa Church
(Union City)

Weekend Masses
Saturday: 4:30 P.M.
Sunday: 10:45 A.M.
Confessions: Saturday, 4:00 P.M.

Rev. Matthew J. Strickenberger, Pastor

Rev. Mr. Randy Kondrlik, Deacon

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Our Lady of Fatima Chapel
(Canadohta Lake)

Weekend Masses
(Memorial Day – Labor Day)
Sunday: 9:30 A.M.

Confessions: before Mass

WELCOME

If you are new to our parish, we extend a warm welcome and hope you will find our parish community a place where your faith will be nourished. Newcomers are asked to introduce themselves to the pastor and call the office to register.

WEEKDAY SERVICES

See inside of bulletin for current weekday schedule.

BAPTISM

By appointment. Parents must attend pre-baptismal instruction.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made six months in advance.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please let the pastor know when a family member or a friend is ill, either at home, in the hospital or at a nursing home.

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

● ROSARY-ALTAR SOCIETY

Meets the first Monday of each month at 6:00 P.M.

● KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Meet every third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

● RELIGIOUS EDUCATION GUILD

Meets during the school term.

● SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION GROUP

1:00 p.m. Wednesdays (Sept. – May)

● PARISH CENTER RENTAL

Contact Matt Moon: 814-490-1494



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Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

January 9, 2022

May we be transformed
in the Baptism of Christ!

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 8 Christmas Weekday

4:30pm (St. Teresa) NO MASS

4:30pm (St. Thomas) Andrew Tomcho Sr. by Ed & Judy Bitters

Sunday, January 9 Baptism of The Lord

8:45am (St. Thomas) Blair Skiff by Shirley Skiff

10:45am (St. Teresa) Ed Margie Jr. by Sherri Margie

Monday, January 10 Weekday

8:00am Communion Service

Tuesday, January 11 Weekday

NO MASS

Wednesday, January 12 Weekday

NO MASS

Thursday, January 13 Weekday

NO MASS

Friday, January 14 Weekday

8:00am Communion Service

Saturday, January 15 Weekday

4:30pm (St. Teresa) NO MASS

4:30pm (St. Thomas) Dorothy Baressi by Her Children

Sunday, January 16 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:45am (St. Thomas) Intentions of Our Parish Family

10:45am (St. Teresa) Rudy Clay Miller by Family

Sacrificial Giving: The offertory last weekend was **\$1,790** for St. Teresa which includes **\$1,740** in envelopes and **\$50** in loose & **\$85** for Our Lady of Fatima. Offertory Goal **\$3,000**

Mass Readings for the Week

Mon 1 Samuel 1:1-8 ♦ Mark 1:14-20

Tue. 1 Samuel 1:9-20 ♦ Mark 1:21-28

Wed 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20 ♦ Mark 1:29-39

Thurs. 1 Samuel 4:1-11 ♦ Mark 1:40-45

Fri. 1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a ♦ Mark 2:1-12

Sat. 1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1 ♦ Mark 2:13-17

Sun. Isaiah 62:1-5 ♦ 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 ♦ John 2:1-11

Religious Education

01/09 Class

01/16 Class

01/23 Class

01/30 Youth Mass

PLEASE – any calls regarding the Religious Education Program should be made directly to the parish office. The extension is 103 to leave a message for Missy Silka, Religious Education Facilitator.

Goal - \$28,606

Amount Pledged to Date - \$30,347

Amount Paid to Date - \$29,922

Reminder – Please make all CSA checks payable to St. Teresa Church

JUST A REMINDER – There will be Saturday Masses during the month of January at St. Thomas Parish, Corry but there will be no Saturday Masses at St. Teresa. Saturday Masses in February will be said in Union City but not in Corry. We will continue alternating going forward until our pastor makes a determination. This schedule will in no way affect Sunday Masses.

Pray for Our Priests: Rev. Matthew J. Ruyechan, Rev. Thomas L. Tyler, Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico, Rev. David A. Perry, Rev. Thomas M. Fialkowski, Rev. Michael Polinek

SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 16

10:45

LECTOR

Tricia Young

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Tom Kunzen

Choir: Kelly Nordin

ALTAR SERVER

Allie Anderson

PRAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

Marriage Moment A new year has begun. Perhaps you've made a New Year's Resolution. Perhaps not. Today, just think about today! What kindness can you offer your beloved today.

[Special retreat for engaged couples](#)

Engaged couples are invited to attend an Engagement Encounter this January 28-30, 2022. Engagement Encounter is a restful retreat designed to provide a meaningful environment for deepening the conversations and habits necessary in a happy, holy, and lasting marriage. Here is what a past participant had to say: "I cannot thank you enough for an amazing experience this weekend. My fiancé and I will never forget it and all of the special moments." Learn more or register at <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/ee.html>. We would love to welcome you this January!

A Family Perspective: In today's gospel Jesus was publicly AFFIRMED by his Father: "You are my beloved son, with you I am very pleased." As parents we can become so focused on misbehaviors we overlook the good behaviors. Jesus needed AFFIRMATION and so do our children.

[Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments](#)

Online Gaming: 72% of teens, both male and female (ages 13-17) play video games. More than half of those teens said they have made new friends online. The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children analysis of Cyber Tipline reports has found that gaming platforms are more often used in the online enticement of young boys than any other group of children. It is important for parents to talk to their child about safety in online gaming. Some important questions to ask are: Have you ever been cyberbullied while gaming? Do you know what information is OK to share about yourself while gaming? Has anyone talked about sex while you were gaming or asked you to send pictures of yourself? If your child answers yes, report the matter to law enforcement. Visit www.eriecd.org/childprotection/ for additional resources.

The Special Intentions of Pope Francis

Dear Father - As we start a new year, we ask you to bless us with true human fraternity. We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution. May their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

A Family Blessing

Lord of all,

Bless our families

*Be they formed by blood or by
circumstance
Make them holy.*

May we find you

*In our relationships,
In our marriages, in our families,
In our households, in our communities,
In our global humanity.*

*May we look across
all that divides us*

*And see family,
And embrace as a family does.
And love as a family ought to.*

*For where two or three gather
In your name,
There are you.*

Amen

THE **ERIE CURSILLO MOVEMENT** is currently planning and accepting applications for a Men's Cursillo from February 11 to 13, 2022 and a Woman's Cursillo from April 29 to May 1, 2022.

Applications can be found on the Cursillo Website at eriecursillo.org, calling the Cursillo office at 814-824-1119, or by asking someone you may know who has completed a Cursillo weekend who would be willing to serve as your sponsor.

***He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit
(Luke 3:16)***

Now that's a promise worth remembering: Jesus wants to baptize us with His own Holy Spirit! But what does this mean?

Let's look first at Jesus' experience of the Spirit. Luke tells us that at Jesus' baptism, "the Holy Spirit descended upon" him (3:22). On that day, Jesus received the spirit in a new way – a gift from God that would empower him and set him on the path of ministry, service, and ultimately death and resurrection. Though Jesus was already fully God, the Spirit of God still came upon him.

Luke includes a small but important detail in his account. As the Spirit descended on him, the Father called out, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased" (Luke 3:22, emphasis added). He spoke directly to Jesus. He told him how delighted he was in his Son's obedience, humility and trust in him. Baptized, or immersed, in water. Jesus was also immersed in the Holy Spirit that day.

When you were baptized, the Holy Spirit came upon you, and God claimed you as his beloved child as well. He entered into a new unbreakable relationship with you, and you became a new creation in Christ (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1279*).

But God doesn't want to fill you with his Spirit only at your baptism. He wants to baptize you – immerse you – in his Spirit again and again so that you can be filled with his love and equipped for the work God has for you. "You are my beloved child. I love you. I am pleased to have you in my family."

Even if it has been decades since you were baptized God still wants to fill you with his Spirit. So don't be afraid to ask for more: more of his love, and more of his power in your life.

"Jesus, fill me with your Spirit. Let me know your love in a new way today!"

Forgiveness

There is no path forward without forgiveness. I know that. Still, forgiving is one of the hardest things to do in this life. And the more you love someone, and the more that person hurts you, the harder it is to forgive.

I am not good at it. I won't pretend I am. Still, I try. I struggle to forgive. It's easy to say the words, but then you have to live them. Some days I feel I am making great progress, and then there are days when I am being tossed about in the tornado of regression. There are times when I am certain that I have forgiven someone – this belief may last for weeks, months – but then I discover another piece of shrapnel in my heart and I find myself needing to forgive again, in new and deeper ways. What I find humbling is that it is my need to forgive, not their need to be forgiven. The person could be long gone and no longer a part of my life. He may not have even thought of me in years. The need is mine, and I find it is healthy to remember that.

The spirit is willing, but my wounded heart holds onto the hurt. It doesn't realize it is holding on to poison. The man in me understands, but the little boy in me is still paralyzed by the injuries.

Forgiveness requires incredible strength. It requires divine assistance. But you don't need all the strength at once, just a little at a time.

When I am struggling to forgive this is my prayer. This is what I ask God.

Spirit of God,
At this time, I am unable or unwilling to forgive.
I know not which.
Fill me with the wisdom of forgiveness.
Bring me to the beautiful truth
that forgiving others is part of my own healing.
Cleanse me of the poison of unforgiveness.
Shine light so I can see how forgiveness
affects my physical, emotional, and spiritual health.
Today, I am unable or unwilling to forgive. I know not which.
Just give me the desire to forgive,
Just the desire. This is all I ask today.
Give me the desire to forgive.
For I know, trust and believe,
that if you place the desire to forgive firmly in my heart,
that desire will grow, and the day will come
when I am both willing and able to forgive.
Amen.

Whom do you need to forgive? It's okay if you are not there yet. Be patient with yourself. Just don't quit and allow your heart to become hardened. I know it's not easy, but there is no path forward without forgiveness. And whomever you need to forgive, and whatever you need to forgive them for, is not worth preventing your onward journey.

There is no future without forgiveness

