



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

## August 20, 2023



### 20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith!  
Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's  
daughter was healed from that hour. - Mt 15:28

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

**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

FIRST FRIDAY COMMUNION CALLS: I want to thank those who have taken advantage of this opportunity for me to visit those who are shut in to their homes or seriously ill. I am also surprised that some of the people who told me they needed or wanted this have not called the parish office (814-663-3041) to make arrangements for this. I encourage you to call the parish office to alert us to people who are shut in to their homes on hospice, 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.

CATHOLIC ADVOCACY NETWORK: I am not sure how many people are aware of the Catholic Advocacy Network which is a resource from the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference (the Bishops of Pennsylvania). This site informs you when issues are being discussed or voted on in Pennsylvania that impact the issues of life, education, social programs, or values that are important to us as Catholics. I personally use this site to inform me about issues and then I can send an email to the appropriate State legislators to voice my opinion as a registered voter. It is really easy to use. All you have to do is sign up at [www.pacatholic.org](http://www.pacatholic.org) and they will send you email alerts and have the email already addressed and written to send to the legislators. You just have to click your approval and off the email goes. It is a very efficient way of allowing your voice to be heard on the issues that concern us. I had always wanted to be more involved in the political advocacy for some of these issues, but never had or made the time. This site has allowed me to be more involved than I had been. I hope it will do the same for you as we allow our Catholic voice to be heard.

State and national policy can have a big impact on religious liberty, respect for life, Catholic education, and the social programs that we all care about. It's important to make your voice heard and work together towards the common good. Learn more and sign up for the Catholic Advocacy Network online at [www.pacatholic.org](http://www.pacatholic.org).

- Fr. Tom

Readings for the week of August 20, 2023

Sun.: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7 ♦ Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4) ♦ Romans 11:13-15, 29-32 ♦ Matthew 15:21-28  
 Mon.: Judges 2:11-19 ♦ Psalm 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44 ♦ Matthew 19:16-22  
 Tues.: Judges 6:11-24a ♦ Psalm 85:9, 11-12, 13-14 ♦ Matthew 19:23-30  
 Wed.: Judges 9:6-15 ♦ Psalm 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 ♦ Matthew 20:1-16  
 Thur.: Revelation 21:9b-14 ♦ Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 ♦ John 1:45-51  
 Fri.: Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22 ♦ Psalm 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 ♦ Matthew 22:34-40  
 Sat.: Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17 ♦ Psalm 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 ♦ Matthew 23:1-12  
 Next Sun.: Isaiah 22:19-23 ♦ Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 (8bc) ♦ Romans 11:33-36 ♦ Matthew 16:13-20



**Sunday, August 20**

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Deacon Bill Sproveri by Family (St. Thomas, Corry)
- 10:00a.m. ✠ Larry Kozik by the Joseph S. Kusiak Family (St. Teresa, Union City)
- 11:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes (Our Lady of Fatima, Canadohta Lake)

**Monday, August 21**

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Paul Mongera, Sr. by Lillie Mongera (St. Teresa, Union City)

**Tuesday, August 22**

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Robert Swan by Gerrie Karkoski (St. Thomas, Corry)

**Wednesday, August 23**

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Walter & Margaret Komenda by their estate (St. Thomas, Corry)

**Thursday, August 24**

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

**Friday, August 25**

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Dorothy Mongera by Virginia Kozik (St. Teresa, Union City)

**Saturday, August 26**

- 4:30p.m. ✠ Clyde Ross by Peter Sander (St. Thomas, Corry)

**Sunday, August 27**

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Nick & Betty Jo Waltier by Denny & Chris Anderson (St. Thomas, Corry)
- 10:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes (St. Teresa, Union City)
- 11:00a.m. ✠ Dorothy Mongera by Virginia Kozik (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: August 12 & 13, 2023

**Amount in Envelopes: (70)** .....\$2,604.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 174 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 104)  
**Loose** .....\$393.25  
**Online Giving (9)** .....\$295.00  
**Total Offertory Income** .....\$3,292.25

**Average Weekly Expenses** .....\$7,656.00  
**Weekly Average Shortfall** ..... \$(4,363.75)

*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'.*

**Missionary Cooperative Collection:** .....\$1,352.05

This is a special diocesan collection was taken up on July 29/30, 2023 in our parishes. We were blessed to have a missionary priest from India here to speak with us. Thank you for your generous support.



### 2023 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 08/14):

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

**Total Amount Pledged to date = \$42,870.00**

**Total Paid to date = \$39,255.00**

**# 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. 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!

### 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.



**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 30<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of all deceased members of our parish.**

## PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

### Changes to Our Parish Cemetery Coordinator

We wish to inform the parish of changes to our Cemetery Coordinator position. Sue Vinca, who has worked for Saint Thomas Parish for many years in various roles, retired in mid-August as the coordinator of our parish cemeteries. Sue has been a valuable member of our parish staff and will be greatly missed. We wish her well in her retirement, having more time to spend with her husband, Tim, and her family. When you see her at Mass, be sure to wish her well and thank her for her many years of service to the church. With Sue's departure, we welcome Rhonda Pierce to our staff as the new coordinator of cemeteries for St. Thomas Parish. Any questions regarding St. Thomas Cemetery or St. Elizabeth Cemetery may be directed to Rhonda at the parish office (814-663-3041). She will be available at the office on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings from 8:30am—12:30pm.

### 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).

### All Are Invited to the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Zabawa—Polish Heritage Festival

Holy Trinity Parish in Erie will celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Zabawa Polish Heritage event from Aug. 25-27 at East 23<sup>rd</sup> & Reed streets. Hours are Friday from 5:00pm—10:00pm, Saturday from 12:00pm—10:00pm and Sunday from 11:00am—4:00pm. Showcases authentic Polish foods and renowned Polka bands. Highlights include a Polka Mass on Saturday at 5:00pm with Bishop Persico, and a Polish Heritage Mass on Sunday at 10:30am with the Holy Trinity Choir. Admission is free, with additional parking and a shuttle at E. 34<sup>th</sup> & Ash streets in Erie. For more information, call 814-456-0671.



### 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 annual fundraiser 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:** August 13, 2023  
**Amount in Envelopes:** (50) ..... \$1,975.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 107)  
**Loose** ..... \$183.00  
**Continuing the Vision (2)** ..... \$30.00  
**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$2,188.00

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP:** August 13, 2023  
**Amount in Envelopes:** (14) ..... \$240.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 16)  
**Loose** ..... \$150.00  
**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$390.00

**St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income** ..... \$2,578.00  
**Average Weekly Expenses** ..... \$4,777.00  
**Weekly Average Shortfall** ..... \$(-2,199.00)

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

**Missionary Cooperative Collection:** ..... \$1,282.00  
 This is a special diocesan collection was taken up on July 29/30, 2023 in our parishes. We were blessed to have a missionary priest from India here to speak with us. Thank you for your generous support.



### 2023 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 08/14)

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

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$36,400.00

Total Paid to date = \$34,740.00

# of Families who made a pledge = 79

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!

*I chose you from the world,  
 to go and bear fruit that will last,  
 says the Lord.*

John 15:16

### St. Teresa Church Organizations / Groups

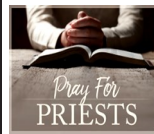
•**Rosary—Altar Society**  
 Meets the first Monday of each month at 4:30 PM

•**Knights of Columbus**  
 Meet every third Wednesday at 7:00 PM

•**Religious Education Guild**  
 Meets during the school term



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of August 20<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of deceased family and friends.



Rev. William Kuba, Rev. Obinna Paschal Ezeihuoma, Rev. Raymond Hahn, Rev. Mark O'Hern, Rev. William Barron, Rev. Msgr. Casimir Bogniak, and Rev. William O'Brien

### Thanks for Supporting St. Teresa's Lawn Festival

The lawn festival brought in a \$2,100 profit this year even in spite of the unseasonably stormy weather. We wish to thank Beth and Matt Moon, for organizing this year's festival. THANK YOU to all who helped and supported the festival, making this event successful even through challenging circumstances.



## Pregnancy Resource Centers Need Our Help!

### STATE FUNDING IS BEING TERMINATED

Real Alternatives was established in 1995 by Governor Bob Casey, Sr. to help pregnant women choose life. It has administered Pennsylvania's Pregnancy and Parenting Support Services program for 28 years, funding pregnancy resource centers across the Commonwealth as well as maternity homes and adoption agencies.

As of this June, Real Alternatives has helped over 349,000 Pennsylvania women.

In a shocking move, Governor Josh Shapiro recently announced that the state contract with Real Alternatives will not be renewed at the end of this year. If this happens, thousands of Pennsylvania women will lose the comprehensive counseling and support they need during their pregnancies and for 12 months afterward.

You can help ensure that these mothers receive the help they deserve!



#### Call Governor Shapiro's Office

Please call the Governor's Office and urge him to reverse his decision: (717) 787-2500.

#### Contact your State Representative and State Senator

Please call and email your state Representative and state Senator and urge them to take action to protect the Real Alternatives contract.

### PEOPLE FOR LIFE

1625 W. 26th St. • Erie, PA • (814) 882-1333 • office@peopleforlife.org  
[www.peopleforlife.org](http://www.peopleforlife.org)





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203 W. Washington Street  
Corry, PA 16407

## 2023—2024 WINTER MASS SCHEDULE

September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
thru May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024



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

**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

### A Family Perspective

The mother in today's gospel persisted, even when she was ignored and insulted. She would do whatever was necessary to bring relief to her child. Parenting is more than bringing life into the world; it is also about sacrificing daily for your children.

**ST. ROSE OF LIMA**  
August 23

“APART  
FROM THE  
CROSS,  
THERE IS  
NO OTHER  
LADDER  
BY WHICH  
WE MAY GET  
TO HEAVEN.”



### Mass Intentions for Our Parishes

**MASS  
INTENTIONS**

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: [twair@4LPi.com](mailto:twair@4LPi.com).



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

## Our Lady of Fatima News

### Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

God's love is free, and God's mercy extends to all. Sometimes that is a hard concept to accept for those who always try to abide by the letter of God's laws. Think about the reaction that the brother of the "Prodigal son" had upon the son's return. How about Martha getting upset with Mary because she felt burdened with all the work when Mary spent her time at the feet of Christ? There was dissension in the early Church about Christians conforming to the rules of the Chosen People. Human beings judge people by our own standards. Lucky for all of us that God doesn't have such standards! Jesus acknowledged the faith and the need of the Canaanite woman in the Gospel today and healed her daughter. Christ's universal message of salvation includes everyone. Our Redeemer's mercy and love reaches out across religious, social, political, and geographic borders to the ends of the earth. Everyone can be a member of the "chosen people"; heaven will be the eternal home of all those who serve the Lord.

### College Classes Start

Many young adults of the parish are leaving the area to begin or continue their college education at campus's near and far. We will miss them at liturgy but our prayers go with these students pursuing higher education. We wish them a good experience at school. May God inspire and bless their efforts.

### County Fair Time

Canadohta Lake and Our Lady of Fatima are situated in beautiful Crawford County. The Crawford County Fair at Meadville, one of the largest agricultural venues east of the Mississippi River, begins this weekend and runs through Saturday, August 26. This Tuesday, August 22, is Senior/Veteran's free admission day at the fair with entry by 4:00pm. The fairgrounds are at 13291 Dickson Rd., Meadville, PA 16335, off of Route 77.

### "Question of the Week" - 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Question for Children:** What is your favorite way to talk with Jesus? What words do you use?

**Question for Youth:** Do you trust that God hears your prayers? Do you believe that your prayer makes a difference?

**Question for Adults:** When you pray, how do you know that Jesus will really respond?

### First Friday Calls

If you, or a loved one, is shut-in to your home or in a nursing home and wishes to have a visit from the priest, deacon, or Eucharistic Minister, please call the parish office to have their name added to our list.

### Hospital Visits

Please call the parish office to let us know if a family member is in the hospital. A visit from the priest may be arranged. Area hospitals of Hamot and St. Vincent have priests on call in cases of emergency.