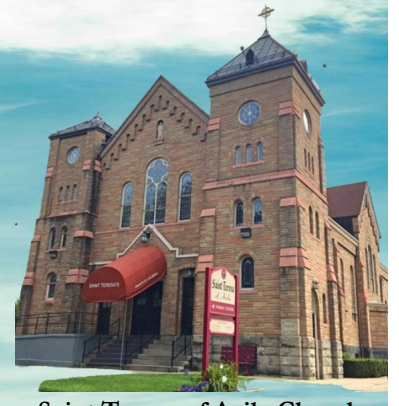




Saint Thomas the Apostle Church
203 W. Washington Street
Corry, PA 16407



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

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

November 27, 2022



Rev. Matthew J. Strickenberger
Pastor
pastor@stparish.org

Rev. Mr. Randy Kondrlik
Deacon
deacon@stparish.org

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

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

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.

Mass Readings for the Week of November 27, 2022

Sun.: Isaiah 2:1-5 ♦ Romans 13:11-14 ♦ Matthew 24:37-44
 Mon.: Isaiah 4:2-6 ♦ Matthew 8:5-11
 Tues.: Isaiah 11:1-10 ♦ Luke 10:21-24
 Wed.: Romans 10:9-18 ♦ Matthew 4:18-22
 Thur.: Isaiah 26:1-6 ♦ Matthew 7:21, 24-27
 Fri.: Isaiah 29:17-24 ♦ Matthew 9:27-31
 Sat.: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26 ♦ Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
 Next Sun.: Isaiah 11:1-10 ♦ Romans 15:4-9 ♦ Matthew 3:1-12

Advent

The twofold character of Advent calls us to prepare for the remembering of the Word made Flesh at Christmas, and directs us to wait with alertness for Jesus' second coming.

**Monday, November 28**

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

Tuesday, November 29

5:15p.m. Communion Service at St. Thomas (Corry)

Wednesday, November 30

8:00a.m. Communion Service at St. Thomas (Corry)

Thursday, December 1

8:00a.m. Communion Service at St. Thomas (Corry)

Friday, December 2

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

Saturday, December 3

4:00p.m. †Joanne Kleinhanz by Roger Pelc
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Sunday, December 4

- 8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes
(St. Thomas, Corry)
- 10:00a.m. †Paula Sadowski by Virginia Kozik
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

The following are opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Advent Season at Sts. Thomas and Teresa Parishes:

- Every Saturday of Advent from 3:00PM – 3:45PM at St. Teresa Church, Union City
- Wednesday, December 7th from 6:00PM – 6:45 PM at St. Teresa, Union City
- Tuesday, December 13th from 5:30PM – 7:00PM at St. Thomas, Corry
- Immediately following ALL weekend Masses at Sts. Thomas and Teresa December 17th and 18th

Come to experience God's love and healing mercy.

Early Submission Deadlines for Bulletin Items

The holidays are upon us and with it comes early deadlines for the bulletins. Please see the following schedule:

- For Dec. 11, 2022; bulletin items due by Monday, Dec. 5
- For Dec. 18, 2022; bulletin items due by Thursday, Dec. 8
- For Dec. 25, 2022; bulletin items due by Wed., Dec. 14
- For Jan. 1, 2023; bulletin items due by Dec. 22
- For Jan. 8, 2023; bulletin items due by Jan. 2, 2023

Please send items for publication to the parish office at secretary@stparish.org. All bulletin items are subject to approval and editing for content and space. If you have any questions, please call the parish office. Thank you for your cooperation with these deadlines.

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.

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

A Family Perspective

In today's gospel Jesus advises: "Stay awake, watch out, and pray for the strength to hold your ground" when "fearful and bewildering signs" appear threatening your family. Resist being "fearful;" fear cripples! Instead "pray for the strength" to be courageous.

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 six 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: 3:00pm—3:30pm 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: November 19/20, 2022

The Financial Stewardship Report for the weekend of November 19 & 20 will be published in the next bulletin (December 4). Today's bulletin had to be submitted to our publisher prior to the weekend Masses due to the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday. Thank you to all who regularly use your church offertory envelopes and/or give to the parish collection. We appreciate your support

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.

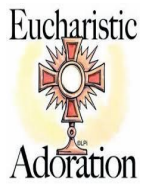


Please know that you can now give all your donations online by visiting our parish website at

www.StThomastheApostle.Church and click 'Donate Online'.

All Saints Day (Holy Day, Nov. 1).....\$330.00
Diocesan Special Collection taken up on October 22/23, 2022

All Souls' Day (Nov. 2).....\$640.00
Diocesan Special Collection taken up on October 22/23, 2022



24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration THIS WEEK

Eucharistic Adoration will begin on Thursday, December 1 and goes until Friday, December 2 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', so if you can commit to one hour a month to be with Our Lord, please call the parish.



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.

2022 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 11/7):

Our Parish Goal is \$78,564.00

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$47,554.00

Total Paid to date = \$45,224.00

of Families who made a pledge = 136

of Families who did not pledge = 209

We appreciate your generosity to the CSA. 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. THOMAS CHURCH' when making a CSA payment.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of November 27th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of William VanCise by family.



Our prayers & sympathy to the family and friends of Catherine Froman who passed away last week from Saint Thomas Parish. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Ushers Needed

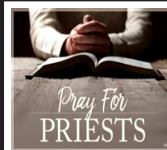
We are looking for men / women / young adults who would like to help in this ministry. We would like to have individuals to take up the collection during Mass, especially for the Christmas season. Please consider becoming a part of this ministry. If interested, call the parish office. Thank you.

Homebound Ministry at St. Thomas Church

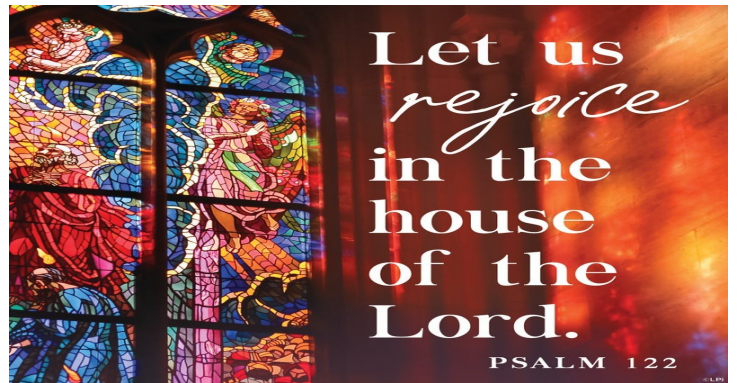
If you have a family member who is not able to make it to Mass due to health reason and would like to be visited and receive the Eucharist, please call Pat at 814-964-3262 or the parish office.

In Need of Some Spiritual Reading

Please check out our book rack in the main vestibule of Saint Thomas Church. Books may be borrowed and returned when finished reading them. There is something for everyone.



Most Rev. Lawrence Persico, Rev. Alexander Amico, Rev. Jason Glover, Rev. Gregory Passauer, Rev. Christopher Barnes, Rev. William Barron, Rev. Joseph Gregorek



"Question of the Week" - First Sunday of Advent

Question for Children: What can you do to be ready for God to come into your heart and your life?

Question for Youth: The Gospel tells us we don't know when the Son of Man will return. If he were to arrive today, would you be ready for him? What is one thing you can do during Advent to prepare for his coming?

Question for Adults: As you prepare to re-welcome Christ into your heart while you prepare for Christmas, what does Isaiah call you to do? What does Isaiah call us as a people to do?

St. Teresa Parish News

ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: Nov. 20, 2022

The Financial Stewardship Report for the weekend of November 19 & 20 will be published in the next bulletin (December 4). Today's bulletin had to be submitted to our publisher prior to the weekend Masses due to the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday. Thank you to all who regularly use your church offertory envelopes and/or give to the parish collection. We appreciate your support

Please write checks to St. Teresa Church or Our Lady of Fatima Church.

All Saints Day (Holy Day, Nov. 1).....\$575.00

Total for both St. Teresa/OLF envelopes

All Souls' Day (Nov. 2).....\$472.00

Total for both St. Teresa/OLF envelopes



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of November 27th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of all our deceased loved ones.

You may sponsor the candle at St. Teresa in memory/honor of a loved one for \$10, please call the parish office if you wish to do so. Thank you.

Rosary Altar Society to Hold Bake Sale Next Weekend

The St. Teresa Rosary Altar Society will be holding a Bake Sale next weekend, December 3 & 4, after both Masses. Please look for our table near the entrance of the church. We are sure you will find something delicious for yourself or to share with your family. Thank you for your continued support which also helps our church.

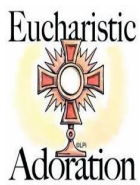


Money Counters Needed from St. Teresa Parish

Seeking individuals from St. Teresa Parish who wish to help with our offertory collection and deposit process. You would be responsible to assist in counting collection envelopes and preparing & taking the deposit to the bank. We need volunteers who are detail oriented with confidential information. Training will be provided. If interested, please call the parish office.

Local Red Kettle Campaign Seeking Bell Ringers

The Salvation Army needs bell ringers for this year's annual Red Kettle campaign! Volunteers are needed to fill shifts Monday-Saturday starting at 11:00am and ending at 6:00pm, beginning on Black Friday until Christmas Eve. Ringers will be inside the (heated!) lobby of Tops in Union City. This is a wonderful way for families to give back during the holidays. To sign up, please contact Elizabeth Malec at 814-490-7394 via text message or phone call.



Eucharistic Adoration at St. Teresa THIS WEEK

Our parish will hold Eucharistic Adoration on Friday, December 2. **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament begins after the 8:00am Mass and continues until 12:00pm (noon).** All are welcome to join us anytime during Adoration. If you wish to commit to one hour a month to be with Our Lord, please call the

2022 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 11/7):

Our Parish Goal is \$52,346.00

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$36,505.00

Total Paid to date = \$33,495.00

of Families who made a pledge = 93

of Families who did not pledge = 201

We appreciate your generosity to the CSA. 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.



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

Give thanks. Give back. Give Catholic. It's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1
Visit the website:
Erie.iGiveCatholic.org

2
Search for your parish, school or ministry

3
Donate \$20 or more



You may also give offline with check or cash by placing your donation in an envelope marked '#GiveCatholic' and putting it in the collection basket. Thank you!

WINTER MASS SCHEDULE

September 10, 2022 thru May 21, 2023

Saturday 4:00PM

St. Thomas Church (Corry)

September, November, January, March, May

St. Teresa Church (Union City)

October, December, February, April

Sunday

8:00AM at St. Thomas Church (Corry)

10:00AM at St. Teresa Church (Union City)

Confessions

Saturday from 3:00pm—3:30pm

at the church where Saturday Mass is celebrated
OR by appointment—please call the parish office

Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News

Religious Education Classes Meeting

Classes are Sundays following Mass. Students in Corry attend class from 8:45am until 10:00am in the former school building. Union City students attend class from 10:45am until 12:00pm (noon) at St. Teresa Parish Center.



Class Schedule for end of November & December

Sunday, Nov. 27—No Class / Youth Mass

Sunday, Dec. 4—Class / Advent Group Activity

Sunday, Dec. 11—Class / Student Confessions (grades 3-11)

Sunday, Dec. 18—Class

Sunday, Dec. 25—CHRISTMAS / No Class

Prayers for Students Preparing for Sacraments

We ask that our parishes keep all of our Religious Education students in prayer as they strengthen their Catholic faith and develop a deeper relationship with Jesus through catechesis. We particularly ask prayers for those who are preparing to receive Sacraments (First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation) in 2023. Picture below are students from both Sts. Thomas & Teresa who are preparing to receive Sacraments:



Fr. Matt with Nolan Carey, Julia Gesing, Elise Kafferlin, and Noah West (absent from photo: Jack Hallberg) from St. Thomas Church



Fr. Matt with Teagen Parker, Isaac Shick, Aydan Sill, Harleigh Schaefer, Erin Geer, Shea Magee, Brooke Whitmeyer, Quinlan Magee, Brookelyne Wienczkowski, Dannica McChesney and Aubrey Robertson (absent from photo Alyssa Tingley) from St. Teresa Church



Bookkeeper Position Available

As part of the newly combining Parish Office for Sts. Thomas and Teresa Parishes, we are looking for a part-time bookkeeper. This position will be approximately 10-15 hours per week. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact our Business

Manager, Missy Silka at the St. Thomas Office 814-663-3041 or business@stparish.org

The Advent Wreath

Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreaths adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.



Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas.