



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

September 24, 2023



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“‘Are you envious because I am generous?’ Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.” - Mt 20:15-16

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

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

ANointing OF THE SICK: Two weeks ago, we celebrated the anointing of the sick at all the Masses. There were 74 people who were anointed at those Masses. I am grateful to those who came forward to be anointed. It is a reminder to us that often the sick and suffering in our parish go unnoticed. They do not draw attention to themselves, but often struggle quietly with their illness. All those who came forward to be anointed remind the rest of us how fragile our health can be and how we need to be grateful for the good health we have. It also reminds us to pray for those who are struggling with illness every day. The sacrament of the anointing of the sick reminds us that Jesus spent a great part of his ministry reaching out to those who were ill and offered them healing. I am hoping that we will offer this sacrament in a public way after Mass at least twice a year. And know that it is always available by contacting Fr. Tom at the parish office.

Numbers sometimes give us one more perspective on things. We claim to have 589 families registered at the two parishes that translates into 1200 individual members. So, we anointed roughly 6 percent of our parish on that weekend.

I hope that the article in the bulletin on the sacrament of the anointing of the sick, the anointing at Mass, and the First Friday Communion calls have helped to educate people on this sacrament. It is one of the things the Church has actually changed in response to the real needs of people. Change doesn't happen very often in our Church's sacramental life, but this is one that we need to become more aware of and utilize to its fullest potential.

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY: I want to take a moment to express my appreciation to Missy Silka, our Faith Formation Director, and to all those catechists who volunteered to help teach, or be aides, or to help with the behind the scenes work that goes into our Faith Formation Programs. I am very impressed with the quality of teachers and their dedication to their faith. We need to offer them our thanks and our fullest support.

There are new programs for Middle School and Confirmation this year: The Edge program for Middle School and the Purpose program for Confirmation. Any time we start something new there are "bugs" to be worked out in the programs and sometimes technology doesn't always cooperate with our best intentions. But I believe there are some great things happening to benefit our young people.

- Fr. Tom

Location Change for Saturday Mass of Anticipation

Please be sure to note on your calendars that the 4:30pm Saturday Mass will be moving over to St. Teresa Church in Union City during the month of October. Confessions will also be offered only at St. Teresa on Saturdays from 3:30pm—4:00pm.

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.



Sunday, September 24

- 8:00a.m. †Deceased Farver and Shone Family Members by Dick & Jean Farver (St. Thomas, Corry)
- 10:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes (St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, September 25

- 8:00a.m. †Julia & Andy Ryba by Judy & Bill Flynn (St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, September 26

- 8:00a.m. †Dan Ahl by Bob & Judy Brown (St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, September 27

- 8:00a.m. †Lee & Jane Maher by George & Carol Groner (St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, September 28

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

Friday, September 29

- 8:00a.m. †Dorothy Mongera by Libby Blare & family (St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, September 30

- 4:30p.m. †Dan Ahl by Mike & Deb Comitz (St. Thomas, Corry)

Sunday, October 1

- 8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes (St. Thomas, Corry)
- 10:00a.m. †Paul Mongera by Lillie Mongera (St. Teresa, Union City)

Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and observe it. (Luke 11:28)

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: Sept. 16 & 17, 2023

Amount in Envelopes: (69)	\$2,005.00
(Total Envelopes sent: 174 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 105)	
Loose	\$245.50
Online Giving (9)	\$295.00
Faith Formation/Rel. Ed. ()	\$0.00
Total Offertory Income	\$2,545.50

Average Weekly Expenses\$7,656.00
Weekly Average Shortfall \$(-5,110.50)

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'.

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.



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 24th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Paul Griebel by Joan, Jan, and Alan.

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING



Thanks for Helping Sell Gate Tickets at the Sparty Fair

The Corry Knights of Columbus wish to thank all those from our parish family and friends who helped sell gate tickets all week during the Spartansburg Fair (September 4—9). *We could not have done it without you!*

Knights of Columbus Food Drive Collection

The Corry Knights of Columbus will be holding a food drive to benefit the Corry Food Pantry from now until the Thanksgiving holiday. We are asking parishioners to please donate non-perishable food items. You may place your donations in the marked bins at the entrances of St. Thomas Church. Thank you for your support!



Catholic Daughters Meeting This Week

The Catholic Daughters will be meeting on Thursday, Sept. 28th at 6:00pm in the St. Elizabeth Parish Center. All members are asked to attend. We hope to see you there!

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. **First Friday Calls will be done on Oct. 6.**

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. Hamot and St. Vincent hospitals have priests on call in cases of emergency.

Cemetery Prices to Increase on November 1st

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.



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: Sept. 17, 2023

Amount in Envelopes: (52) \$1,961.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 105)
Loose \$152.00
Continuing the Vision (1) \$60.00
Online Giving (1) \$30.00
Total Offertory Income \$2,203.00

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: Sept. 17, 2023

Amount in Envelopes: (4) \$90.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 26)

St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income \$2,293.00
Average Weekly Expenses \$4,777.00
Weekly Average Shortfall \$(-2,484.00)

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



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.



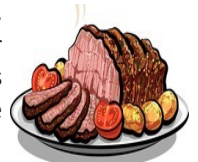
The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of September 24th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Jeff Down.

A Family Perspective

Today Jesus is saying to us: "Why are you idle? Go into my vineyard." Our family is the vineyard entrusted to us found in today's gospel. Successful families are constructed by "laborers," who work hard on family relationships, and not by spectators who only watch from a distance.

Roast Beef Dinner at St. Lawrence Parish, Albion

St. Lawrence Parish in Albion is hosting a restaurant-style roast beef dinner on Sunday, October 1st from 11:30am to 2:00pm at the St. Lawrence Parish Center, 129 E. Pearl St., Albion. The dinner will also feature a gift auction, 50/50, bake sale and raffle. Tickets are \$14 per person, and take-out is available. The event is limited to 400 meals, so come early to ensure you don't miss out!



Can You Help a Child?

The Keystone Foster Care Program is currently seeking families in our area to open up their homes to children in need. For more information on Keystone's program or to become a foster parent, please contact Keystone Foster Care Program at 724-588-2530. Thank you.



Let Us Pray for All Priests

PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY

Your sons are growing up...
 In the next few years, they will have many questions.
 Where will they get answers from?
 Come for a day of fun, faith and time with your son.



Diocese of Erie
FATHER SON DAY

Help your 11 to 13-year-old sons navigate adolescence and become a man for Christ.

TOPICS FOR THE DAY

- Growing into Manhood
- Increase/improve father/son communication
- Listening to God's call
- Combat toxic masculinity

10/7/2023
 9am-2:30pm
 St. Boniface, Erie PA
 RSVP by 10/1

\$30

registration
 includes
 food & activities

more info & signup:

<https://www.eriecd.org/chastity/Father-Son-Day.html>

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

St. Teresa's Annual Harvest Moon Card Party



Sponsored By

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

**Chinese
Auction**

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

Pastoral Planning

The **preliminary** pastoral plan for Erie County was announced. You are invited to make your suggestions and/or comments. 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 becomes a secondary mission church of St. Thomas ; Our Lady of Fatima becomes a secondary church of St. Thomas.

The merger means that St. Teresa and Our Lady of Fatima are now combined into St. Thomas Parish. Saint 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.

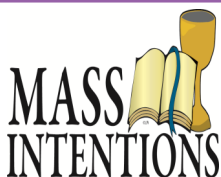
All parishioners are encouraged to make their suggestions or improvements to the preliminary plan by completing the pastoral planning survey either online or in writing. **Comments must be received at the Diocese of Erie by September 29.** Mail your response to Pastoral Plan Feedback, St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, PA 16504. **The web address to make your suggestions or improvements is www.erieRCD.org/planning.html.**

Readings for the week of September 24, 2023

Sun.: Isaiah 55:6-9 ♦ Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 (18a) ♦
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a ♦ Matthew 20:1-16a
Mon.: Ezra 1:1-6 ♦ Psalm 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 ♦ Luke 8:16-18
Tues.: Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20 ♦ Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 ♦ Luke 8:19-21
Wed.: Ezra 9:5-9 ♦ Tobit 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8 ♦ Luke 9:1-6
Thur.: Haggai 1:1-8 ♦ Psalm 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b ♦ Luke 9:7-9
Fri.: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 ♦ Psalm 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5 ♦ John 1:47-51
Sat.: Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a ♦ Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 ♦
Luke 9:43b-45
Next Sun.: Ezekiel 18:25-28 ♦ Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9, (6a) ♦
Philippians 2:1-11 or 2:1-5 ♦ Matthew 21:28-32

Submission Deadline for Bulletin Items

Items for publication in our bulletin must be sent to Sue Johnston in the parish office by Monday afternoon the week prior to when you wish your item to appear. Please email written content to 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.



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

Great Start of Religious Education Year

Classes began last weekend, but it's not too late to still register your child in grades Pre-K through 10th. We introduced two new programs—EDGE for middle school students (grades 6-8) and PURPOSE for high school students (grades 9 & 10). Thank you for the opportunity to teach our Catholic faith to your children.



We are still in need of a Grade 4 & 5 catechist for students at St. Teresa Parish in Union City. Parent volunteers at both parishes are welcomed. Members of the parish who have a desire to teach the faith and are interested helping with religious education should contact Missy Silka.

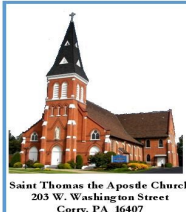
Please be on the lookout in future bulletins for unique needs/donations which will be used to run our new EDGE and PURPOSE programs for middle and high school students to help make it more effective and enjoyable. Thank you.

"Question of the Week" - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: How do you experience God being generous to you: through your family, friends, school, or parish?

Question for Youth: This Gospel reminds us that God is always seeking us out and welcoming us into his generous love. Through whom has God reached out to you? Who is always encouraging you to say "yes" to God?

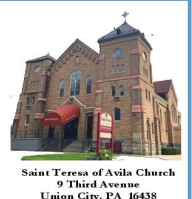
Question for Adults: Using Jesus' parable as your starting point, describe in your own words how God will treat those who come to be part of the church, even those who come late.



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