



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 12, 2023



32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Lord, Lord, open the door for us!” But he said in reply,
‘Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.’ - Mt 25:11-12

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

PASTORAL PLANNING IN THE DIOCESE: The preliminary plan for St. Thomas, St. Teresa, and Our Lady of Fatima Parishes was released in August of this year with the rest of the plans for Erie County. Today, across the Diocese we are praying for the success of this plan and the grace necessary to keep the Eucharist as the center of our parishes and our Diocese. 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. According to this plan, St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Union City, with its secondary Mission Church, Our Lady of Fatima Church in Canadohta Lake, will merge into St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Corry.

What does this mean? Currently, St. Teresa and St. Thomas are partnered parishes, which means they share a priest, but remain distinct parishes with one parish office and parish staff. Our Lady of Fatima is a mission church of St. Teresa that has seasonal Sunday Mass. The merger means that St. Teresa and Our Lady of Fatima parishes would be 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 that is St. Thomas the Apostle. The combining of resources can move us forward into the future, if we are willing to work together to make it happen.

We pray today for the various aspects of this Pastoral Plan to become a reality in our Diocese and in our parishes. We pray that we might work together to create a place where we might be able to continue to celebrate the Eucharist and the sacramental life of our faith.

ALL SOULS MASS: Last week, we celebrated Mass on All Souls Day and remembered all those who had died in the past year. It was a very moving experience for all those in attendance. I want to thank all those who were instrumental in making this event happen, our parish staff, the Altar Rosary Society, our music ministers, those who made phone calls to the family of the deceased to invite them to the service, and all those who attended. It was a marvelous example of how we can work together to do great things.

YOUTH MASSES: We had the young people of our parish help in various ministries at each of the Sunday Masses. Thanks to Mrs. Silka, the religious education teachers, the students who ministered so well, and to the adults who gave such good instruction to the students in their ministry. It was great to see our seasoned ministers helping our young people begin their service to our parish. It was one more example of how well you work together to make good things happen.

- Fr. Tom

Prayer for Peace

God our Creator, You call blessed, those who work for peace.

Help us to work without ceasing for that justice
which brings true and lasting peace.

Banish war and violence from our world and keep us safe from weapons of
hate, so that all people might rejoice in Your love and live in Your peace.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Sunday, November 12**

8:00a.m. †Anne Crawford by Daniel Crawford
(St. Thomas, Corry)

10:00a.m. †Monsignor James Peterson by Judy & Bill Flynn
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, November 13

8:00a.m. †Don Tinko by Ed & Irene Weaver and family
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, November 14

8:00a.m. †Rosemary Kieler by Amy, Abbey, and Kyron
Helmer (St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, November 15

8:00a.m. †Frank Karkoski by Gerrie and family
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, November 16

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

Friday, November 17

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

Saturday, November 18

4:30p.m. †Dan Ahl by Deacon Randy & Ann Kondrlik
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Sunday, November 19

8:00a.m. †Doug Puckly by Karen Puckly
(St. Thomas, Corry)

10:00a.m. †Lee Chew by the Hanlin family
(St. Teresa, Union City)

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!

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

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: November 4 & 5, 2023

Amount in Envelopes: (95)	\$5,340.00
(Total Envelopes sent: 174 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 79)	
Loose	\$327.01
Online Giving (15)	\$1,090.00
All Saints Day—Nov. 1 (28)	\$608.00
All Souls Day—Nov. 2 (21)	\$295.00
Total Offertory Income	\$7,660.01

Average Weekly Expenses\$5,335.00
 (Average Weekly Expenses are for normal operating expenses, this does not include extraordinary repairs.)
Weekly Average Overage.....\$2,325.01


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'.

Mission Sunday Collection:\$746.25
 This is a special diocesan collection was taken up on October 21/22, 2023 in our parishes. This collection, which is also known as the collection of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, supports the work and witness of the Mission Church in the most vulnerable communities. Thank you for your generous support.



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 November 12th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of our deceased loved ones.

“Question of the Week” - 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: If Jesus came to your house today, what would you do to get ready for him?

Question for Youth: Even though you are still young, what strategy do you have to make sure you are “ready” for the inevitable moment when you will die?


Question for Adults: How are you preparing to be ready for that moment that no one escapes, the moment when you come to the end of your life as you know it now?




You're Invited to Coffee and Donuts
 TODAY in the gym following the 8:00am Mass. Donations accepted to help cover the cost. All are welcome to join us. *Hope to see you there!*

Catholic Daughters Meeting Change
 The Catholic Daughters of the Americas meeting in November will be on Thursday, November 16th. This is a date change due to the Thanksgiving holiday falling on the fourth Thursday of this month. The meeting on Nov. 16th will begin at 5:00pm at Saint Elizabeth Parish Center. We will be sharing a Thanksgiving dinner together. Members are asked to bring a dish to pass. Our regular business meeting will follow dinner. All members are encouraged to attend. *Hope to see you there.*

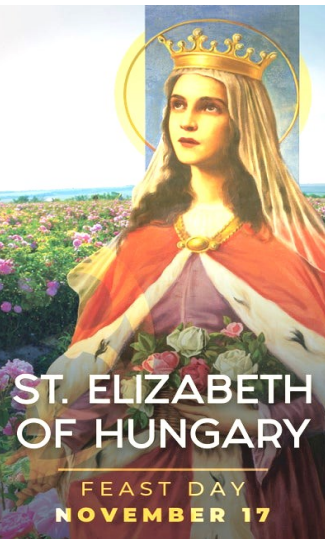

Knights of Columbus Food Drive Collection
 The Corry Knights of Columbus are holding a food drive to benefit the Corry Food Pantry from now until the week prior to the Thanksgiving holiday. We are asking parishioners to please donate non-perishable food items. You may place your donations in the marked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



Holiday Pastry Sale TODAY!
 The St. Thomas Altar Rosary Society is selling pastries the weekends of Nov. 11/12 and Nov. 18/19, before and after both the Saturday and Sunday Masses. **Cost is \$16 for Kolachi (Walnut, Apricot, and Raspberry) and \$13 for Baklava.** As a reminder, all monies raised by the Altar Rosary are used for purchases made to enhance the altar and our church. Your support is always appreciated. Thank you.



PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

Corry Knights Meeting THIS WEEK
 Council #425 of the Knights of Columbus will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 6:30pm in the St. Elizabeth Parish Center. Brothers Knights are encouraged to attend.

St. Teresa Parish News

ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: Nov. 5, 2023
Amount in Envelopes: (60) \$3,033.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 97)
Loose \$73.00
Continuing the Vision (10) \$245.00
Online Giving (1) \$30.00
All Saints Day—Nov. 1 (22) \$661.00
All Souls Day—Nov. 2 (21) \$375.00
Total Offertory Income \$4,417.00

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: Nov. 5, 2023
Amount in Envelopes: (7) \$180.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 21)
St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income \$4,597.00
Average Weekly Expenses \$4,585.00
 (Average Weekly Expenses are for normal operating expenses, this does not include extraordinary repairs.)
Weekly Average Overage \$12.00

*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-org OR by scanning the QR code here.



Thanks for your generosity to our parish!

Mission Sunday Collection: \$535.00
 This is a special diocesan collection was taken up on October 21/22, 2023 in our parishes. This collection, which is also know as the collection of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, supports the work and witness of the Mission Church in the most vulnerable communities. Thank you for your generous support

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

Thanksgiving Food Baskets

We will soon begin filling food baskets for Thanksgiving for those in need. If you know of anyone in need of a basket, please call the parish office with the name and phone number of the person in need. We are seeking non-perishable food goods, cash donations, and we also have freezer space for a few turkeys. Our collective efforts will ensure that many people will have a good Thanksgiving Day. You can leave your donations at the back of Saint Teresa Church by Sunday, November 19. Thank you in advance for your donations.



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of November 12th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of George, Irene, and Don Tinko by Ed & Irene Weaver and family.

A Family Perspective

The bridesmaids in today's gospel were considered 'foolish' because they let their lamps go out. Don't be foolish. Pay attention to the small acts necessary to keep the flame alive in all your relationships.

*I am the vine, you are the branches, says the Lord;
 whoever remains in me and I in him
 will bear much fruit.
 (John 15:5)*

Happy Heavenly Birthday Fr. Peterson

Monsignor James Peterson was born on November 14, 1923, one of six children to parents Cornelius and Gertrude Ward Peterson. This Tuesday, November 14 would mark his 100th birthday. Fr. Pete was ordained to the priesthood on May 15, 1947. His first assignment was to Blessed Sacrament Church, and then to Gannon College from 1947-1975. He was named pastor of St. Teresa Parish in 1975 and served the faith community with love and dedication. Although his various ministries took him to other places, he was always willing to lend assistance to the people of the Union City, Canadohta Lake, Mageetown, Corry, and Wattsburg area. Fr. James Peterson died on May 13, 2013 and is buried at St. Teresa Cemetery. Happy 100th birthday Fr. Pete!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR FATHER PETE'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

An Evening of Hope

"He Ain't Heavy, He's My Son"

by Justin LeRoy and Barb Emory

A mother and son's perspective on dealing with addiction and the hope of recovery and healing. Come witness God's love and how Maria House Project continues to carry out Fr. Pete's Mission.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH

6PM - 8PM

OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH

2401 W 38TH ST

ERIE, PA 16506

Light refreshments served in the church vestibule following the program





A Letter from our Bishop

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On the weekend of November 18-19, a second collection will be taken up in our parishes for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD).

This annual collection supports the national anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops working to break the cycle of poverty by helping people with low income participate in decisions that affect their lives, families, and communities. CCHD offers a hand up, not a handout. Additionally, CCHD helps to educate the public on poverty related issues, using the perspective of Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching.

CCHD has made over 9,000 grants to support people living in poverty break the cycle of poverty, and over 200 organizations are supported each year through the annual collection taken up in dioceses. Half of the funds from this collection remain in the Diocese of Erie to fight poverty in our local communities. The Gospel message compels us to assist others in finding creative solutions to poverty, so that we are able to break the cycle of dependence and powerlessness in society.

This work is not possible without the support of dedicated Catholics like you. Your contributions are helping to build more merciful and just communities in the Diocese of Erie and throughout the country. Please consider helping us to uphold human dignity and eradicate poverty by giving generously to the second collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie

Make an Investment in Your Future

"A wedding is one day, but marriage is for a lifetime." Invest in your marriage by attending Engagement Encounter. Spend a weekend away from the stress of planning for the wedding and enjoy the special moments of creating your future marriage together. Call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 or email familylife@erieRCD.org. For more information and registration visit <https://www.erieRCD.org/familylifeoffice/>. The next EE weekend is scheduled for January 19-21, 2024, at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie.

Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News

Youth Mass Celebrated this Weekend

We thank those students from our Religious Education programs who volunteered to help in various ministries at the Youth Masses held at both Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes last weekend on Sunday, Nov. 5th. Everyone did a fantastic job! We are happy to have students at Mass sharing their gifts with the parish. Looking forward to our next Youth Mass sometime in the spring.



Joint EDGE Event TODAY

Middle school students are reminded of the EDGE event from 6:00pm—7:30pm on Sunday, Nov. 12 at St. Thomas multipurpose room. Hope everyone will be in attendance.

Submission Deadline for Bulletin Items

Generally, items for publication in our bulletin must be sent to 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. Please note that during holiday seasons, bulletin deadlines are moved up as much as one week earlier, so the earlier you provide the office with your bulletin items the better. 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.

Readings for the week of November 12, 2023

- Sun.: Wisdom 6:12-16 ♦ Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (2b) ♦
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 or 4:13-14 ♦ Matthew 25:1-13
- Mon.: Wisdom 1:1-7 ♦ Psalm 139:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-10 ♦ Luke 17:1-6
- Tues.: Wisdom 2:23—3:9 ♦ Psalm 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 ♦ Luke 17:7-10
- Wed.: Wisdom 6:1-11 ♦ Psalm 82:3-4, 6-7 ♦ Luke 17:11-19
- Thur.: Wisdom 7:22b—8:1 ♦ Psalm 119:89, 90, 91, 130, 135, 175 ♦
Luke 17:20-25
- Fri.: Wisdom 13:1-9 ♦ Psalm 19:2-3, 4-5ab ♦ Luke 17:26-37
- Sat.: Wisdom 18:14-16; 19:6-9 ♦ Psalm 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43 ♦ Luke 18:1-8
- Next Sun.: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 ♦ Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1a) ♦
1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 ♦ Matthew 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21

Pastoral Planning Prayer

Loving God, author of creation,
your spirit pervades and enriches our world.
Through your Son, who shares our humanity,
you have called us to participate in your divine creativity
and to build the kingdom of God here on earth.
Form us, we pray, as one community
under the leadership of our bishop
to serve all the people of this region in your name.

Inspire us to discover new ways
and structures to spread your Gospel.
Open our eyes to see Christ in others,
especially the poor, the sick and the marginalized.
Empower us to be the hands and feet of Christ
in our parishes and communities.
Help us to welcome all into His embrace.

Guide us in our discernment,
as we pray with Pope Francis
for the vision to see new paths of possibility;
for a spirit of mission that invigorates our every effort;
and for the strength to be unafraid of what is new.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Imprimatur, July 25, 2014
The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico JCL
Bishop of Erie

#iGIVECATHOLIC

Your gift could
help our parish
WIN a
CASH PRIZE.



Advanced
Giving Days
Nov. 13—27

#GivingTuesday November 28, 2023

What better way to thank God for His continued blessings than to give back to our parish communities? **Advanced Giving runs from Monday, November 13—Monday, November 27.** You can support St. Thomas & St. Teresa Parishes with an offline gift by check or cash (please place your gift in the #iGiveCatholic envelope or another envelope marked with '#iGiveCatholic') and place it in the collection baskets or mail to the parish office.

Online donations accepted on Tuesday, November 28th by going to erie.igivecatholic.org or find a link on our parish websites.

Our parishes have many needs and we greatly appreciate your financial support. Thank you!