

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

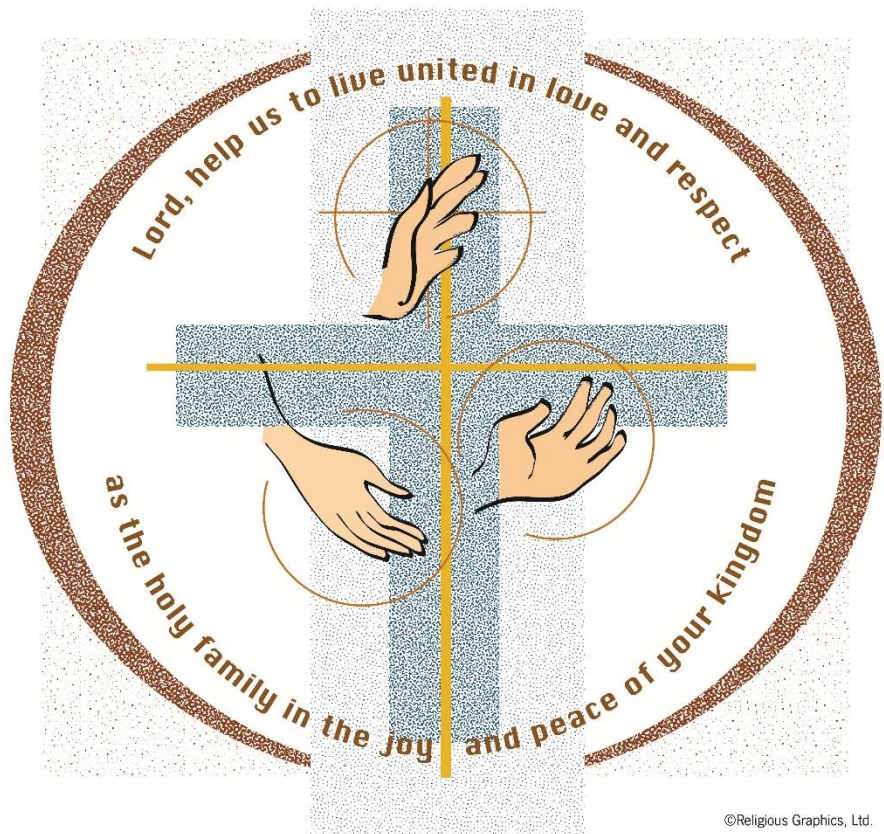
Meets during the school term.

● SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION GROUP

1:00 p.m. Wednesdays (Sept. – May)

● PARISH CENTER RENTAL

Contact Matt Moon: 814-490-1494



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

December 26, 2021

Give thanks to the Lord,
call on His Name!

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 25 The Nativity of the Lord

9:00am (St. Teresa) Intentions of Our Parish Family

Sunday, December 26 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

8:45am (St. Thomas) Motuz & Zaczekiewicz & Johnston Families by Gary, Sue & Joseph Johnston

10:45am (St. Teresa) Steven Paul Mongera by Steve & Cheryl Mongera

Monday, December 27 St. John

NO MASS

Tuesday, December 28 The Holy Innocents

5:15pm (St. Thomas) The Alexander Ross Family by Shirley Skiff

Wednesday, December 29 Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:00am (St. Thomas) John J. Hajec by Len & Ann Clark

Thursday, December 30 Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

NO MASS

Friday, December 31 Seventy Day within the Octave of the Nativity of The Lord

8:00am Herb & Sophie Combs by Family

Saturday, January 1 Epiphany of The Lord

4:30pm (St. Teresa) NO MASS

4:30pm (St. Thomas) Deceased & Living Members of the Vinca & Buccolini Families by Steve & Julie Rushin

Sunday, January 2 Epiphany of The Lord

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

10:45am (St. Teresa) Patricia Arlet by Family

Sacrificial Giving: The offertory last weekend was \$2,918 for St. Teresa which includes \$2,657 in envelopes and \$261 in loose & \$195 for Our Lady of Fatima. Offertory Goal \$3,000

Mass Readings for the Week

Mon 1 John 1:1-4 ♦ John 20:1a, 2-8

Tue. 1 John 1:5 – 2:2 ♦ Matthew 2:13-18

Wed 1 John 2:3-11 ♦ Luke 2:22-35

Thurs. 1 John 2:12-17 ♦ Luke 2:36-40

Fri. 1 John 2:18-21 ♦ John 1:1-18

Sat. Numbers 6:22-27 ♦ Act 13:16-17, 22-25 ♦ Matthew 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Sun. Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 ♦ Galatians 4:4-7 ♦ Luke 2:16-21

Religious Education

12/26 No Class

01/02 No Class

01/09 FP/Enroll/begins

01/16 Class

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 - \$30,297

Amount Paid to Date - \$29,397

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 new pastor makes a determination. This schedule will in no way affect Sunday Masses.

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.eriercd.org/familylifeoffice/ee.html>. We would love to welcome you this January!

Pray for Our Priests: Rev. John Detisch, Rev. Chris M. Hamlett, Rev. Joseph V. Wardanski, Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, Rev. Michael G. DeMartinis, Rev. Cesar Segovia

Our prayers and sympathy to the family of **Louis Nicolia** who recently passed away. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2

10:45

LECTOR

Pat Vallimont

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Ilene Zakovitch

Choir: George Wetzel

ALTAR SERVER

Emma Geer

+Marriage Moment Christmas is past, or is it? [Kwanzaa](https://www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org/index.html) which starts on Dec. 26 is an annual celebration of African-American culture. No matter the color of your skin, the themes of Kwanzaa can deepen your love for each other and continue the joy of Christmas. Some of the Kwanzaa themes are Unity, Collective Work, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, and Faith. <https://www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org/index.html>

Getting married (or know someone who is)?

Engaged couples are invited to attend an Engagement Encounter this January 28-30, 2022. Engagement Encounter is a restful retreat designed to provide engaged couples the tools for a happy, holy, and lasting marriage. Here's what folks have loved in the past: Time as a couple to focus on their relationship, a community that prays and has fun together, a non-judgmental atmosphere, the chance to set a good foundation for their marriage, and the opportunity to retreat from busy wedding details and enjoy each other. Learn more or register at <https://www.eriercd.org/familylifeoffice/ee.html>. We would love to welcome you this January!

A Family Perspective: Today's gospel contains this truth about parenting: "but his parents did not know." One of the reasons parenting is so difficult is because our children don't tell us everything. If the Holy Family had trouble with their teenager, why do we think it will be easier for us?

***Put on Love
(Colossians 3:14)***

A wise man once joked "It's called Holy Matrimony because so many holy martyrs are made there!" When you add children into the mix, the opportunities for "martyrdom" rise exponentially.

Jokes aside, the Holy Family was holy because each member decided to "put on love" – to sacrifice their own preferences and give of themselves to one another. Whether it was Mary and Joseph's patience in the face of anxiety or misunderstanding or Jesus' humble obedient return to Nazareth, their holiness shone through there are of one another (Luke 2:48-49, 51)

As you celebrate the Holy Family today, know that you grow in holiness through your vocation to family life, not in spite of it. God designed us to be part of a family, whether as a spouse, parent, or child. That means you can become holy as you imitate the Holy Family in your own family.

Even more, you are called to build a "civilization of love," as St. John Paul II said in his Letter to Families (13). It's a civilization that starts with that foundational building block of the family and reaches outward. It grows as each member gives themselves to God and then I love, give of themselves to other people. St. Paul said that when we're faithful to our vocation, whether as a married person or as a single person, priest or religious, our witness of love affects everyone around us.

So take some time today to reflect on how your family can help you grow in holiness. Think about how you can put on the virtues St. Paul describes in today's second reading and, over them all, love (Colossians 3:12-14). And then allow yourself to dream of how your decisions to love might just change civilization.

"Mary and Joseph, pray that your son, Jesus will help me to be holy in the vocation He has given me.

A very special thank you to **PORT FARMS** for donating and delivering the live Christmas Trees for our parish decorations

A Message from Our Pastor

A Blessed Christmas to you and yours! What a blessing it is for me to celebrate my 1st Christmas with you!!! And a Christmas “thank you” to all who have made this celebration possible – to everyone who came out to decorate: to Music Ministry; to our Deacons and all who stepped up to minister as Servers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion; to our Parish Staff who continue to devote themselves wholeheartedly to the good of our Parishes – God Bless all of them!

If you are visiting us for Christmas, I hope that you found in our parishes a sense of welcome and hospitality that is so very close to our heart. If you are a member of our parishes and maybe haven't been here for awhile, or if you are interested in becoming a member, I truly hope that you prayerfully consider joining us each and every weekend. It is my sincerest belief that our Parishes of Sts. Thomas and Teresa have a lot to offer you, and I equally believe that you have a lot to offer as well. We hope to see you back again soon! Please know, if there is ever anything I can do for you, please never ever hesitate to contact me. Give a call or send an email, and I would always be happy to talk with you about anything. I am still settling in here myself, so I'll get back to you as soon as I can figure out my voicemail!! (I'm kidding. I don't even have voicemail...or an office!!! So, we pray for patience!)

Another “thank you” to everyone who has contributed to our community efforts to help make Christmas a little brighter for some of our neighbors. Whether through donations of gifts, money, food, or even a kind visit with a neighbor. It's a good reminder for all of us of our mission to carry on the work of Jesus. The needs of our communities are so great, and we will be ramping up our efforts to reach and help those in need- within our parishes and outside of them. So why do we do this...because Jesus tells us to, and as Parishes we must be about living the Corporal Works of Mercy in our daily lives – as one priest put it, “if a Parish is not doing anything for the poor then it has no reason to exist.” As so we respond as Jesus commands us and leads us through the Holy Spirit. But this is also a work of our entire community, reaching out in compassion to those in need – men, women, and children, families, the elderly, the abandoned and the forgotten who need to know that they are loved – and so our

common humanity implores us to act. I hope and pray that all of us will be inspired to get involved in ramping up these ministries – somehow. Keep an eye on our Parish Websites and Facebook pages, call the office, ask around –but consider this your invitation to get involved with all that we can do for the benefit of those in need in our midst .

We will also be working on our social media footprint in the new year – with new and updated ways to stay in touch and to know what's going on – and to get involved in the life our Parishes too. And as always, if you are gifted to help with those things, please let us know that too! It would be great to be able to livestream our Masses too!

None of us knows what the new year holds for us, but this Christmas and always, may we truly enter into the life that Jesus call us to – a life of fidelity, compassion, forgiveness and mercy. That's a life that calls all of us to grow and change! But through it all, whatever adventures may come our way, may the Peace that God alone can give come to dwell in our world, our families, and within our own hearts. God help us all! – Fr. Matt

A huge thanks to all of the people who got tags from the Gifts for Kids tree and brought wonderful gifts and wrapped them up so nice! We were able to help many local families. Thank you too, to the religious education students who carried all the gifts over to the center for pick up and to the high school students for helping sort all the gifts(saving many hours of time)! Every tag was returned on time with a great gift! Thank you!! Also, thank you to Cheryl Nothum for all of the time that she spent on this project.

The Basics

Imagine for a moment that you were injured in an accident and you had to learn to walk and talk again. It would be excruciating. Each half step, each syllable, requiring all your concentration and effort. And then, there is the mental anguish of not-knowing if you will every walk again or talk again. Recovering from any trauma is like learning to walk again. It is slow and can excruciatingly painful and difficult. Be patient with yourself. Be gentle with yourself. Celebrate every advance no matter how small.

HAVE A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR

