



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

October 15, 2023



28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find." - Mt 22:9

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

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

PRAYER: (Allow me to continue to reflect on prayer this week and in the weeks to follow)

There are many different ways of using the Bible in Christian prayer. Scriptural prayer does not follow a "one-size-fits-all" model. Some methods may be easier or more beneficial for certain people, while other methods might be more appealing or better for other people. Some methods are more active (concentrating on the events and/or the words of the text), while others are more receptive (letting God speak to you). Some methods are more vocal (speaking words or singing music), while others more interior (reflecting silently). Some methods are more rational (thinking with your mind), while others are more creative (using your imagination).

What Is Prayer? - Prayer is basically RELATIONSHIP and COMMUNICATION with God:

The English word "prayer" in Latin might translate as "request, entreaty, prayer." But it should be much more than just saying "gimme, gimme"! Many related biblical words: pray, ask, beg, thank, praise, bless, adore, sing hymns, etc. Consider a close human relationship (with a spouse or best friend): We not only speak with one another, but also listen to each other (one mouth, two ears!). We not only communicate verbally, but also spend time together in many other ways. We focus not just on ourselves, our needs & desires, but even more on the other person.

Types of Prayer:

Speaking to God: Verbal Prayer (A.C.T.S.+I.)

Adoration – Give praise and glory to God for all His love and wondrous works (Ps 148-150)

Contrition – With a penitent heart, ask God to forgive all your sins and failings (Ps 51, 123)

Thanksgiving – Give thanks to God for all gifts and blessings you have received (Ps 100, 136)

Supplication – Petition God for whatever you need, big or small, in humility and trust (Ps 5, 17)

Intercession – Pray also for others, for their physical, material, and spiritual needs (Ps 1, 122)

(Another popular mnemonic for the first four is P.P.P.T. = Praise, Penance, Petition, Thanksgiving)

Listening to God: Non-Verbal or Not-only-Verbal Prayer

Natural World – God's goodness & love are revealed to us in the beauty and marvels of nature.

Human Life – God can speak to us through art, music, literature, and everyday conversations.

Sacred Scripture – God's Word teaches and inspires us, comforts and challenges us each day.

Interior Silence – God can also encounter us in the stillness of our hearts, with wordless love.

Terminology for Prayer: (caution: precise meanings vary from one spiritual tradition to another)

Individual (private) & Communal (small-group) Prayer:

Vocal Prayer (oratio)

Formal or formula prayers: Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Rosary, Novenas, etc.

Spontaneous prayer: speaking freely to God, as to a close friend

Intercessory prayer: praying on behalf of others, or asking the saints to pray for us

(continued) ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡



Sunday, October 15

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

10:00a.m. †Jerry Adams by Diana Adams and Family (St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, October 16

8:00a.m. †Priscilla Kozik by an altar server (St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, October 17

8:00a.m. †Deceased & Living Members of the Vinca and Buccolini Families by Julie & Steve Rushin (St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, October 18

8:00a.m. †Joseph Jawdy, Sr. by Joe & Janet Jawdy (St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, October 19

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

Friday, October 20

8:00a.m. †Katherine Malthaner by a friend (St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, October 21

4:30p.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes (St. Teresa, Union City)

Sunday, October 22

8:00a.m. †Dan Ahl by Nancy Madden (St. Thomas, Corry)

10:00a.m. †Diana Strefeler by the Hanlin Family (St. Teresa, Union City)

Mental Prayer (meditation)

Reading: Bible or other spiritual writings

Meditating: reflecting on the meaning of texts

Imagining: putting yourself "into the scene"

Contemplative Prayer (contemplatio)

"Centering Prayer": repeating words or phrases (like a mantra); e.g. Abba, Jesus, God is Love; or the Jesus Prayer: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy on me, a sinner"

A.k.a. mystical prayer; spiritual awareness; wordless adoration; prayer of the heart; etc.

Liturgical (official, public) Prayer:

Eucharist / Mass: the "source & summit" of Christian life

Other Sacraments & Rites & Blessings

Liturgy of the Hours / "Divine Office"

"Spiritual Exercises" of St. Ignatius Loyola

"...by this name of Spiritual Exercises is meant every way of examining one's conscience, of meditating, of contemplating, of praying vocally and mentally, and of performing other spiritual actions, as will be said later. For as strolling, walking and running are bodily exercises, so every way of preparing and disposing the soul to rid itself of all the disordered tendencies, and, after it is rid, to seek and find the Divine Will as to the management of one's life for the salvation of the soul, is called a Spiritual Exercise." (Spir. Ex. #1).

- Fr. Tom

St. Thomas Parish News

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: Oct. 8, 2023

Amount in Envelopes: (74)\$3,439.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 174 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 100)
Loose\$252.00
Online Giving (9)\$295.00
Total Offertory Income\$3,986.00

Average Weekly Expenses\$7,656.00
Weekly Average Shortfall\$(-3,670.00)

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.

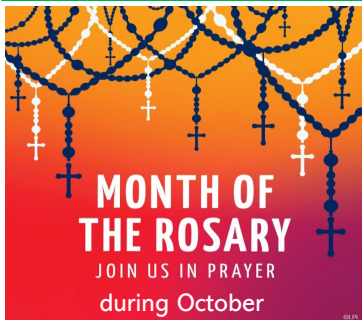
Thank you.



Please know that you can now give all your donations online by visiting our parish website at www.StThomasTheApostle.Church and click 'Donate Online'.

St. Thomas Altar Rosary Society Meeting

Ladies of the Altar Rosary Society are reminded of their meeting on Wednesday, October 18th at 1:00pm in the multipurpose room at St. Thomas. We will be collecting the annual dues from all members at this meeting. Hope you will join us!



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 October 15th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Gerri Cragg by the Altar Rosary Society.

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING



Recent Baptism

With joy, we welcome into the family of God and the Church, **Owen Craig English**, son of Hunter English and Amanda (Whitaker) English who was baptized on October 8, 2023 at Saint Thomas Church. May God pour out His blessings on him, his parents, and godparents.



Thanks to the Knights for Repairing our Sign

St. Thomas Parish wishes to thank the Corry Knights of Columbus, especially Steve Weis & John C. Wilson who were project leaders, for repairs to the marquee sign in front of the parking lot at the church. The sign was damaged after it was apparently hit by a vehicle. The team of Knights put in many hours to make the repairs so the sign is usable once again. They plan to have a low post installed in front of the sign itself, hopefully to prevent future damage to it in the event of another accident. We are grateful to the Knights for all their good works to our parish and beyond!

Knights of Columbus Food Drive Collection

The Corry Knights of Columbus food drive to benefit the Corry Food Pantry runs now until the Thanksgiving holiday. Please place non-perishable food items in the marked bins at the entrances of St. Thomas Church. Thank you for your support!



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: Oct. 7 & 8, 2023
Amount in Envelopes: (47) \$1,596.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 110)
Loose \$327.00
Continuing the Vision (1) \$50.00
Online Giving (1) \$30.00
Total Offertory Income \$2,003.00

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: Oct. 8, 2023
Amount in Envelopes: (8) \$140.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 22)

St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income \$2,143.00
Average Weekly Expenses \$4,777.00
Weekly Average Shortfall \$(-2,634.00)

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



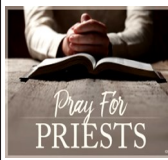
Please know that you can now give all your donations online by visiting our parish website at www.st-teresa-unioncity-org OR by scanning the QR code here.



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of October 15th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Jerry Adams by Diana Adams and family.

A Family Perspective

Today's gospel speaks about "unworthy wedding guests." What makes a "worthy" guest? Presence and presents are not enough. The greatest gift we can give is support to the couple as they voyage through life together because marriage naturally contains within it the fields of disappointment. Think of the weddings you have attended. Have you been a "worthy guest?"



Rev. Leo Gallina, Rev. Jason Feigh, Rev. Msgr. Andrew Karg, Pray for Vocations, Rev. Thomas Fialkowski, Rev. Msgr. John Swoger, Rev. Obinna Paschal Ezeihuoma, and Pray for the Pastoral Planning in the Erie Diocese.

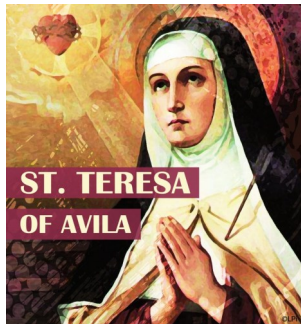


Our prayers & sympathy to the family and friends of **Sandra K. Downor Hartel** who passed away from Saint Teresa Parish. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Our prayers & sympathy to the family and friends of **Patrick Vallimont** who passed away from Saint Teresa Parish. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Celebrating St. Teresa of Avila's Feast Day on October 15th

St. Teresa of Avila is one of the four female Doctors of the Church. Known for her many mystical experiences, she is often depicted with an arrow through her heart. In her autobiography, she wrote that she had a vision of an angel piercing her heart. When her incorrupt body was exhumed in 1582, her heart was removed from her body, and it was observed to have a hole in it. We honor her this weekend as she is also the patron saint of our parish. - St. Teresa of Avila—Pray for Us!



St. Teresa Cemetery News

This is to inform members of our parish that the water will be turned off in St. Teresa's Cemetery at the end of October. Water is turned off annually due to the changing of seasons and the weather getting colder. Thank you.

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. Thank you in advance for your donations.



St. Teresa's Annual Harvest Moon Card Party



Sponsored By
ST. TERESA'S
 Rosary-Altar Society

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



A Letter from our Bishop

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On October 22, World Mission Sunday is observed throughout the Church. World Mission Sunday reminds us each year to focus on the essential work of evangelization that is still ongoing throughout the world. Taking up this year's theme, "Hearts on fire, feet on the move" Pope Francis invites us to kindle the fire of Christ's love in our hearts and to actively share our faith.

The World Mission Sunday collection assists the Holy Father to build up the Church in over 1,100 dioceses and territories that are too young and/or too poor to sustain themselves. Offerings support the formation of seminarians and religious men and women, assist in the construction of schools and orphanages and enable missionaries to build churches in remote and resource-limited areas.

For many years dioceses in the United States benefitted from this collection while we were still mission territory. In fact, the Diocese of Fairbanks, Alaska, received its final support as a mission diocese just last year. The annual Mission collection helps missionary dioceses until they can stand on their own feet and become independent.

As our nation has benefitted from this support in the past, may we now support those areas of the world where the Catholic faith is blossoming. I invite you to please pray for the work of the missions, and support this work as generously as you can.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
+ *Lawrence T. Persico*

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

Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News

Classes Resume this Week

We will be holding classes at both St. Thomas and St. Teresa this week for Religious Education students after having a break last weekend. Students in Corry meet for class on Sunday mornings from 8:45am until 10:00am in the multipurpose room at the former school building. Union City students attend class on Sundays from 10:45am until 12:00pm (noon) at St. Teresa Parish Center, including the Purpose program for Confirmation students. Purpose/Confirmation class for students at Saint Thomas will be on Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm until 8:00pm. Refer to the Religious Education Calendar for scheduled class dates. Thank you for the opportunity to teach the Catholic faith to your children.



"Question of the Week" - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: Why is it important for you to do what Jesus asks of you?

Question for Youth: Each week we are invited to participate in Mass. When you are at Mass, how well do you really participate? How could you be more present in heart, mind, and spirit?

Question for Adults: Using Jesus' parable as your starting point, describe in your own words who will be welcome and why they will be welcome, at the eternal banquet of God.

*I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and
you fill me with the joy of salvation. (Psalm 32)*

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.

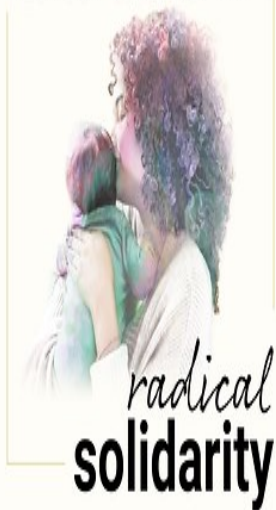
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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.

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!

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

**OCTOBER
RESPECT LIFE MONTH**



**PRAYER FOR
RADICAL SOLIDARITY**

O Blessed Mother, at the angel's word you went in haste to the aid of your cousin Elizabeth. Although pregnant yourself, you placed her needs before your own.

By your example of radical solidarity, teach us to reverence and protect those in need, without conditions or expectations. Ask your Son to give us unflinching determination to witness to the profound dignity of every person, at every stage and in every circumstance.

In that first Eucharistic procession, you carried Jesus to Elizabeth in her time of need. Obtain for us the grace to bring Christ to any expectant mother who is alone and afraid.

May our support help them to find hope and strength in the Lord. Amen.



Carl Heinrich Bloch, 'Besøget hos Elizabeth' / Mary's Visit to Elizabeth, 1866. Photographed by Hans Petersen. Used and cropped with permission from The Museum of National History at Frederiksborg Castle. All rights reserved. © 2023, USCCB, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved. To order, visit store.respectlife.org.

Readings for the week of October 15, 2023

Sun.: Isaiah 25:6-10a ♦ Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (6cd) ♦ Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 ♦ Matthew 22:1-14 or 22:1-10
Mon.: Romans 1:1-7 ♦ Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 ♦ Luke 11:29-32
Tues.: Romans 1:16-25 ♦ Psalm 19:2-3, 4-5 ♦ Luke 11:37-41
Wed.: 2 Timothy 4:10-17b ♦ Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 ♦ Luke 10:1-9
Thur.: Romans 3:21-30 ♦ Psalm 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab ♦ Luke 11:47-54
Fri.: Romans 4:1-8 ♦ Psalm 32:1b-2, 5, 11 ♦ Luke 12:1-7
Sat.: Romans 4:13, 16-18 ♦ Psalm 105:6-7, 8-9, 42-43 ♦ Luke 12:8-12
Next Sun.: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 ♦ Psalm 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10 (7b) ♦ 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b ♦ Matthew 22:15-2