

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

9 Third Avenue
Union City, Pennsylvania 16438
Office: 438-3408

Email: stteresa@verizon.net
www.st-teresa-unioncity.org
mstockton@eriercd.org

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



First Sunday of Advent

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

The First Sunday of the Season of Advent

November 28, 2021

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul!

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 27 First Sunday of Advent

4:30pm (St. Teresa) NO MASS

4:30pm (St. Thomas) Rod, Marilyn & Mike Knowlton & Marty Roehrig by Lana, Punky & Jenna Messina

Sunday, November 28 First Sunday of Advent

8:45am (St. Thomas) George & Helen Groner by George & Carol Groner

10:45am (St. Teresa) Intentions of Our Parish Family

Monday, November 29 Advent Weekday

8:00am Ann Tudorache by Ilene Zakovitch

Tuesday, November 30 St. Andrew

8:00am Communion Service

8:00am (St. Thomas) Health for Peg Elchynski by Family

Wednesday, December 1 Advent Weekday

8:00am Communion Service

5:15pm (St. Thomas) Deceased Members Knights of Columbus by Knights Corry Council #425

Thursday, December 2 Advent Weekday

8:00am Steve Mongera Sr. by Dorothy Mongera

Friday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier

8:00am Communion Service

8:00am (St. Thomas) Deceased & Living Members of the Rushin & Hennings Families by Steve & Julie Rushin

Saturday, December 4 Second Sunday of Advent

4:30pm (St. Teresa) James Dodson II by Mary Brown & Jean Callovini

4:30pm (St. Thomas) NO MASS

Sunday, December 5 Second Sunday of Advent

8:45am (St. Thomas) Helen & Jack Armitage by Julia Zulovich, Shelly & Todd

10:45am (St. Teresa) Bernard & Helen Gluvna by Sigmund & Mary Ann Bronowski

Sacrificial Giving: The offertory last weekend was \$895 for St. Teresa which includes \$840 in envelopes and \$55 in loose & \$120 for Our Lady of Fatima. Offertory Goal \$3,000

We welcome Fr. Matt Strickenberger as our new Pastor and look forward to his leadership going forward.

Mass Readings for the Week

Mon Isaiah 2:1-5 ♦Matthew 8:5-11

Tue. Romans 10:9-18♦Matthew 4:18-22

Wed Isaiah 25:6-10a♦Matthew 15:29-37

Thurs. 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

Sun. Baruch 5:1-9♦ Phillipians 1:4-6, 8-11♦Luke 3:1-6

Religious Education

11/28 Youth Mass 9/10th (Children's Liturgy)

12/5 Class

12/12 Class

12/19 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 - \$29,997

Amount Paid to Date - \$28,752

Reminder – Please make all CSA checks payable to St. Teresa Church

JUST A REMINDER – There will be Saturday Masses during the month of December at St. Teresa Parish but there will be no Saturday Masses at St. Thomas Corry. Saturday Masses in January will be said in Corry but not in Union City. We will continue alternating going forward until the new pastor makes a determination. This schedule will in no way affect Sunday Masses.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

SCHEDULES FOR DECEMBER 4 & 5

4:30

10:45

LECTORS

Pat Brown

Terry Derner

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Rowena Watts

Roger Pelc

Choir: Paul Beer

ALTAR SERVERS

Colton Boyd

Jesse Nordin

The Special Intentions of Pope Francis

Father of all mercies, during this month of November, we pray for every person who suffers from depression. May all who suffer from depression or burn-out find support and a light that opens them up to life.

Pray for Our Priests Rev. Lawrence Richards, Rev. Thomas M. Aleksa, Rev. James J. Kennelley, Rev. Joseph Kalinowski, Very Rev. Msgr. Edward M. Lohse, V.G Very Rev. Christopher M. Barnes, V. F. Rev. John P. Beal

Marriage Moment: "...on earth nations will be perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves..." (Luke 21: 25) Whether you interpret this biblically or connect it with what scientists are saying about climate change, bad weather can be frightening. Agree on one step to take to befriend planet earth this week.

Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! As a parish, we raised \$96 to support those on the margins who live in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit www.uscch.org/nationalcollections and click "How to "Give" under "Resources"

Gifts for Kids – Again this year we will be having the Gifts for Kids project. This benefits local kids only. Names will be on a tree in the church with the information to buy the requested clothing item for a child. (This information will include the child's sex, size and item wanted) In the past we have used girls and boys silhouettes. We will be using "bear" cutouts for both boys and girls this year. To participate, please take a tag from the tree. Buy the desired gift. Wrap it or use a gift bag. Please include the tag on the outside of the gift. Small toys or/and candy may be included inside the gift. **All gifts** must be returned by Sunday, **December 19 at noon**. If you have any questions, please call Cheryl Nothum at 873-9551 after 3pm on weekdays or after 9am on weekends. If anyone knows of any child who is not being helped by Union City Family Services and needs an outfit from our project, please call Cheryl Nothum at 814-873-9551 with the child's age, size and type of request. Please do it soon so that the tag can be put on the tree. No requests will be taken after December 1. Again, thank you in advance for your generosity!

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!

Angels to watch over me

*Guardian Angel from heaven so bright,
Watching beside me to lead me aright,
Fold the wings 'round me and guard me with love.
Softly sing songs to me of Heaven above.
Amen*

If you live in the area of Route 6 and would be willing to give a parishioner a ride to Mass on Sunday, please contact the parish office for their name and telephone number.

Change something

Why are we so complacent, even indifferent, about our own lives?

Many years ago, I heard a powerful story from a friend in Australia. The story had an immediate impact on me, but it took on bold new meaning during this time in my life.

Clare grew up in Australia before moving to the United States and getting married. Each year she saved every penny she could to go home to Australia for a month with her son. During that month, she would visit her relatives; she especially looked forward to spending time with her brother John.

John loves his sister and would do anything for her. But year after year, the sister who returned was different from the year before...and very different from the sister he remembered growing up with. After several years John decided he needed to do something or say something but he didn't know what. On the last day of Clare's visit that year, he invited her to take a drive with him. They drove around for a while talking about lots of things, and then John pulled the car over to the side of the road.

Turning to his sister, he told her how much he loved her, that he wanted her to be happy, and he shared how he was growing more concerned each year with how her life was unfolding. Clare's eyes began to fill with tears, "You just don't seem happy, sis!" he said. "You are less and less of a person each year." Clare just sat there as a single tear escaped her left eye, ran down her cheek, and splashed on her thigh just below the line of her summer dress.

"You deserve to be happy, sis!" John continued and Clare nodded knowingly. "I don't know what to do or say. I just wish I could help you, but I think this is something you have to do for yourself."

Clare finally spoke saying, "I just feel stuck, lost, angry.."

"I know you do," John empathized with her. "Just promise me you'll do something different this year. I know Mom and Dad and your friends all have their opinions about what you should do, but I am not going to get into that. Only you can decide what it's going to be. Just change something. I'm not going to tell you what you should change. Just promise me you will change something. Take some time to think about what you need to do and then, just flip that switch. Promise me."

Clare nodded and cried some more, and now John began to cry too. But the conversation itself had already flipped a switch for Clare. She knew what she needed to do, and a very different Clare returned to Australia the following year.

Now it is your turn, and mine. Promise me you will change something. There is no need to be rash or impulsive, but promise me when you work out what it is you will flip that switch. This is a new springtime in your life. It's time for a new path. Have the courage to make the change flip the switch, and you will look back a year from now with awe and amazement.

Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from...the anxieties of daily life. (Luke 21:34)

Jesus' warning about anxiety is one of the best pieces of advice we could receive right now. We have all heard the statistic that people are more likely to feel worried or depressed during the month of December than at any other time of the year. The "anxieties of daily life" seem amplified as the holidays approach, and all the emphasis on parties and family gatherings can make some people feel more stressed or isolated. It's not surprising to find our hearts feeling a little "drowsy" as we begin the season of Advent (Luke 21:34).

But advent isn't meant to be a season of anxiety. It's meant to be a season of expectation and hope. The Lord is near! He is coming to establish His kingdom! For all the warnings Jesus gives in today's Gospel, and for all the dark and foreboding images of the end that He portrays, His promise outweighs them all: "Your redemption is at hand" (Luke 21:28).

So Jesus warns us to guard our hearts so that we can experience our "redemption" more deeply this Advent. He warns us not to let anything burden us so much that it keeps us from turning to Him in prayer or talking with Him during the day. He knows that if we keep Him at a distance, for whatever reason, we run the risk of becoming spiritually drowsy—dull to His Spirit and unable to sense His presence.

There is so much that your heavenly Father want us to give you during this time of grace" inner healing, a deeper sense of peace or joy, a powerful encounter with His mercy, and wisdom and guidance for your life. If you can spend just a few minutes each day with the Mass readings and meditations, you'll be opening your heart to these gifts and more.

Don't let Advent slip away. Your redemption is at hand. Stay awake so that you can receive it!

"Jesus, help me to seek You this Advent!"

