



Saint Thomas the Apostle Church
203 W. Washington Street
Corry, PA 16407

THE PARISH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE AND ITS MISSION ST. TERESA OF AVILA



Saint Teresa of Avila Church
9 Third Avenue
Union City, PA 16438

May 24, 2026



PENTECOST SUNDAY

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." - Jn 20:21

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
Faith Formation Administrator*
business@stparish.org

Susan Johnston
Secretary
secretary@stparish.org

Carol Huffman
Bookkeeper
finance@stparish.org

Michelle Demeter
*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 Church
www.st-teresa-unioncity.org

Parish Office
203 W. Washington Street
Corry, PA 16407
814-663-3041

Parish Office Hours
Monday: 12:30pm—3:30pm
Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:30am—3:30pm
Thursday: 8:30am—12:00pm (noon)
Friday: Closed

Message from the Pastor

MEMORIAL DAY MASS: There will be a Mass on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, in the chapel at St. Thomas Cemetery at 9:00am. All are welcome to attend.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK JUNE 13 & 14: We will celebrate the sacrament of the anointing of the sick after all the Masses on the weekend of June 13 & 14. See the article below for those who are eligible to receive the Sacrament.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: A brief review of the sacrament and those who are eligible to receive it may be needed. This sacrament is meant to help a person cope with their illness and confront the limitations that being human imposes on our souls: our hopes, our dreams, our desire to be meaningful. Sickness does not just affect our bodies but also our spirits and our attitudes. It is intended to heal the anguish of the soul.

“Anointing of the Sick,’ is not a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death. Hence, as soon as any one of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time for that person to receive this sacrament has certainly already arrived.” (Constitution on the Liturgy, Vatican Council II)

What might constitute “in danger of death from sickness or old age (serious illness)? Or who is eligible to receive the sacrament?

- A person who becomes ill and the illness becomes more serious;
- A person may be anointed before surgery whenever a serious illness is the reason for the surgery;
- Elderly people may be anointed if they have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present;
- Sick children are to be anointed if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this sacrament. In case of doubt whether a child has reached the use of reason, the sacrament is to be conferred;
- Some types of mental illness are now classified as serious. Those who are judged to have a serious mental illness and who would be strengthened by the sacrament may be anointed (depression, paranoia, etc...).
- **In case of doubt as to whether the illness is serious or not, the person should be anointed.**

LAWN FESTIVAL CHAIRPERSON: Matt Moon has chaired the Lawn Festival for a number of years and is stepping down as chairperson. We are grateful to Matt for all he has done over the years to keep the Festival going. We are looking for someone who might be interested in taking over the position of chairperson for the Lawn Festival, or someone who may be interested in fostering a new summer fundraiser. Please contact Fr. Tom if you are interested.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Another year has come and gone in the Religious Education of our children. Thanks to Missy Silka for coordinating our program and to all the catechists who are so generous with their time and the witness of their faith to instruct our children. A special thanks to those who worked with our young people preparing for Sacraments: Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation. Thanks to everyone for making this such a successful year.

OCTOBER COUNT: Every year during the month of October parishes in the diocese of Erie count the number of people in attendance at Mass. Those numbers have provided a snapshot of Mass attendance for years. As the diocese continues its Pastoral Planning efforts, those numbers become increasingly important in decisions about which parishes stay open and which close.



Sunday, May 24—Pentecost Sunday

- 8:00a.m. †Ronald Triscuit by Vicki, Fran, Marty, and Evan Melnichak (St. Thomas, Corry)
- 11:00a.m. †Diana Hanlin Strefeler by her daughter, Becky Boleratz (St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, May 25—Memorial Day

- 9:00a.m. People of the Parish (St. Thomas Cemetery Chapel)

Tuesday, May 26

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

Wednesday, May 27

- 8:00a.m. †Eileen Farver by Richard & Jean Farber (St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, May 28

No Masses or Services at both Sts. Thomas & Teresa today.

Friday, May 29

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

Saturday, May 30

- 4:30p.m. †Catalfu Family and Flora Catalfu by James Catalfu (St. Thomas, Corry)

Sunday, May 31—The Most Holy Trinity

- 8:00a.m. People of the Parish (St. Thomas, Corry)
- 11:00a.m. †George Tinko by Irene Weaver (St. Teresa, Union City)

I reported back in October that our numbers remained the same from the year before, almost exactly. The diocese is encouraging people to look at these numbers and the accompanying commentary to see where and why cuts need to be made given the number of priests available. You can find this information at the following website: <https://eriercd.org/octobercount.html>.

CONFIRMATION: I have been reflecting on the Sacraments. So far, I have looked at Baptism, Reconciliation, and Eucharist. Allow me to begin to reflect on Confirmation on this feast of Pentecost. Confirmation is a sacrament without a home. What do I mean by that. Confirmation is a sacrament that has moved around at various places in the history of the Church. Some people may remember being confirmed in 8th grade, others as juniors in high school, some dioceses confirm in 3rd grade, our Byzantine and Eastern brothers and sisters confirm at Baptism, other people are confirmed as adults in the RCIA or OCIA process. The sacrament of Confirmation has a long and complex history. That might be a topic for another day.

Confirmation is ultimately about receiving the Holy Spirit. We receive the Holy Spirit in Baptism. Confirmation is meant to be a strengthening of the Holy Spirit we received in Baptism. In Baptism we were immersed in the waters with the Words, “I baptized you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” We are immersed or incorporated into the mystery of God’s life as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We are immersed or incorporated into the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus that frees us from sin and gives us a new birth through water and the Holy Spirit.

Continued (on shared page 4) ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡

St. Thomas News



PRAYER LINE... call: Gerrie (814-665-6944), Pam (814-664-7459), or Diane (814-882-6806).
 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 May 24th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Steve Mennen by George Groner.



Rev. Joseph Dougherty, Rev. Stanley Swacha, Rev. Scott Detisch, Rev. Daniel Hoffman, Rev. Mark Solomon, and also please *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*

Knights of Columbus, Council #425 Holds Degree Ceremony

Congratulations to the newest members of the Knights of Columbus Council #425 who earned their 3rd Degree during a ceremony held at St. Teresa Church on May 18, 2026.



Picture in front are new Knights: Dick Hasbrouck, Joseph Johnston, James Banister, and Jack Bridgham

Parish Wedding Anniversary Recognition

Due to the Diocesan Anniversary Celebrations being cancelled, our parish wishes to recognize those couples from St. Thomas and St. Teresa who are celebrating milestone (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th) wedding anniversaries this year. **The recognition will be at weekend Masses on August 8 & 9.** Couples are asked to call the parish office and let us know the number of year's married and which Mass time they will attend.



Diocese of Erie: Visit the diocese's website at www.eriecnd.org for information, news and resources about our Catholic faith and much more.



Saturday Morning Rosary

All are invited to join us on Saturday mornings at Saint Thomas Church at 9:00am as we pray The Rosary together in community.

Cemetery Gravestone Cleaning Project

Gravestone cleaning is offered on a limited scale for ST. THOMAS & ST. ELIZABETH CEMETERIES ONLY. Rates range from \$50—\$150, but because each stone is unique, pricing may vary. We are taking orders for those who are interested. Please contact the parish office.

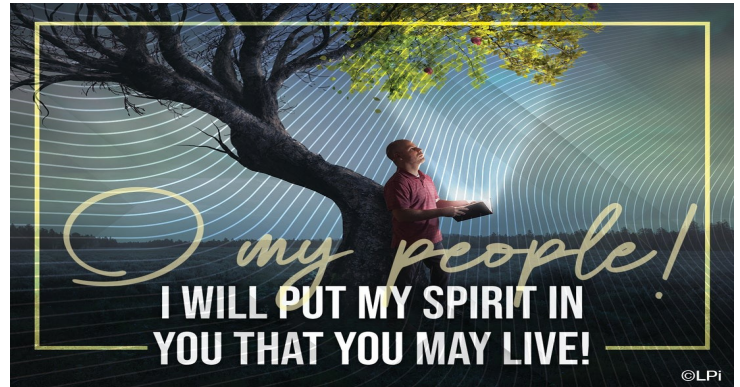


"Question of the Week" - Pentecost Sunday

Question for Children: When have you heard your inner voice or conscience guiding you to do what is right?

Question for Youth: On Pentecost, the apostles were able to speak in a language that everyone could understand. As a young person, you have your own way of communicating Jesus' importance in your life. How will you make Jesus more known to others in your own way this week?

Question for Adults: Share about times when you felt the power of the Spirit, giving you the right words, giving you insight into a dilemma, or in other ways.



Our Parish Office is **CLOSED** on Monday, May 25—Memorial Day. Sorry for any inconvenience. We will re-open on Tuesday, May 26.

Once you were 'no people' but now you are God's people; 'you had not received mercy' but now you have received mercy.
 1 Peter 2:10

Garden Beds and Flowers at St. Thomas Church

THANK YOU: We wish to thank Lois and her team of volunteers who help spread mulch in the gardens around St. Thomas Church. We especially wish to thank the men of the Knights of Columbus, Council #425 who came to help with this project, even bringing their small tractors to help get the job done.

Garden Flowers: Donations are being accepted toward the flower gardens at St. Thomas Church. Please place your donation in an envelope marked "**St. Thomas Garden Flowers**" and put it in the collection basket. Annuals and perennials will be purchased for around the church grounds. Thank you for your generosity.



Turn Your Everyday Shopping into Support for Our Parish!

We're excited to introduce online gift cards through **RaiseRight!** Simply purchase gift cards for stores you already shop at, and a percentage of each purchase goes directly back to support our church.

It's an easy way to give back while you shop for groceries, gas, dining, and more!

Interested? Just scan the QR code for more information, visit the website www.raiseright.com (enrollment code: **JWFHT6MPCX7L**), or download the app and see how easy it is to give back!

We'll be sharing more information (and a quick demo!) soon — so stay tuned! In the meantime, questions? No problem! Give Missy a call at the parish office. We hope you will help support us!



St. Teresa News

Readings for the week of May 24, 2026

Sun.: *Vigil*: Genesis 11:1-9 or Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ezekiel 37:1-14
or Joel 3:1-5 ♦ Psalm 104:1-2, 24 and 35, 27-28, 29b-30 ♦
Romans 8:22-27 ♦ John 7:37-39 or,
for the Extended Vigil: Genesis 11:1-9 ♦ Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b ♦
Ezekiel 37:1-14/Joel 3:1-5 ♦ Romans 8:22-27 ♦ John 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11 ♦ Psalm 104:1 and 24, 29-30, 31 and 34 ♦
1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 ♦ John 20:19-23
Mon.: Genesis 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14 ♦ Psalm 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7 ♦
John 19:25-34
Tues.: 1 Peter 1:10-16 ♦ Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 ♦ Mark 10:28-31
Wed.: 1 Peter 1:18-25 ♦ Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 ♦ Mark 10:32-45
Thur.: 1 Peter 2:2-5, 9-12 ♦ Psalm 100:2, 3, 4, 5 ♦ Mark 10:46-52
Fri.: 1 Peter 4:7-13 ♦ Psalm 96:10, 11-12, 13 ♦ Mark 11:11-26
Sat.: Jude 17, 20b-25 ♦ Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6 ♦ Mark 11:27-33
Next Sun.: Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9 ♦ Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 ♦
2 Corinthians 13:11-13 ♦ John 3:16-18



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of May 24th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Bill Flynn by Judy Flynn.

Family Perspective

Like the disciples in today's gospel, there are times when we shut the doors of our hearts to people or events, creating emotional distance. However, permanent distancing is harmful and prevents us from experiencing the PEACE that Jesus offers us today.

Lawn Festival Chairperson Needed

We are seeking a volunteer to serve as chairperson for the St. Teresa Lawn Festival. This important event brings our parish community together for fellowship, fun, and fundraising, and we are looking for someone willing to help lead and coordinate the festival efforts. Responsibilities include organizing committees, coordinating volunteers, and helping oversee festival planning with guidance from the past coordinator. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Fr Tom. *Your time and talents would be greatly appreciated!*

PARISH
FESTIVAL



Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

PRAYER for a NEW BISHOP

O Almighty God,
Pour forth the Holy Spirit upon the Holy Father
and those who assist him
in the discernment of our new bishop.
May the one chosen have the strength
to be a compassionate leader,
who models humility and joy.
Grant him the wisdom of Solomon,
the courage of the apostles,
and the tenderness of your Son, the Good Shepherd.

We also pray for the Diocese of Erie
that he is called to serve.
may we welcome him with open hearts
and work with him in a spirit of synodality,
called to listen, collaborate, and build unity.

Through the intercession of the
Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church,
St. Joseph, the protector of the Church,
and St. Patrick, the patron of our diocese,
may we journey the path of life
with an unwavering focus
on the hope we have in Christ.

For he lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Imprimatur, October 28, 2025
The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, J.C.L., Bishop of Erie



MAY 2026

Mental Health Awareness Month

Our faith calls us to care for the whole person — mind, body and spirit. During Mental Health Awareness Month, the Diocese of Erie, in collaboration with Catholic Charities, invites the faithful to grow in awareness and walk alongside those experiencing challenges.

Visit our website to access resources, prayers and tools to support yourself, your loved ones and your parish community. The Church walks with you.



Learn more at
www.eriecd.org/mental-health.html

IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO HAVE SELFLESSLY
GIVEN AND VALIANTLY SERVED OUR NATION,

THANK YOU



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: May 16 & 17, 2026

Total Offertory Income \$5,919.00
 Average Budgeted Offertory Income.....\$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage\$(-1,781.00)

Please write checks to St. Thomas Church.

If checks are to go to our parish cemeteries—please make them to either St. Thomas Cemetery, St. Elizabeth Cemetery, or St. Teresa Cemetery. Thank you.



Please know that you can now give all your donations online by visiting our parish website at

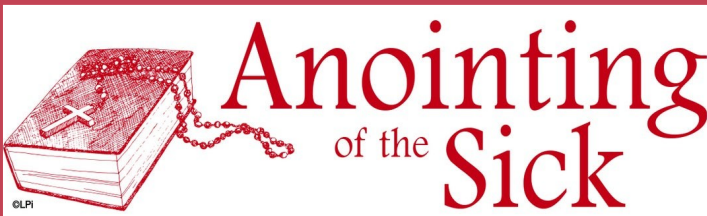
www.StThomastheApostle.Church and click 'Donate Online'.

If you are not receiving offertory envelopes from our parish and wish to, please contact the parish office. Thank you!

Good Shepherd Collection (May 2/3).....\$2,088.00



Monday, May 25
9:00am Mass
St. Thomas Cemetery Chapel
All are invited to attend.



Anointing of the Sick

Weekend of June 13 & 14
following ALL Masses at St. Thomas & St. Teresa
 Those wishing to receive the sacrament should move to the front pews of the church at the end of Mass. Thank you.

[Message from the Pastor—continued]

In Baptism, our parents and godparents bring us to the sacrament as infants as we are not able to make choices yet for ourselves. Our parents want us to be immersed into the life of God that they are professing and living. They want us to be a part of what is so important to them. And just as we are cleansed of sin in Baptism, but are able to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation when we reach the age of reason and can ask for forgiveness on our own; so too the life of the Holy Spirit we are given in Baptism will need to be renewed in us when we are old enough to understand and accept it for ourselves. This is where we celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation, when we can accept the Holy Spirit on our own and be strengthened by a renewal of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The feast of Pentecost is a reminder of the Holy Spirit being given to the Apostles and those in the early Church. On this day we pray for the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be strengthened within us. Today, you are being invited to pray for that one gift of the Holy Spirit that is most needed in your life now: Wisdom, Understanding, Right Judgment, Courage, Knowledge, Reverence, Wonder and Awe in God's Presence.

- Fr. Tom

Religious Education News



Congratulations to the Newly Confirmed!

The gifts of the Holy Spirit were conferred on students from our parish at a Mass celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday evening, May 15 at St. Francis Xavier Church in McKean with Bishop Persico.



Pictured are: Emily Wilson, Emma Geer, Chase Whitmeyer, Luca Proy, and Hunter Donoghue

Your parish is proud of you and we pray that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are sources of grace throughout your lives and are a constant reminder of God's love for you. *Congratulations!*

Missionary Co-Op Collection— Next Weekend of May 30/31

Our parish will host a missionary from the Archdiocese of Mwanza in the northwestern region of Tanzania, one of the vibrant nations of East Africa. We are blessed to border Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Tanzania is also home to Mount Kilimanjaro—Africa's tallest peak and the second-highest mountain in the world. Through their mission appeal, they humbly seek support in three critical initiatives that are vital to the life and growth of the Church and its people:

1. Priestly Formation—to secure the future of our faith, the Archdiocese of Mwanza is deeply committed to the formation of young men for the priesthood. Currently we have 100 major seminarians preparing for ordination. It costs approximately \$1,000 per seminarian each year to cover tuition, transportation, accommodation, and health insurance.
2. Education for Girls— in our region, education has long favored boys, while girls are often married off in exchange for dowries, treated merely as a source of income. This injustice deprives young women of their dignity and perpetuates cycles of poverty and inequality. We hope to build primary and secondary schools dedicated to educating girls.
3. Clean Drinking Water Project—in many of our remote areas, people share contaminated water sources with livestock, leading to illness and loss of life. We are actively drilling deep wells to provide clean, safe drinking water. Each well costs about \$8,000.

Please use the special envelope in our offertory packets for Missionary Co-Op or plan to bring your gift in an envelope with your name on it. We will have a special second collection at all Masses the weekend of May 30/31.

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!