



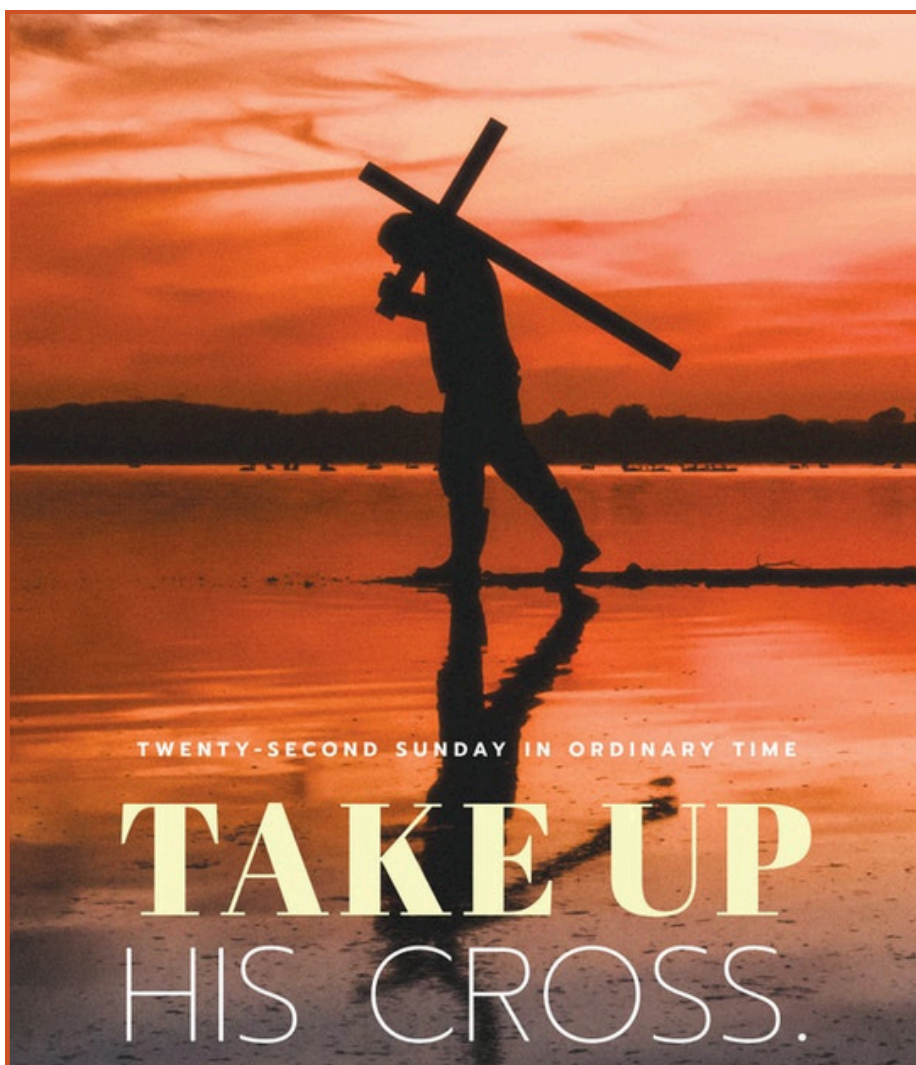
Saint Thomas the Apostle Church
203 W. Washington Street
Corry, PA 16407



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

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

August 30, 2026



TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TAKE UP HIS CROSS.

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____
STREET _____
CITY & ZIP _____
PHONE _____

☐ St. Thomas the Apostle ☐ St. Teresa of Avila

Please drop into the Offertory Basket or mail to the 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

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

QUESTIONS: From time to time, people have questions about the Catholic Faith or are confused by things they see or read in the media. We have been talking about a way to facilitate for people to ask those questions and to get answers to them. I am proposing that we use this column as a way for people to ask questions and receive a response. If you have a question, you can write it out, mail it to the office or place it in the collection basket. You can also email your questions to the parish office or to me. One thing we ask is that there is a name and contact information on the request, so we can clarify the question, if need be, or maybe it is a question that needs to be answered privately. Your name will not be associated with the question or answer in this column. Anonymous questions will not be answered.

SPIRITUALITY: PRAYING WITH THE SAINTS: In our Creed each week we profess our belief in the "Communion of the Saints." We believe that those who are acknowledged by the Church as saints, our deceased loved ones who in their own way shared their holiness with us, and all those who have died, are somehow still connected to us. All the goodness of their lives still lives in heaven, in our memory, and in the ways we keep their spirit alive.

Praying with the saints or remembering the dead becomes a prayer that leads our minds and hearts into the mystery of God. We remember the goodness of their lives and that leads us to acknowledge the goodness of God. We remember the virtues and gifts they exhibited in their lives, and we pray for the ability to imitate them in our own lives. We remember how their goodness and virtue touched our lives and we pray that we might touch the lives of others with that same goodness and virtue.

There are maybe two things we need to remember in our prayer for the saints: gratitude and lament. Our prayer should first and foremost lead us to give praise and thanks to God for the life of this saint. We need to be grateful for the example they have given us of how to live the Christian life. And again, we need to include our deceased loved ones in this prayer. They may not have been officially recognized as saints, but the goodness and virtue of their lives have impacted our lives, and we need to be grateful to God for placing them in our lives. Our prayer for the saints and our loved ones should be one of gratitude.

Our prayer for the saints, and our loved ones, should also be one of lament – grief, sorrow, sadness. We grieve and mourn the loss of the saints and our loved ones because their tremendous examples of faith, hope, and love are no longer with us in this earthly life. If we believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus, we believe that the saints and our loved ones have come to experience that same reality of death and resurrection. God has the power to transform our grief and sorrow at their loss, into hope and new life.

The challenge of our prayer of lament is one that calls us to remember the goodness and virtue of the saints and how we mourn its loss in a visible way in our lives. But the power of transformation we find in the death and resurrection of Jesus, can transform our grief into joy by the ways in which we continue to keep not only their memory alive, but by the ways in which we continue to live out that same goodness and virtue of



Sunday, August 30

8:00a.m. † Janet Mitchell by Don Mitchell
(St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. People of the Parish
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, August 31

8:00a.m. † Cleo & Dick Flynn by Judy Flynn
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, September 1

8:00a.m. † Pete & Lila Sander by Rick, Debbie, and Richelle Ayers (St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, September 2

8:00a.m. † Wascak and Stolar Families by Carol & Darrell Huffman (St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, September 3 - Adoration at St. Thomas

8:00a.m. Communion Service at St. Thomas, Corry

Friday, September 4 - Adoration at St. Teresa

8:00a.m. † Cathryn Landis by Deacon Randy & Anne Kondrlik (St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, September 5

4:30p.m. People of the Parish
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Sunday, September 6

8:00a.m. † Deceased Members of the Farver and Shone Families by Richard & Jean Farver
(St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. † Tinko and Weaver Families by Irene Weaver and family (St. Teresa, Union City)

*'Do not conform yourselves to this age
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,
that you may discern what is the will of God...'*

Romans 12:2

our loved ones in our own lives here and now. Just as the saints and our loved ones made a difference in our world by their goodness and virtue, so too can we make a difference in our world by imitating that very same goodness and virtue.

Praying with the saints and our deceased loved ones leads us to a spirit of gratitude for their lives and a lament over what we have lost in their examples of faith, hope, and love. Our prayer then leads us to the mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus that transforms our grief into hope. A hope found in how we keep the goodness and virtue of the saints and our loved ones alive in the ways we live that goodness and virtue in our own lives.

CHURCH GROUNDS: Thanks to all those who have been so generous in helping to keep our church grounds so beautiful during a summer where weeds have been very pesky and prolific. We are grateful for all you do to keep our Churches looking good.

- Fr. Tom

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.

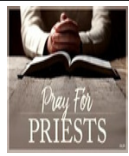
Persevere in Prayer

"Question of the Week" - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: Jesus tells us that we each called to follow him. What is hard for you to do to follow Jesus?

Question for Youth: In order to follow Jesus, we have to do hard things, to carry our own crosses. What is a cross that you are carrying right now? In what ways can you ask Jesus to help you with your cross?

Question for Adults: Jesus gives us the core truth to life and eternal happiness — the cross. Name the cross that you carry. How is it bringing you closer to God?



Very Rev. Nicholas Rouch, VG, Rev. Vincent Cieslewicz, Rev. John Malthaner, Rev. Johnathan Schmolt, Rev. Stephen Collins, and also Pray for All Priests and Deacons of our diocese.



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Thomas Church for the week of August 30th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of George Baker by Rosemary Baker.



Help Sell Gate Tickets at This Year's Sparty Fair

The Knights of Columbus are seeking volunteers from our parish to sell gate tickets at the Spartansburg Fair the week of September 7 - 12.

If you wish to help with this project, please call the parish office to have your name placed on a list or talk to a member of the Knights of Columbus. Thank you to everyone who has already volunteered to help sell tickets at this year's fair.

Cemetery Gravestone Cleaning Project

We are offering gravestone cleaning on a limited scale at ST. THOMAS & ST. ELIZABETH CEMETERIES ONLY. Some members of our cemetery committees are trained in gravestone cleaning/preservation. The process will help remove dirt, lichen, and lighten up



some discolorations/stains on gravestones. It is safe and gentle, so it will not damage the stones. Because each stone is unique, pricing may vary. Rate estimates are: Small stone (24"-35")—\$50; Medium (36"-59")—\$100; and Large (60"-75")—\$150. If you wish to have a loved one's stone cleaned, please contact the parish office. We are taking orders for those who are interested. Thank you.

Sunday, September 13, 2026
at the JPTF Foundation Event Center
2319 West 38th St., Erie, PA

Doors Open: 1:00pm **\$30 Online Pre-sale**
Bingo Starts: 2:00pm **\$35 at the Door**
Bring your own drinks and food. Includes all regular games & jackpot!

**\$1,000
JACKPOT
PRIZE!**

Basket Raffle
50/50
Instants
& More!

All proceeds benefit Maria House Project

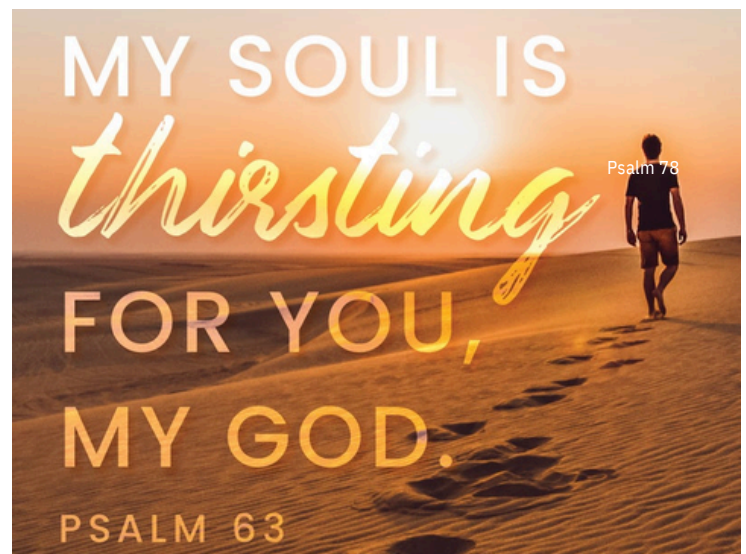
Purchase Tickets Online at MariaHouseProject.org

"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

Matthew 16:25



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.



THE CHOSEN SEASON 6

EARLY ACCESS EVENT | EPISODE 1

St. Francis Xavier Parish

8880 Main St.

McKean, PA 16426

Tuesday, September 15th 7:00 p.m.

RSVP through QR Code, visiting our website:
www.stfrancisxaviermckean.org, or contacting Irene: 814-476-7657 x7

PRESENTED BY COME AND SEE



St. Teresa News

Seeking Volunteers to Help at Makers Market in Union City

The Buzz of Union City has invited us to join the annual Homecoming Makers Market on Saturday, September 19, from 10:00a.m. – 4:00p.m. This is a popular community event where local artisans, crafters, and small businesses showcase their creations and have booths to sell their products to the public. Our parish is invited as a longstanding community member in Union City. Organizers suggest having a little Lawn Festival nostalgia to the Makers Market with a fun festival-style game (or something similar), and we think it would be a great way to share some parish fun with the community! But before there can be a "yes," we need to know if there will be volunteers to make it happen! If you'd be willing to spend a little time helping at our booth to run a festival-style game, we'd love to hear from you. It's a great way to have some fun, meet people in the community, and represent our parish. Interested? You can sign up on the sign up sheets in the back of the church and/or contact Fr. Tom or Missy. *We hope you'll join in the fun!*

Readings for the week of August 30, 2026

Sun.: Jeremiah 20:7-9 | Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 | Romans 12:1-2
Matthew 16:21-27
Mon.: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 | Psalm 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102 |
Luke 4:16-30
Tues.: 1 Corinthians 2:10b-16 | Psalm 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14 |
Luke 4:31-37
Wed.: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 | Psalm 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21 |
Luke 4:38-44
Thur.: 1 Corinthians 3:18-23 | Psalm 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 | Luke 5:1-11
Fri.: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 | Psalm 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40 | Luke 5:33-39
Sat.: 1 Corinthians 4:6b-15 | Psalm 145:17-18, 19-20, 21 | Luke 6:1-5
Next Sun.: Ezekiel 33:7-9 | Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7b, 7c-9 | Romans 13:8-10 |
Matthew 18:15-20

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



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of August 30th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of deceased family and friends of the parish.

Family Perspective

Relationships exist in a delicate balance. When one person changes, it requires an adjustment in the relationship. In today's gospel, Jesus announced a change, and Peter resisted. Sometimes, those we rely on for support can become obstacles. Jesus told Peter, "You are an obstacle to me."

Back-to-School Shopping? Don't Forget RaiseRight!

As you head out for back-to-school shopping, don't forget that you can support St. Thomas simply by purchasing gift cards through RaiseRight!

Whether you're shopping in-store or online, you can buy gift cards for many of your favorite retailers right from the RaiseRight app. You can also use the app to shop online through participating retailers and earn rebates for our parish.

If you haven't already, download the RaiseRight app today and start earning while you shop. It's an easy way to support St. Thomas!

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!

Please contact Missy Silka at the parish office if you have any questions.



WELCOME

If you are new to our parish, we extend a warm welcome and hope you will find 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 in the Offertory Collection or to the Parish Office.

BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Office to schedule a Baptism. We require all first-time parents to attend a Baptism Class prior to having their child baptized. The best time to take this class is before the child is born and before godparents are chosen.

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 the church where the anticipatory Mass is celebrated that evening - at St. Thomas Church, Corry or at St. Teresa Church, Union City (depending on the month); and other times by request made to the Parish Office.

Please notify the Parish of changes to your mailing address, phone numbers, or email. Thank you.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: August 22 & 23, 2026

Total Offertory Income \$5,694.00
Average Budgeted Offertory Income.....\$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage.....\$(-2,006.00)

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 the specific cemetery: 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'.

You may also give by simply scanning the QR Code here:



THANK YOU for supporting our parish.

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

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!

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



Follow Us on Facebook!

Be sure to check out and follow our updated, combined Facebook page:

St. Thomas the Apostle & its Mission St. Teresa.

Back to School Prayer

Lord our God, in your wisdom and love you surround us with the mysteries of the universe.

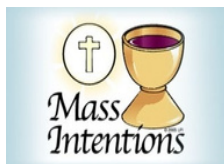
Send your Spirit upon these students and fill them with your wisdom and blessings. Grant that they may devote themselves to their studies and draw ever closer to you, the source of all knowledge.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Please pray for all students and educators returning to the classroom at all levels of education following the summer break. We pray for their safety as a new school year begins.

Now Accepting Requests for 2027 Mass Intentions



Come in or contact the parish office to schedule Mass intentions for loved ones. We will do our best to accommodate date requests. The stipend is ONLY \$10 per Mass. Please do not send extra money as it causes our books to be out of balance.

You may also sponsor the Sanctuary Candle for a loved one at either of our churches for just \$10 for one week.

Payment is expected when making requests. Thank you.



Faith Formation & Religious Education News

We are excited to share the teaching of the Catholic faith in our Religious Education Program



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

We are now accepting registration for the 2026-2027 Religious Education School Year. **Classes start Sunday, September 20th meeting from 9:30am - 10:45am at St. Teresa Parish Center for ALL students.** We will again be holding our classes for half of the year in Union City (Sept. - Dec.) and then the second half year in Corry (Jan. - May).

Registration Packets were mailed to families. If you did not receive one, please call the parish office. School aged children (Pre-K to 9th Grade) are encouraged to attend. Please complete the packet and return it to the parish office prior to the first class. Questions - call Missy Silka. Thank you.

Important Parent Meetings

Confirmation (Grade 9): Parents/guardians and their student will meet this weekend, Sunday, August 30th following the 11:00am Mass in Union City at the St. Teresa Parish Center.

All other parents/guardians need to attend one of the following parent meetings: **Saturday, Sept. 12th following the 4:30pm Mass at St. Thomas in the multipurpose room - OR - Sunday, Sept. 13th following the 11:00am Mass at St. Teresa in the church.** At least one parent/guardian must attend.

Looking forward to the start of this year in Religious Education! We hope you will join us.

REGISTER FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Interested in Becoming Catholic?

We are looking to start classes for those who wish to become Catholic, or those who wish to update their understanding of their faith. If you are interested in becoming Catholic, please contact Father Tom or Deacon Randy or the parish office.



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

Eucharistic Adoration THIS WEEK

Our churches will hold their monthly Eucharistic Adoration this week. Adoration is from 8:00am until 12:00pm (noon) at both churches on the following dates:

- Thursday, Sept. 3rd
at St. Thomas Church, Corry
- Friday, Sept. 4th
at St. Teresa Church, Union City

All are welcome any time to spend a prayerful, quiet moment with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

