



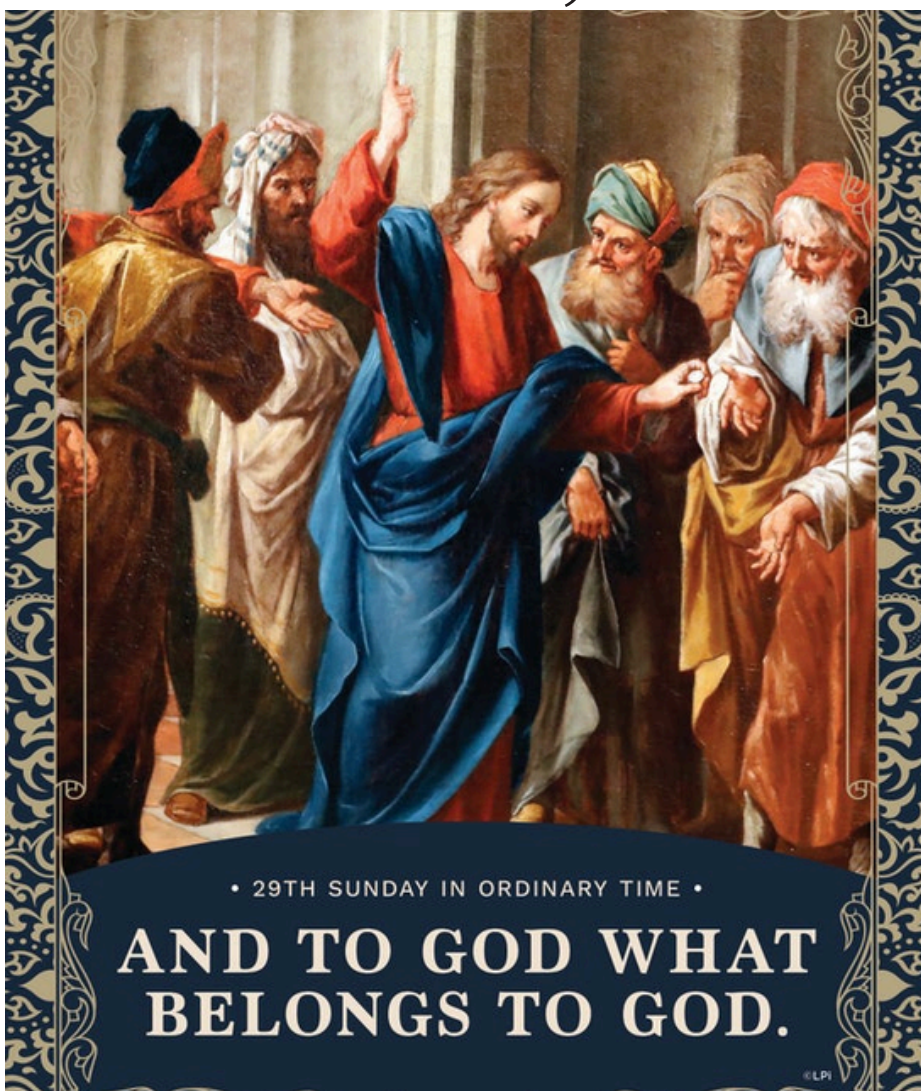
Saint Thomas the Apostle Church
203 W. Washington Street
Corry, PA 16407



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

October 18, 2026



• 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

AND TO GOD WHAT BELONGS TO GOD.

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

FATIMA STATUE BLESSING: Recently, the outdoor statues from Our Lady of Fatima Church were painted and placed at St. Teresa Cemetery. There will be a blessing of the statues on **Sunday, October 18, at 1:00pm at the cemetery.**

ANointing OF THE SICK AFTER MASSES: After all the Masses on the weekend of **October 24 and 25, we will celebrate the anointing of the sick.** All those who are struggling with mental or physical illness are invited to receive the sacrament.

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. That 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 a 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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS: One of the themes in our Religious Education Program this year is to pray for vocations. All of the students are praying that they might know where God is calling them. It may be a call to Marriage, the Single Life, Priesthood, or Religious Life. As a part of this focus on vocations, the students have “adopted” one of our seminarians and a young woman who is entering the convent from our diocese. Saint Teresa Parish Center has a whole wall devoted to vocations. The kids gather here each week and say a prayer for vocations. I am including the prayer, so that you too might join in our effort to pray for all vocations.

Jesus, I know that you love me. Teach me to talk to you, how to listen to you, and how to follow you. Help me to know that a vocation is a special way you call me to love and serve others. Help me to know which vocation is mine: marriage, priesthood, religious life, or single life. May I learn how all vocations are special and all vocations build up the church. Thank you for listening to me and keeping my ears open to listen to your call. Amen.

ALL SOULS MASS: We will be celebrating Mass on **Monday, November 2, at 7:00pm at St. Teresa** to pray for all those who have died from our parish since last All Souls Day. All are welcome to attend.

SPIRITUALITY: THE ROSARY: There is a long and sketchy history of the rosary. There are numerous ways to pray the rosary. I won't go



Sunday, October 18

8:00a.m. ✚ Cragg and Sullivan Families by family
(St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. ✚ Jerry McAviney by David & Mary Louise Capan
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, October 19

8:00a.m. ✚ Ed Weaver, Sr. by Irene Weaver and family
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, October 20

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

Wednesday, October 21

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

Thursday, October 22

No Mass or Services today at both St. Thomas & St. Teresa.

Friday, October 23

8:00a.m. ✚ Donald Tujetsch by Carol Bryant
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, October 24

4:30p.m. ✚ Joe DeMarte by Dave & Mary Louise Capan
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Sunday, October 25

8:00a.m. People of the Parish (St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. ✚ Andy Bengel by Laura Bengel and family
(St. Teresa, Union City)

into all of those issues and distinctions, but give a brief overview. The rosary seems to have been started by St. Dominic and then standardized by the Dominican Order. Pope Pius V instituted the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary in the late 1500s.

Around the year 1000, ordinary people began to recite 150 Our Fathers in an attempt to copy what the nuns and monks were doing each day in reciting the 150 Psalms. As Marian devotion increased in the 12th century the Carthusian and Cistercian monks helped develop and popularize a rosary of Hail Marys.

The rosary then emerged from the desire of ordinary Christians to pray like the nuns and monks in their praying of the Divine Office of the Church. But ordinary people had a desire to pray as well but didn't have time to do the Divine Office of the Church. The rosary arose from this desire to find a way for ordinary people to pray like the nuns and monks in a regular practice of prayer.

There are many different ways that people pray the rosary, but Pope John Paul II reminded us that even though the prayer has a Marian character to it, it really is intended to be a way to meditate on the mysteries of the life of Jesus. The heart of the rosary is Jesus as found in the mysteries that are Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, and thanks to Pope John Paul II, also Luminous (Mysteries of Light). An example of praying the Joyful mysteries begins with the Annunciation. We might meditate on God's initiative in this process, Mary's openness to doing God's will, or the Angel's appearance and message to Mary that is also offered to us. We might reflect on the good news that this message has been, and still is, to people of all time.

The rosary is a simple prayer that leads us to contemplate the mysteries of Jesus. Mary is one who never leads us to herself, but always directs us to the person of Jesus. May our praying of the rosary, and all of our prayer, lead us to a deeper relationship with Jesus.

- 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.

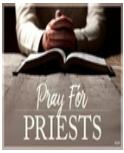
Persevere in Prayer

"Question of the Week" - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: In your young life, who has helped you know Jesus as a friend?

Question for Youth: We are supposed to give to God the things that are God's. What in your life is dedicated to God? How to you keep those things sacred?

Question for Adults: If you were to write a thank you note to someone or to a group who has helped you grow in faith, to whom would you write and what would you say?



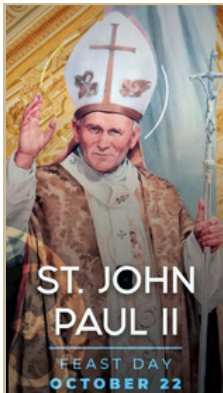
Rev. Joseph Petrone, Rev. William Barron, Rev. Msgr. John Swoger, Rev. Richard Allen, Rev. John Chaplin, Rev. Dennis Veltri, Rev. Mark O'Hern, and also Pray for All Priests and Deacons of our diocese.

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.



The Lord made us, we belong to Him. Psalm 100



Born Karol Wojtyla in Krakow, Pope John Paul II became the first-ever Polish pope. He came of age in the early 20th century and lived through both the Nazi and communist occupations of Poland. His resistance activities were cultural, operating an underground theater company and entering a secret seminary. Karol was ordained a priest in 1946 and later a bishop. He was elected pope in 1978. As pope, the interests that captured his heart as a young man continued -- his pastoral concern for young people, his philosophical emphasis on the human person, and his devotion to Mary and to the mercy of God.

St. John Paul II, pray for us!



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.

October is Month of the Rosary



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of October 18th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of all babies lost before or at birth.

Events Around the Diocese

Seminary Discernment: St. Mark Seminary, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, **weekend of Oct. 24 and 25.** This weekend is for Catholic college aged men 18 years old and older. For any questions, please contact Fr. Scott Jabo, vocation director, at 814-824-1198 or via email: swjabo@eriercd.org.

40 Hours of Adoration in Meadville: The Epiphany of the Lord Parish, 353 Pine St., is hosting **40 Hours of Adoration from Oct. 18 to Oct. 20.** Adoration will begin after the 11:30am Mass on Sunday and continue straight through, 24/7, until closing at 7:00pm on Tuesday. Each night at 7:00pm there will be Vespers and a rotation of guest speakers, Fr. Ray Gramata and Fr. Bill O'Brien. During the night hours, the only door unlocked will be the Pine Street entrance. All adorers welcome. If you would like to sign up for a particular hour, please call the parish office 814-336-1112.

Catholic Daughters Celebrate CDA Day TODAY

We are celebrating **CDA Day** on Sunday, October 18th. Our membership is open and we invite all the ladies of the parish to join our organization. Please contact one of the Catholic Daughters for more information. We hope to see you at our next meeting on Thursday, October 22nd at 6:00pm in the St. Elizabeth Parish Center.

St. Thomas Altar Rosary Society Meeting

Ladies of the Altar Rosary Society will meet on Wednesday, October 21 at 6:00pm in the all purpose room of the school. All members are encouraged to attend as we will have election of officers. Dues of \$10.00 are also due in October for all members.

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



St. Teresa News

St. Teresa Rosary Altar Society & Operation Christmas Child

The Rosary Altar Society is seeking donations for 'Christmas Shoebox.' Please select a 'tree' from the board in the back of St. Teresa Church, purchase the items listed and return them no later than November 8. Keeping in mind that items must fit inside a shoebox. Monetary donations are also needed to help defray the cost of shipping. If you have questions, please contact Elaine Hasbrouck at 814-450-2766. For more information about the program, visit: samaritanspurse.org/occ.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of October 18th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of loved ones.

Family Perspective

Jesus was exasperated when he scolded, "Why do you put me to the test?" It is natural for children to test their parents; this is how they learn and how we teach limits, rules, and values. Be like Jesus in today's gospel: firm, honest, and direct.

Readings for the week of October 18, 2026

Sun.: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 | Psalm 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10 |
1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b | Matthew 22:15-21
Mon.: Ephesians 2:1-10 | Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4ab, 4c-5 | Luke 12:13-21
Tues.: Ephesians 2:12-22 | Psalm 85:9ab-10, 11-12, 13-14 |
Luke 12:35-38
Wed.: Ephesians 3:2-12 | Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 | Luke 12:39-48
Thur.: Ephesians 3:14-21 | Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19 |
Luke 12:49-53
Fri.: Ephesians 4:1-6 | Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 | Luke 12:54-59
Sat.: Ephesians 4:7-16 | Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 | Luke 13:1-9
Next Sun.: Exodus 22:20-26 | Psalm 18:2-3a, 3b-4, 47 and 51 |
1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10 | Matthew 22:34-40

GIVE THE LORD HONOR AND GLORY.



Follow Us on Facebook!

at: **St. Thomas the Apostle & its Mission St. Teresa.**



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



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.

Shopping for an Occasion? Don't Forget RaiseRight!

Would you like to support our parish as you shop? You can 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: October 10 & 11, 2026

Total Offertory Income \$6,871.00
Average Budgeted Offertory Income.....\$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage.....\$(-829.00)

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!

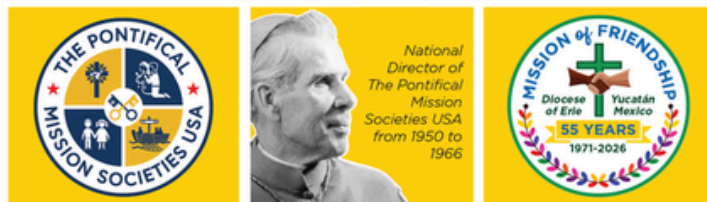
We appreciate their support and ask that you patronize their businesses.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

ONE IN CHRIST, UNITED IN MISSION

OCTOBER 18, 2026

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS



SUPPORTING MISSIONARY WORK

Pope Leo XIV calls on the entire Church to renew its missionary vocation in prayer, solidarity and support of the missionary work of the Church. Thank you for your generosity in today's special second collection - make your gift online or by using the envelope in your offertory packet.

Weekend of October 24 & 25
after each of the Masses

Anointing of the Sick

CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT

St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Teresa of Avila

Those who wish to be anointed next weekend should move to the front pews in the church at the conclusion of Mass.

Faith Formation & Religious Education News

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



Religious Education Class Schedule

Classes meet from 9:30am - 10:45am at St. Teresa Parish Center in Union City for ALL students (Sept. - Dec.).

October 18 - Class
 October 25 - Class and Youth Mass at St. Teresa Church | 11am
 November 1 - Class
 November 8 - Class
 November 15 - Class
 November 22 - Class / Safe Environment Training
 November 29 - NO Class / Thanksgiving break

WHILE YOU'RE SHOPPING.....GRAB AN EXTRA BAG!

Our Religious Education Fall Trail of Treats event is coming up, and we'd love your help making it a spooktacular event for our kiddos! The next time you're at the store, consider grabbing one of the following items to donate:

- Bag of candy
- Box of individual chips
- Apples
- Sundae toppings – caramel, hot fudge, mini m&ms, nerds, mini chocolate chips, etc
- Apple Cider

Donations are needed TODAY - October 18. They can be dropped off at the back of St. Teresa Church, St. Thomas Church, and at the parish office this week. Every little bit helps us make this a fun and memorable event for our Religious Education students. Thank you for helping us treat our kiddos!

2026 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals

Diocesan Goal for our parish is \$64,881

St. Thomas portion is \$38,000 | St. Teresa portion is \$27,000

Stretch Goals: St. Thomas - \$123,000 | St. Teresa - \$94,000



Diocese of Erie
2026 Catholic
Services Appeal

Amount Pledged at St. Thomas to date = \$78,605
 Paid to date = \$73,915

Amount Pledged at St. Teresa to date = \$42,480
 Paid to date = \$40,986

Number of Families who made a pledge is 215

Be sure to make your check payable to 'ST. THOMAS CHURCH' when making a CSA payment

#iGIVECATHOLIC
ON GIVING TUESDAY

SAVE THE DATE!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
31	1	2
	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2026	

Our parish will again participate in the national day of giving on Tuesday, December 1, 2026 for #iGiveCatholic.

Please mark your calendars to join us for this day of giving and support our parish with your online gift. Not able to give online? You will be able to support us by cash or check using a

#iGiveCatholic envelope, found in the church, during the **Advanced Giving Period of November 16 - December 1.** Please see future bulletins for more information. Thank you.