



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

August 2, 2026



18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them
to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds.
They all ate and were satisfied. - Mt 14:19c-20

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

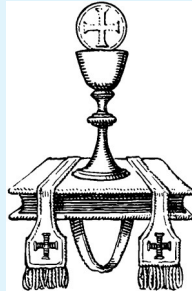
Parish Office
203 W. Washington Street
Corry, PA 16407
814-663-3041

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

ERIE GIVES – AUGUST 11, 2026: The annual Erie Gives Day will be **August 11, 2026**. This is a great way to support our parish and to have additional funds be added to our total from the Erie Gives Foundation. St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and its Mission St. Teresa of Avila Church will be participating, as well as our Religious Education Program, St. Thomas Cemetery, St. Teresa Cemetery, St. Elizabeth Cemetery, and St. Thomas Cemetery Endowment Fund. You can access our site at **ErieGives.org** or on our parish website Parish of Saint Thomas the Apostle and its mission Saint Teresa of Avila Church (stthomastheapostle.church). Thank you in advance for your generous support of our parish!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS: The last of the seven sacraments – Holy Orders. The old saying, “last but not least,” is maybe twisted here to be “last and least to be received.” of the seven sacraments. There are many misconceptions about this sacrament, and I won’t be able to cover them all here.



We need to remember that all of us share in the priesthood of Jesus Christ in some way by our baptism. For some people this is lived out in the single life, for others it is lived out in their married life, and for others it is lived out in the sacrament of Holy Orders. Each of us has a different ministry or participation in the priesthood of Jesus Christ.

Notice the name of this sacrament is Holy ORDERS, plural. There are three grades or stages of this sacrament: Deacon, Priest, Bishop. There are two types of deacons: transitional deacons and permanent deacons. Most often when we think of this sacrament we think only of the ordination of priests, but deacons and bishops are also ordained in this sacrament.

Did Jesus ordain priests? No, he did not. In the gospels there is no clearly defined ceremony of ordination. And yet we consider the twelve Apostles to be the first priests as those who were followers of Jesus and continued his ministry. The word “priest” didn’t apply to the leaders of the Catholic Church until about 100 years after Jesus. We believe the Apostles were each called by Jesus to be his followers and responded to that call not only quickly, but also at the cost of their very lives. They served as the first priests and bishops because they were so closely connected to Jesus in his earthly ministry. They received special instruction from Jesus, spent huge amounts of time with him, and saw the miracles he performed.

These same Apostles were sent out by Jesus (Matthew 10), they were given the power to heal (Mark 6:1-3) and to forgive sins (John 20:23). At the Last Supper, Jesus commanded them to “do this in memory of me,” thus giving them the power to celebrate the Eucharist.

When the Apostles started new communities and when they were reaching the end of their ministries, they chose certain men to be their successors. This was marked by the imposition of hands and the calling down of the Holy Spirit (2 Timothy 1:6-7). These men were then the leaders in the community, enabled to preach and celebrate the Eucharist. This was the beginning of the sacrament of Holy Orders.

**Sunday, August 2**

- 8:00a.m. People of the Parish
(St. Thomas, Corry)
11:00a.m. †MaryAnn Shinko by Dick & Elaine Hasbrouck
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, August 3

- 8:00a.m. †Sadurnino & Eusebia by Angelina Masangcay
and family (St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, August 4

- 8:00a.m. †Philip Wascak by Mom & Dad
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, August 5

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

Thursday, August 6—Adoration

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

Friday, August 7—First Friday / Adoration

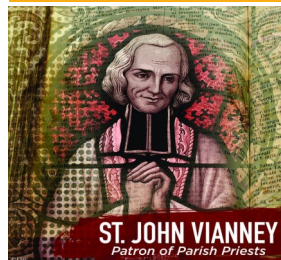
- 8:00a.m. †Rosemary Sefchick by Ilene Zakovitch
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, August 8

- 4:30p.m. †MaryAnn Shinko by Irene Weaver
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Sunday, August 9

- 8:00a.m. †Rod, Marilynn & Mike Knowlton and
Marty Roehrig by Lana & Punk Messina
(St. Thomas, Corry)
11:00a.m. People of the Parish
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Words of St. John Vianney...**

“To Pray and to Love, that is the happiness of man on Earth.”

“Prayer is to our soul what rain is to the soil.”

Feast Day is August 4

When a Bishop could not care for all the people in his charge, he would ordain priests to carry out the work of Jesus in the community as the bishop’s representative. Priests were needed to help Bishops facilitate the sacramental life of the church – baptizing, hearing confessions, celebrating the Eucharist, officiating at weddings and celebrating the anointing of the sick. Since the Bishop couldn’t be everywhere, the priests were called to be his agent in administering the sacraments, most importantly the Eucharist.

***Fast forward to today’s Church, we see that Bishops are struggling with the same issue today. Bishops cannot be in every parish in their diocese and need priests to be his representative in those parishes. But since there are not enough priests to staff all those parishes, parishes are being partnered, or combined, or even closed in order that the Eucharist might be celebrated in certain areas where the people are now called to gather.

– 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.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of August 2nd burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Janet Mitchell by Don Mitchell.



Rev. Raymond Gramata, Rev. Michael Kesicki, Rev. Paul Siebert, Rev. Msgr. Henry Kriegel, Rev. Howard King, Rev. Glenn Whitman, Rev. Richard Allen, and also *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*

Prayer for Vocations

Lord God, creator of all things and source of all gifts and talents, your Son came to this world to fulfill His vocation as the Redeemer of all humanity.

Grant the sons and daughters of the parishes of the Diocese of Erie a profound awareness of their own vocations. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, may they come to realize their distinct place in your divine plan.

Give them the grace to recognize and the courage to pursue vocations as devoted priests, deacons and consecrated women and men to assist the Diocese of Erie in fulfilling her mission.

With the intercession of Saint Patrick, our patron, who preached the Gospel in word and deed, we pray that they may find happiness and fulfillment in a life of service to others.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Imprimatur, July 29, 2013 / The Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico, JCL, Bishop



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. Thank you.

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.

Below is a recent example of how the cleaning process will transform the look of a headstone.



"Question of the Week" - 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: What are the ways that Jesus shows he loves you?

Question for Youth: Jesus was very attentive to his followers. He cared for them and for their needs. What are your needs? What can Jesus do to help you?

Question for Adults: In your experience, what "false obstacles" have you or people you know experienced separating them from Christ? Things such as divorce? Or marrying outside the church? Or not attending Mass? Or others?

PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

The Lord answers all our needs. Psalm 145

National Night Out—Corry

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is excited to participate in this year's **National Night Out!** Join us on **Tuesday, August 4, from 3:00pm–6:00pm** in the St. Thomas parking lot for an afternoon of community, fellowship, and fun (see informational flyer below). National Night Out is a nationwide event that brings neighbors, first responders, and community organizations together to strengthen relationships and promote a safer, stronger community. We invite everyone to stop by, meet local emergency personnel, and enjoy this special event. We look forward to seeing you there!

— ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ —
 CORRY CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
 THE CORRY SALVATION ARMY, PROUDLY PRESENT

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

AND

Carnival

BLOCK PARTY

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4TH, 2026

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

**127 W WASHINGTON ST.
CORY, PA 16407**

- ★ SALVATION ARMY
- ★ ST. THOMAS CHURCH
- ★ CORRY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Overflow Parking Available at:

- Relevant Church
- Ploss Auction
- Corry Community Center

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT promotes police-community partnerships and safer, stronger neighborhoods.

★ ★ ★

*Stronger Together.
Safer Together.*

ROAD CLOSURE:
W WASHINGTON ST. FROM
N 1ST AVE TO MOTT ST.

★ JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FAMILY FUN! ★

CARNIVAL GAMES & PRIZES	FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES	POLICE K9 MISO DEMONSTRATION	FOOD & REFRESHMENTS	COMMUNITY VENDORS	TOUCH-A-TRUCK EVENT	BOUNCE HOUSES	FACE PAINTING	MUSIC & MORE
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★ FREE COMMUNITY EVENT ★

COME FOR THE COMMUNITY. STAY FOR THE FUN.

St. Teresa News

Readings for the week of August 2, 2026

Sun.: Isaiah 55:1-3 ♦ Psalm 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18 ♦ Romans 8:35, 37-39 ♦
Matthew 14:13-21
Mon.: Jeremiah 28:1-17 ♦ Psalm 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102 ♦
Matthew 14:22-36
Tues.: Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22 ♦ Psalm 102:16-18, 19-21, 29, 22-23 ♦
Matthew 14:22-36 or Matthew 15:1-2, 10-14
Wed.: Jeremiah 31:1-7 ♦ Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 ♦ Matthew 15:21-28
Thur.: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 ♦ Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 ♦ 2 Peter 1:16-19 ♦
Matthew 17:1-9
Fri.: Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7 ♦ Deuteronomy 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41 ♦
Matthew 16:24-28
Sat.: Habakkuk 1:12-2:4 ♦ Psalm 9:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 ♦ Matthew 17:14-20
Next Sun.: 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a ♦ Psalm 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 ♦
Romans 9:1-5 ♦ Matthew 14:22-33



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of August 2nd burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of deceased loved ones.

Family Perspective

The apostles were likely being practical when they asked Jesus to "dismiss the crowds" so they could buy food. However, Jesus knew that when we place our trust in the Father, there is always enough, even with just five loaves and two fish. Trust is the bridge to miracles.

Catholic Disabilities Networking Meet-Up

St. Joseph Bread of Life Parish, 147 W 24th St., Erie, on August 9th from 3:00pm—5:00pm. This gathering is a welcoming opportunity to connect, share experiences and build community in faith. Individuals with disabilities, family members, caregivers and supporters are invited to join us as we celebrate the gifts and dignity of every person. All are welcome. Contact Stacey Badowski for more details: stacey.badowski@gmail.com.

Arm yourself with prayer rather than a sword; wear humility rather than fine clothes. - St. Dominic | Feast Day August 8th

Bake Sale at St. Teresa Church TODAY

The St. Teresa Rosary Altar Society's Bake Sale is this weekend, August 1 & 2, at Mass at St. Teresa Church. We hope you will support their efforts by purchasing a treat for yourself and/or your family. We are grateful to the Rosary Altar Society who help to cover some of the expenses of items used on the altar.



An Evening of Hope



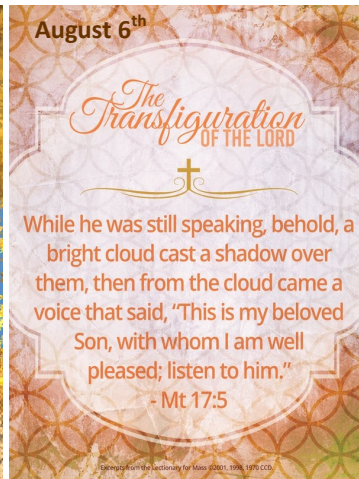
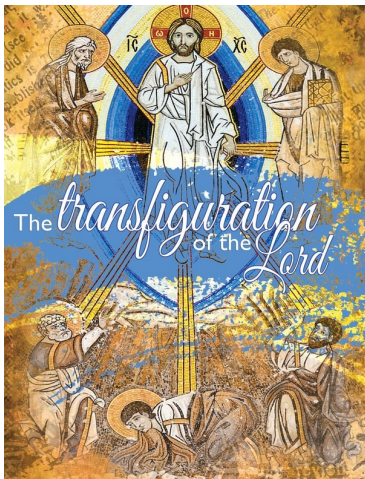
Please join us for An Evening of Hope on Thursday, August 6th, 2026 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at Our Lady of Peace Church 2401 West 38th Street in Erie, PA 16506 Featuring guest speakers Tim Joncas & Antonio Howard



Tim Joncas, Executive Director of MHP
"The Evil Is In The Lie"

Antonio Howard, Autodidactic Artist, sentenced to life imprisonment at age 15 and released after serving over 26 years in prison
"It's My Story And I'm Sticking To It"

Light refreshments will be served in the church vestibule following the program



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—\$123,00 / St. Teresa—\$94,000

Amount Pledged at **St. Thomas** to date = \$77,225

Paid to date = \$66,215

Amount Pledged at **St. Teresa** to date = \$42,345

Paid to date = \$38,845

Number of Families who made a pledge = 212



Diocese of Erie
2026 Catholic
Services Appeal

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

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 Revrend Lawrence T. Persico, J.C.L., Bishop of Erie



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: July 25 & 26, 2026

Total Offertory Income \$5,608.00
 Average Budgeted Offertory Income \$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage (\$-2,092.00)

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!

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!

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

**'What will separate us from the love of Christ? ...
 neither death, nor life, nor angles, nor principalities,
 nor present things, nor future things, nor powers,
 nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature
 will be able to separate us
 from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.'**

(Romans 8:35, 37-39)

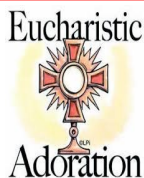
Eucharistic Adoration THIS WEEK

I am the bread of life, says the Lord...

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, August 6th at Saint Thomas Church, Corry**
- **Friday, August 7th at St. Teresa Church, Union City**

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

**Parish Wedding Anniversary Recognition**

At next weekend's Masses (**August 8th & 9th**), our parish will recognize couples from St. Thomas and St. Teresa who are celebrating milestone (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th) anniversaries this year. **If you have not yet registered, please call the parish office on Monday, August 3.** Couples were asked to let the parish office know the number of year's married and which Mass time they will attend. **Congratulations to all the couples who are celebrating a milestone wedding anniversary! May God continue to bless your marriage.**



ANNIVERSARY MASS

SAVE THE DATE | August 11, 2026

Please join us in celebrating the generosity of the people of Northwest PA in support of local area nonprofits.

We hope you will consider donating to our churches and cemeteries:

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish

St. Teresa of Avila Church

St. Thomas Cemetery

St. Teresa Cemetery

St. Elizabeth Cemetery

St. Thomas Cemetery Endowment Fund

Religious Education Program

Want to Support Us and Not Wait until Erie Gives Day?

Check donations being accepted NOW! Donations must be accompanied by the Erie Gives Check Donation Form.

Contact the parish office or our website for more information.

Checks with the accompanying Check Donation Form MUST be received in our office NO LATER than MONDAY., AUG. 3rd!

Thank you for supporting us during Erie Gives!

You're Invited to 'Create For Change 2026'

This Art Exhibition and Auction will be held on **Friday, August 7 from 4:00pm-6:00pm** (preview night) and **Saturday, August 8 from 11:00am -3:00pm**, with live auction beginning at 1:00pm, at the **Mead Park Amphitheatre on Mead Ave. in Corry**. We are excited to share that **St Thomas the Apostle** has been selected to participate in **Create For Change**, an Art Exhibition, Auction, and Erie Gives Awareness Event hosted by the Corry Artists' Guild & sponsored by Corry Area Fine Arts Council.

This unique event brings together local artists and nonprofit organizations to celebrate the positive impact being made throughout our community. Participating artists have created original works inspired by the missions and stories of local nonprofits, including ours. We invite you to join us for an evening of art, community, and philanthropy as we share our mission alongside other organizations working to create positive change throughout the region.

Event highlights include:

- Original artwork inspired by local nonprofit organizations
- Art auction featuring local artists
- Nonprofit exhibits and information tables
- Opportunities to meet artists and community leaders
- The return of Charity Chairs, a featured auction attraction
- Erie Gives awareness and community engagement opportunities



CREATE FOR CHANGE 2026

ART EXHIBITION + AUCTION

FEATURED NONPROFITS:

- Hope Center
- Impact Corry
- St. Thomas the Apostle Church
- Corry Area Food Pantry
- Spartansburg Events
- Tomorrow Needs You
- LOVE INC
- 3 PILLARZ FARM
- Corry Historical Society
- Mead Park Association
- Corry Public Library
- Foundation for Sustainable Forrester
- DIVITTORIO CENTER FOR AUTISM
- Corry RAILS
- Corry Area Fine Arts Council
- Avery's Pawitive Change

