



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 11, 2026

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

COME TO THE FEAST.

— MATTHEW 22:4 —



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.



Sunday, October 11

8:00a.m. † Irene Zaczekiewicz by Sue, Gary, and Joseph Johnston (St. Thomas, Corry)

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

Monday, October 12

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

Tuesday, October 13

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

Wednesday, October 14

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

Thursday, October 15

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

Friday, October 16

8:00a.m. Communion Service at St. Teresa, Union City.

Saturday, October 17

4:30p.m. People of the Parish (St. Teresa, Union City)

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)



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.

WORD MADE FLESH
Altar Seven Retreat

FREE TO ATTEND



SATURDAY, OCT. 17



10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

St. Tobias Church, Brockway

BUS NOW AVAILABLE!

50 spots!

Go to <http://www.eriercd.org/altar.html> for more information.

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

ROOFS AND BOILERS UPDATE: Last week the roofers finished at St. Teresa Parish Center and this week they started the roofs at the St. Thomas School building. The boilers at St. Thomas are all installed. They were to be inspected this week. They will be up and running shortly.

- 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.

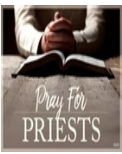
Persevere in Prayer

"Question of the Week" - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: Why is it important for you to do what Jesus asks of you?

Question for Youth: Each week we are invited to participate in Mass. When you are at Mass, how well do you really participate? How could you be more present in heart, mind, and spirit?

Question for Adults: Using Jesus' parable as your starting point, describe in your own words who will be welcome and why they will be welcome, at the eternal banquet of God.



Rev. Thomas Fialkowski, **Rev. Thomas Whitman**, Rev. Msgr. Charles Kaza, Rev. Leo Gallina, Rev. Msgr. Andrew Karg, and also Pray for All Priests and Deacons of our diocese.



Coffee & Donuts at St. Thomas TODAY

All are invited to join us for Coffee & Donuts today - **Sunday, October 11th**, following Mass at 8:00am, in the multipurpose room at St. Thomas (inside the former school building across the parking lot behind the church). Please come and join us in food, fellowship, and friendship. Stop over and check it out! It only takes a TINY bit of time out of the day. Hope to see you at Coffee & Donuts!

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 need paid in October for all members.

RESPECT LIFE OCTOBER 2026 MONTH



Family Perspective

Today's gospel speaks about "unworthy wedding guests." What makes a "worthy" guest? Presence and presents are not enough. The greatest gift we can offer is our support to the couple as they journey through life together, navigating the inevitable fields of disappointment. Reflect on the weddings you have attended. Have you been a "worthy guest?"



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 11th** burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Señor Horner by his niece, Susan Crawford.



Knights of Columbus Meeting THIS WEEK

Brother Knights are reminded of our meeting on Tuesday, October 13th at St. Elizabeth Parish Center in Corry. We will begin praying The Rosary at 6:30pm and our regular business meeting will follow. *We hope to see you there!*

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.
— Psalm 23

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. Contact Michelle at the Parish Office for more information.



News from the Catholic Daughters of the Americas

We will be 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 St. Elizabeth Parish Center.

Almighty God,

Thank You for the gift of the priests and deacons of the Diocese of Erie. We are grateful for their "yes" to You; for the Masses they celebrate, the confessions they hear, the comfort they bring to the sick, and the ways they guide and serve our parishes with love.

We thank You, too, for our retired priests whose quiet witness still blesses our communities. Their lives remind us what it means to follow Jesus with faith and joy.

Lord, give them strength when they are tired, peace when they are stretched thin, and encouragement in times of struggle. May they always know how much they are loved and appreciated.

Keep calling new vocations in our diocese. Open the hearts of young men to serve You as priests and deacons, and give them the courage to say, "Here I am, Lord, send me."

Through Christ our Lord, Amen.
Provided by the Office for Divine Worship

*We
Pray*

**CLERGY
APPRECIATION
MONTH**



St. Teresa News

Feast Day
- OCTOBER 15 -

"YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT AS LONG AS I LIVE, I DESIRE TO DO SOMETHING IN GOD'S SERVICE."

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA



St. Teresa of Avila is one of four female doctors of the Church and a patron saint of one of our parish churches. We will honor her feast at Masses this coming weekend - October 17/18.

St. Teresa of Avila - Pray for Us!

Readings for the week of October 11, 2026

Sun.: Isaiah 25:6-10a | Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 |
Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 | Matthew 22:1-14 or 22:1-10
Mon.: Galatians 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1 | Psalm 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7 | Luke 11:29-32
Tues.: Galatians 5:1-6 | Psalm 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48 | Luke 11:37-41
Wed.: Galatians 5:18-25 | Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 | Luke 11:42-46
Thur.: Ephesians 1:1-10 | Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 | Luke 11:47-54
Fri.: Ephesians 1:11-14 | Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13 | Luke 12:1-7
Sat.: Ephesians 1:15-23 | Psalm 8:2-3ab, 4-5, 6-7 | Luke 12:8-12
Next 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



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of October 11th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of deceased priests who served our church.

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.

Shopping for an Occasion? Don't Forget RaiseRight!

Would you like to support St. Thomas 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! Contact Missy Silka with questions.



ST. TERESA'S ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

HARVEST Moon

CARD PARTY

An Evening of Cards, Fun & Friendship!

 **DATE: OCTOBER 14, 2026**

 **DOORS OPEN: 5:30 PM**

 **ADMISSION: \$6.00**

RESERVATIONS
Call
814-392-7950



October 15, 2026

Special
Second Collection
taken up in our church
on October 17/18.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we approach World Mission Sunday (WMS) on **October 18, 2026**, I write to you with deep gratitude for your dedication to the mission of the Church to bring the Gospel to the ends of the earth. This year the WMS celebration is unlike any other in our lifetime, for two reasons: First, this World Mission Sunday marks the **100th anniversary** of its establishment by Pope Pius XI in 1926. This centenary is an opportunity to mark it with renewed missionary zeal. This year's theme, **"One in Christ, United in Mission"** chosen by Pope Leo XIV, invites us to rediscover the profound unity we share in Christ through baptism and how our baptismal missionary identity overflows into the mission of the Church to bring all creatures into communion with God and us. Secondly, the **beatification of Archbishop Fulton Sheen on September 24**, which reminds us of how every priest must have a mind and a heart for the missions.

Pope Leo XIV recognizes how important World Mission Sunday is for the Church. He spent a large part of his priestly ministry as a missionary in Peru, serving communities in the Andean highlands and rural villages, and has noted how dependent he was on the support of the Church universal through WMS.

Last World Mission Sunday Pope Leo asked our support by saying, *"Please help me help missionaries everywhere."* That's what WMS does: to help Pope Leo care for the 1,130 missionary dioceses and territories under his supervision through the Dicastery for Evangelization.

We must never forget that 5.5 of the 8.1 billion people alive are not Christian, two millennia after Pentecost. The second collection we take up on World Mission Sunday supports the Church's missionary work in places where the Gospel has never been heard before and where the Church is too young, persecuted, or poor to sustain itself.

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will renew in us the fire of the early Church, that we might truly be One in Christ, United in Mission.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL.
Bishop of Erie

Scan to give



Please use the special collection envelope in your offertory packet or another enveloped marked 'World Mission Sunday' to make your gift. Thank you.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: October 3 & 4, 2026

Total Offertory Income \$7,525.00
Average Budgeted Offertory Income.....\$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage.....\$(-175.00)

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!

Second Collection: Catholic Education Collection.....\$1,524.00

Thank you for supporting this special second collection taken up on September 19/20. Your generous donation helps support the faith formation and educational ministries in our parish and diocese. Half of the total collection remains in our parish to support our Religious Education Program. Thank you!

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 11 - NO Class
 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 by October 18. They can be dropped off at the back of St. Teresa Church, St. Thomas Church, and at the parish office. 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!

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!
 We appreciate their support and ask that you patronize their businesses.

OCTOBER 12

Columbus Day

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.
 - Matthew 28:19

Our Parish Office will be CLOSED on Monday, Oct. 12 - sorry for any inconvenience. We will reopen on Tues., Oct. 13 at 8:30am.

OCTOBER 11

Pastor Appreciation Day

Lord, bless the clergy who have answered your call to serve. Renew in them the joy of their vocation, strengthen them when they are weary and encourage them in their ministry.

May they always know the gratitude and prayers of the people they serve. Bless those who have served faithfully for many years and inspire a new generation of men to answer your call with generous hearts.

We are grateful to all the priests who faithfully served our churches in our parish over the years. A special thanks to Fr. Tom Whitman, our current pastor, may he be blessed in his ministry and be granted joy and good health.

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



Amount Pledged at St. Thomas to date = \$78,530
 Paid to date = \$72,335

Amount Pledged at St. Teresa to date = \$42,345
 Paid to date = \$40,476

Number of Families who made a pledge is 213

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

32ND ANNUAL

Rosary March

OCTOBER 11, 2026 at 2:00 PM

St. Peter Cathedral - 10th and Sassafras Streets, Erie; Please arrive by 1:30 pm

HOMILY & SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR: Father Jerry Priscaro

MORE INFO: John Walsh 814-868-1100

Sponsored by the WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA AND THE LEGION OF MARY

109th Anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun, Mary in Fatima

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

October is Respect Life Month: Our faith reminds us that every human life is sacred. Protecting children, youth, and vulnerable adults is not just a responsibility – it's a Respect Life issue that involves all of us. If you suspect or know of abuse, report it immediately. Speaking up can save lives and uphold the dignity of every person. For details on how to report child abuse, visit: www.eriecd.org/childprotection/.