



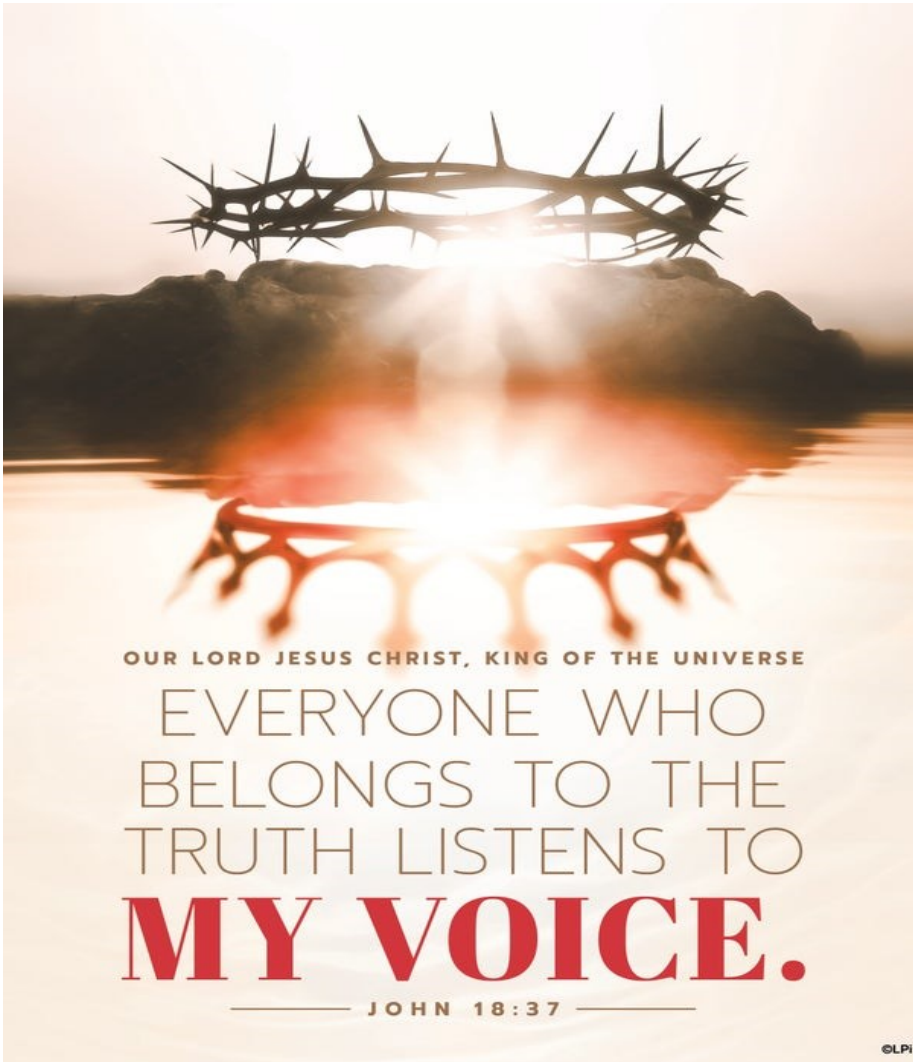
Saint Thomas the Apostle Church  
203 W. Washington Street  
Corry, PA 16407

# 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

## November 24, 2024



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

EVERYONE WHO  
BELONGS TO THE  
TRUTH LISTENS TO  
**MY VOICE.**

— JOHN 18:37 —

©LPI

### 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  
Director of Faith Formation*  
business@stparish.org

**Susan Johnston**  
*Secretary*  
secretary@stparish.org

**Carol Huffman**  
*Bookkeeper*  
finance@stparish.org

**Rhonda Pierce**  
*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](http://www.stthomastheapostle.church)

**Saint Teresa of Avila Church**  
[www.st-teresa-unioncity.org](http://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

Notes from the Pastor

I GIVE CATHOLIC: There is a special flyer in the bulletin today explaining the I Give Catholic campaign. You can donate online or you can use the envelopes in the pews to make your donation.

The annual online appeal, I Give Catholic, will be on Tuesday, December 3. We will have only one site under the name of St. Thomas, but there will be sub-sections for each of the following: St. Thomas, St. Teresa, St. Thomas Cemetery, St. Teresa Cemetery, St. Elizabeth Cemetery, Religious Education, as well as the St. Thomas Cemetery Endowment Fund. Click on the St. Thomas in Corry site and then scroll through to the section where you wish to make your contribution. Thank You for considering these areas of need for our parish.

There are envelopes at the ends of the pews in which you can make your contribution to the I Give Catholic campaign without having to go online.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: Being a member of the parish has a number of meanings and requirements. One of the neglected parts of membership is for people to register. Just as people need to register to vote, one also needs to register to be a member of a parish. Some people assume that if they go to Mass at a church or they were baptized there that they are a member of that church. Registration is important so we know who is a member, how to contact you in case of an emergency, and where you live in case of an emergency. Registration also enables us to communicate with you through mail, email, phone calls, etc.... Being a registered member who attends Mass each week may enable someone to be a sponsor for Confirmation or a godparent for Baptism, along with other requirements. But being a registered member is the starting point.

There are also responsibilities of those who are members. Some of those responsibilities include attending Mass each week, raising your children in the practice of the faith, supporting the parish through volunteer work and financially. Every member should be supporting the parish through the use of envelopes or online giving.

If you are not receiving envelopes or mailings from the parish, you need to contact the parish office to see if you are registered, or if we have the wrong information. If you are not a member, you can find a registration form on our parish website or there is a form on the front of the bulletin you can fill out and place in the collection basket and we can mail you one.

OCTOBER COUNT: Every year during the month of October, we count the number of people who attend Mass on the weekend. Last year, 2023, we averaged 304 people combined at the three Masses. This year, 2024, we averaged 300 people combined at the three Masses. It seems our numbers are holding steady, but we also have around 500 families listed as parishioners. Like most parishes, we have lots of people on the books, but fewer people actually attending Mass.

THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR HOMEBOUND: One of the first things I did when I arrived was to ask family members to call the office

*Continued* ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡

**Sunday, November 24**

- 8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa  
(St. Thomas, Corry)  
11:00a.m. †Karen Gardiner by Kelly & Eric Ward  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Monday, November 25**

- 8:00a.m. †Barbara Krol by Bev & Ed Weaver and family  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Tuesday, November 26**

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

**Wednesday, November 27**

- 8:00a.m. †William VanCise by Mary and children  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

**Thursday, November 28—Thanksgiving Day**

- 9:00a.m. †Deceased members of the Cragg & Sullivan  
Families by the family  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Friday, November 29**

No Mass or Services at either Sts. Thomas or Teresa today.

**Saturday, November 30**

- 4:30p.m. †George Baker by Rosemary Baker  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

**Sunday, December 1—First Sunday of Advent**

- 8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa  
(St. Thomas, Corry)  
11:00a.m. †Thomas Bengel by Laura Bengel,  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

with the names of those who were ill or homebound. Some people have done this, and we have taken them communion and I have given them the sacrament of the anointing of the sick. I make that plea again. Lately, there have been people who I am hearing about who are homebound and no one has called the office in order for us to minister to them. Some of them have passed away and people wonder why no one came to visit them. The only way we know if someone is ill or homebound is if a family member calls to inform us. I thank you for your attention to this matter.

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS: will be at St. Teresa at 9:00am.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY: This year December 8 falls on a Sunday and thus the Holy Day of obligation is moved to Monday, December 9. Masses will be at 8:00am at St. Teresa and 7:00pm at St. Thomas.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE: We will have five priests at St. Teresa on Sunday, December 8, at 1:30pm for our Advent Penance celebration. All are welcome to attend in preparation for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS MASSES: We will have Masses on Christmas Eve at 4:30pm at St. Thomas, 7:00pm at St. Teresa, and there will be one Mass on Christmas Day at 10:00am at St. Thomas.

- Fr. Tom

## St. Thomas News

### 2024 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 11/17):

St. Thomas Diocesan Goal is \$37,254.00

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$60,846.00

Total Paid to date = \$58,606.00

# of Families who made a pledge = 131

Prayerfully consider what God is leading you to give.

Please make a pledge today. Thank you.

Be sure to make your check payable to

'ST. THOMAS CHURCH' when making a CSA payment.



**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 November 24<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of family and friends who have passed.

### Holiday Pastry Sale by St. Thomas Altar Rosary Society

Members of the Altar Rosary are selling pastries this weekend, November 23/24, before and after Masses. Cost is \$16 for Kolachi (Walnut or Apricot) and \$13 for Baklava. As a reminder, all monies raised by the Altar Rosary are used for purchases made to enhance the altar and our church. Your support is always appreciated. Thank you.



### Thank You to All Who Helped with the Parish Gardens



We wish to thank Lois Woodcock and her team of volunteers who helped this year to cleanup and beautify the gardens around St. Thomas. A special 'thank you' to members of the Corry Knights of Columbus who helped trim trees and shrubs near the school building. Everyone's efforts really helped to improve our grounds and landscaping at St. Thomas. Wishing a well deserved rest for our volunteers now that fall (and soon winter) is here ....looking forward to spring when we will see the fruits of your labors. Thanks again!

**Jesus answered, "You say I am a king.  
For this I was born and for this I came into the world,  
to testify to the truth." (John 18:37)**

### Submission Deadline for Bulletin Items

Generally, items for publication in our bulletin must be sent to the parish office by Monday afternoon the week prior to when you wish your item to appear. Please email written content to [secretary@stparish.org](mailto:secretary@stparish.org). Please note that during holiday seasons, bulletin deadlines are moved up as much as 1-2 weeks earlier, so the earlier you provide the office with your bulletin items the better. All bulletin items are subject to approval and editing for content and space. If you have any questions, please call the parish office. Thank you.



### 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.

### Catholic Daughters Seeking New Members

Members of the Catholic Daughters, Court Conception #35, are seeking new members to join their organization. This is one of the oldest and largest women's organizations in America today. Catholic women over age 18 are eligible to join. Please find more information about the Catholic Daughters near the entrances of the church or by contacting Linda Brown (814-665-5840) or Pat Phillips (814-462-4114).

## PERSEVERE IN PRAYER



### Corry Knights of Columbus Food Drive Collection

The Corry Knights wish to thank all those from our parish who donated to their recent food drive benefiting the Corry Food Pantry. We are very grateful for everyone's generosity. If you still have items to donate, please be sure to bring them in this week either to the church or parish office.



# ADVENT

### Next Weekend: ADVENT Begins!

The new Church year begins Saturday evening (November 30) with the 4:30pm Vigil Mass of the First Sunday of Advent. What a joyful time of the year! Make sure that in the midst of the hectic days ahead you consider acts of prayer and charity. Would you consider attending one Daily Mass during Advent? Or, how about making a "visit" to the Blessed Sacrament on your way to or from work/school? Prepare for the Nativity in a quiet, no-cost, and joyful way. Prayer and Charity ----- the BEST way to prepare for Christmas!

## St. Teresa News

### 2024 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 11/17):

St. Teresa Diocesan Goal is \$24,359.00

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$39,014.00

Total Paid to date = \$37,950.00

# of Families who made a pledge = 102

Prayerfully consider what God is leading you to give.

**Please make a pledge today. Thank you.**

**Be sure to make your check payable to**

**'ST. THOMAS CHURCH' when making a CSA payment.**

### Family Perspective

When we are young, our parents "tell us about Jesus" and we believe what our parents believe. At some point we must leave our parents faith and ask Pilate's question: "Are you the King?" Pilate is just asking these questions on our behalf.

**The Lord sits as King for ever  
The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

Psalm 29(28):10-11

### "Question of the Week" - Solemnity of Christ the King

**Question for Children:** Is it difficult or easy for you to tell the truth? How does Jesus help you?

**Question for Youth:** Today we celebrate Christ the King. How much do you let Jesus' truth rule your life? How difficult is it for you to follow Jesus?

**Question for Adults:** What is the truth for you? How do you live the truth everyday?

### Thanksgiving Day Mass

This Thanksgiving, let us remember all the good things, and people, who have come into our lives. We focus on thanking each one who has helped us, and ultimately thank God for the good gifts of this world. **A Thanksgiving Day Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am at St. Teresa Church.**



### A Thanksgiving Prayer

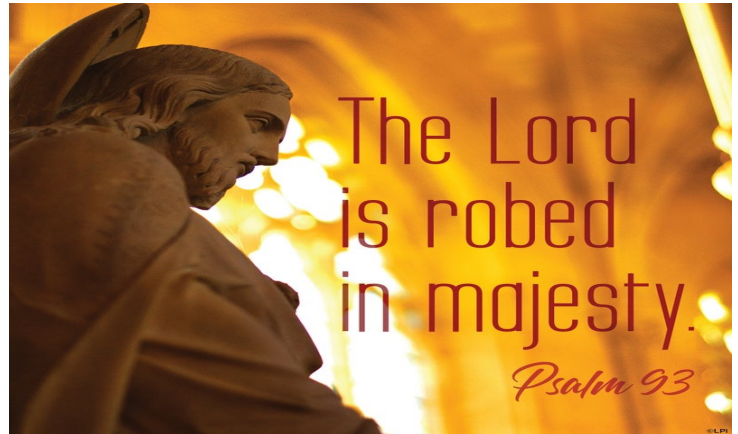
God our Father,  
Graciously accept from your humble people  
a thankful heart and spirit.  
Everything we have and are able to share with others  
ultimately comes from your love of your creations.  
Often we think that everything we have  
is our own creation;  
we ask you this day to create in us  
a spirit of gratitude,  
that we may always know  
that all good gifts come from you.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of November 24<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Bob Adams by Melody Adams and family.



Captain Joseph Campbell, *for Consecrated Life*, Rev. James Campbell, Rev. John Beal, *Happy Thanksgiving*, Rev. Zab Amar, Rev. Msgr. Bruce Allison, and also please *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*



### Readings for the week of November 24, 2024

Sun.: Daniel 7:13-14 ♦ Psalm 91:1, 1-2, 5 (1a) ♦ Revelation 1:5-8 ♦ John 18:33b-37

Mon.: Revelation 14:1-3, 4b-5 ♦ Psalm 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 ♦ Luke 21:1-4

Tues.: Revelation 14:14-19 ♦ Psalm 96:10, 11-12, 13 ♦ Luke 21:5-11

Wed.: Revelation 15:1-4 ♦ Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 7-8, 9 ♦ Luke 21:12-19

Thur.: Revelation 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a ♦ Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 ♦ Luke 21:20-28

Fri.: Revelation 20:1-4, 11—21:2 ♦ Psalm 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a ♦ Luke 21:29-33

Sat.: Romans 10:9-18 ♦ Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11 ♦ Matthew 4:18-22

Next Sun.: Jeremiah 33:14-16 ♦ Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 (1b) ♦ 1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2 ♦ Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

### Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Thank you to all who donated to our food baskets for Thanksgiving for those in need. Our collective efforts will ensure that many people will have a good Thanksgiving Day. We appreciate everyone's generosity!



### St. Teresa Church Organizations / Groups

#### •Rosary—Altar Society

Meets the first Monday of each month at 4:30 PM

#### •Knights of Columbus

Meet every third Wednesday at 7:00 PM


#### •Religious Education Guild

Meets during the school term

<b>FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:</b>	November 16 & 17, 2024
<b>Amount in Envelopes:</b> (143)	\$6,195.00
<b>Loose</b>	\$411.00
(Above amounts combine total offertory from ALL 3 weekend Masses)	
<b>Online Giving</b> (12)	\$410.00
<b>Faith Formation/Rel. Ed.</b>	\$0.00
<b>Continuing the Vision</b>	\$0.00
<b>Total Offertory Income</b>	\$7,016.00
<b>Average Weekly Expenses</b>	\$11,390.00
(Average Weekly Expenses are for normal operating expenses, this does not include extraordinary repairs.)	
<b>Weekly Average Shortfall</b>	\$(4,374.00)

*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 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](http://www.StThomastheApostle.Church) and click 'Donate Online'.*

**Have you paid in full your pledge to the 2024 CSA? If not, please try to do so by the end of the year.**

**THANK YOU** to all of our bulletin sponsors!  
 We appreciate their support of our parishes and ask our parishioners to please patronize these business.

**WELCOME**  
 If you are new to our parish, we extend a warm welcome and hope you will find here 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 to the Offertory Collection or 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 celebrate 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 be sure to notify the Parish Office of any changes to your address, phone numbers, or email address. Thank you.*

**Religious Education News**

**2024-2025 Religious Education Program**  
 Our Religious Education Program combined this year. Combining our resources makes our program stronger. For the 2024-2025 Religious Education Year, we will have classes at St. Teresa for the first half of the year (September—December) and at St. Thomas for the second half of the year (January—May). **Classes in the first half will meet at St. Teresa Parish Center at 9:30am.**

**Calendar Reminders for Religious Education**  
 Sunday, Nov. 24—Classes and Advent Group Activity at St. Teresa  
 Sunday, Dec. 1—No Classes / Thanksgiving break  
 Sunday, Dec. 8—Classes and student confessions at St. Teresa  
 Sunday, Dec. 15—Classes for All students at St. Teresa  
 Sunday, Dec. 22—No Classes / Christmas break  
 Sunday, Dec. 29—No Classes / Christmas break  
**\* Beginning in January all classes will be at St. Thomas in Corry.**



**Parish Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday**  
 The Parish Office will be closed on Wednesday, November 27 and Thursday, November 28 for the Thanksgiving holiday. Our office will re-open to the public on Monday, December 2. *May you have an enjoyable and blessed Thanksgiving.*





**#iGIVECATHOLIC**  
 Your gift could help our parish WIN a CASH PRIZE.  
 Advanced Giving Days Nov. 18—Dec. 2



**#GivingTuesday December 3, 2024**

What better way to thank God for His continued blessings than to give back to our church communities? **Advanced Giving runs from Monday, November 18—Monday, December 2.** You can support St. Thomas & St. Teresa with an online gift and also by check or cash (**please place your check/cash in the #iGiveCatholic envelope or another envelope marked with 'iGiveCatholic'**) and place it in the collection baskets or mail it to the parish office. Please list the fundraising campaign you wish to donate to on the memo line of your check or write it on the envelope. Fundraising campaigns are: **St. Thomas, St. Teresa, St. Elizabeth Cemetery, St. Teresa Cemetery, St. Thomas Cemetery, Religious Education, and St. Thomas Cemetery Endowment Fund.**

Online donations accepted NOW and through 11:59pm on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> by going to [erie.igivecatholic.org](http://erie.igivecatholic.org) or find a link on our websites. You may also scan this QR code to donate:

*Our parish has many needs and we greatly appreciate your financial support. Thank you!*