



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

February 2, 2025



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

“Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel.” - Lk 2:34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©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

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

Notes from the Pastor

SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY: On Sunday, February 9, 2025, we will have a Soup Fest at Noon in the Parish Center at St. Teresa. SIGN UP TODAY!! This is intended to be a social gathering for people to begin to get to know one another. Everyone is invited to bring something to the gathering – soup, bread, crackers – lists are posted at each Church to sign up to bring something, if you can, and a sign up to let us know how many people plan to attend so we can make preparations. You can bring one of the designated soups, or one of your own personal favorites.

NEW OFFERTORY STATEMENT: Please note the new offertory summary statement in the bulletin today. This will show what we collected in the offertory, what we budgeted for offertory for the week, and the difference between the two. Remember that the offertory is only one line item in our income (fund raisers, rentals, etc...) and does not cover our total expenses for the week.

THE SOWER OF BLACK FIELD: is a novel by Katherine Koch. It is based on a true story about a Passionist Priest from our Diocese (from Sharon, PA). It is the story of an American Priest in Nazi Germany. It is the story of a local hero. I have provided a copy of the book at each church for people to borrow. The signup sheet and the book are in the St. Elizabeth room at St. Thomas, and in the back of Church at St. Teresa. It is also available on Amazon for Kindle users (free) and as an audio book. I recommend books from time to time. I have recommended this book before, but it has recently won a number of awards and hope it finds its way into the eyes and hearts of people who enjoy a good story based on a real person.

FISH DINNERS: Fish Dinners are coming soon to both Churches. We are grateful to all those who have worked so hard on these dinners in the past and hope others will come out to join them. Keep a close watch in the bulletin for upcoming meetings.

- Fr. Tom



Sunday, February 2

- 8:00a.m. †Naomi Snell by Gary & Terri Snell (St. Thomas, Corry)
- 11:00a.m. †Barb Krol by Sue & Tim Vinca (St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, February 3

- 8:00a.m. †Priscilla Kozik by Eric & Barb Jacobs (St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, February 4

- 8:00a.m. †Clyde Ross by David & Barb Sekerak (St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, February 5

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

Thursday, February 6

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

Friday, February 7

- 8:00a.m. †Ed Weaver by Irene Weaver and family

Saturday, February 8

- 4:30p.m. †Barbara Krol by Anne Marie Davis (St. Teresa, Union City)

Sunday, February 9


- 8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa (St. Thomas, Corry)
- 11:00a.m. †Diana Hanlin Strefeler by her daughter, Becky Boleratz (St. Teresa, Union City)

First Friday Calls

If you, or a loved one, is shut-in to your home or in a nursing home and wishes to have a visit from the priest, deacon, or Eucharistic Minister, please call the parish office.


Hospital Visits


Please let us know if a family member is in the hospital. A visit from the priest may be arranged. Please know that Hamot and Saint Vincent hospitals have priests on call in cases of emergency. Be sure to ask your nurse.



Requests for Mass Intentions


Contact the parish office at 814-663-3041 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. Thank you. We suggest that you make a donation to the church with any 'extra' funds you wish to give towards Masses. You may also sponsor the Sanctuary Candle for a loved one at either of our churches for just \$10 for one week.





Jubilee Journey:

Celebrating Together for Holy Year 2025

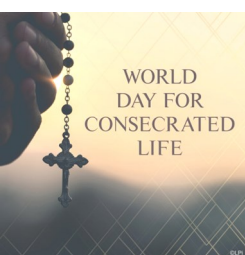


Journey with the Diocese of Erie
ErieRCD.org/HolyYear2025.html

Prayer for World Day for Consecrated Life

God of all goodness,
 you have called people to follow you faithfully.
 Humans have heard that call and many choose to follow your call in varied and faith-filled lives. Some follow your call in private, silent lives as hermits;
 some choose to follow you with lives lived as virgins and widows; while others choose public lives of vowed men and women as religious brothers and sisters.
 Abundantly give to these men and women the courage to follow their call as witnesses to your gifts and faith and service to the world.

We ask this in faith
 through the name of Jesus our Savior.
 Amen.



WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

St. Thomas News

Don't Forget About the St. Thomas Fish Dinners

St. Thomas will again hold Lenten Fish Dinners this year. We are grateful for all the volunteers who help with the success of the dinners. If you missed some of the planning meetings—that's okay—we could still use your help with our Lenten Fish Dinners. Please reach out to our chairpersons: Sue Vinca (814-964-0290) and/or Judy Green (814-964-1646). Watch for more information in upcoming bulletins. Thank you.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of February 2nd burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Tom, John, Susan, Rick, and Joan Wascak by Carol & Darrell Huffman.

"Question of the Week" - Fest of the Presentation of the Lord

Question for Children: What do you want to tell others about Jesus?

Question for Youth: Simeon said that Jesus would be a "light to all nations." When, where or how do you see the light of Jesus?

Question for Adults: Mary and Joseph took their faith seriously enough to make a return to the Lord of the most precious thing in their lives, their son, whom they presented to God in the Temple. How do you return to God that which is most precious to you?

PERSEVERE IN PRAYER



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.

Snowman Raffle Tickets for Sale

If interested, tickets are for sale at the parish office (see Sue) or contact a Corry Knight. Drawing will be at the Knight's February meeting on Tuesday, February 11. Need not be present to win. Proceeds help benefit Knights Council #425 and the good works they do for our parish and community.

SNOWMAN RAFFLE
 1st PRIZE - \$100.00 CASH
 2nd PRIZE - \$50.00 CASH
 3rd PRIZE - \$25.00 CASH
 Drawing at Knights of Columbus "February Meeting"
 Donation: \$1.00

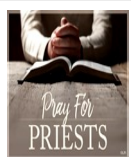
Family Perspective

Mary and Joseph must have felt immense pride when their village 'all spoke well of Jesus and were amazed at his words.' However, they likely experienced shame when the same people drove him out of town. Like Mary and Joseph, the highs and lows of parenting are part of our journey towards becoming a Holy Family.

Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord! (Psalm 24)

Because he himself was tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested. (Hebrews 2:18)

Jesus didn't come to take away our suffering. No one, not even Jesus himself, is spared the emotional and physical pain of this world. Jesus came to restore our relationship with God.



Rev. Richard Toohey, Rev. Joseph Campbell, Rev. James Campbell, Rev. Kyle Seyler, Rev. Frank Dicristina, Rev. Jason Glover, Rev. Thomas Tyler, Rev. Msgr. James Sanner, and also please *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*



Free Day Retreat—Sanctus— at Our Lady of Mercy Church

A free Sanctus retreat will take place on Saturday March 1 beginning with a breakfast at 8:30am and concluding with 4:30pm Vigil Mass. This will be held at Our Lady of Mercy Church, 837 Bartlett Rd, Harborcreek. Meals are included. For any questions or to register, please contact Irene at 814.899.6132 or by email at: ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org Please register for this event by February 16.



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.

Custodian Position Available at St. Thomas

We are seeking an individual who is interested in working a custodial position for the parish. The job would be approximately 15 hours per week. Duties include cleaning St. Thomas Church, the parish office, St. Elizabeth Parish Center, and the former St. Thomas school building. If interested, please contact the parish office (814-663-3041) or email Missy Silka, Business Manager, at business@stparish.org.



St. Thomas Church Organizations / Groups

- Altar—Rosary Society**
Meets the third Wednesday of the month
- Knights of Columbus—Corry Council #425**
Meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM
- Catholic Daughters of the Americas**
Meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:00 PM

St. Teresa News

Soup-er Bowl Sunday on February 9th

You are invited to join us on Sunday, February 9 at St. Teresa Parish Center as we celebrate Soup-er Bowl Sunday! We hope to have plenty of soup for everyone to enjoy. **So we can better plan for the event, please sign up this weekend.** Sign up sheets are located in the back of St. Teresa Church and in the St. Elizabeth Room at St. Thomas Church. If you wish to bring a crock-pot of soup to share, please see the sign up sheets at either church—we are looking for various types of soups, or you may sign up to bring bread to share. We hope you will plan to join us for this fun event and a time of socializing.



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



Rosary Altar Bake Sale TODAY

Please plan to pick up a delicious treat for yourself or to share with family and friends at our Bake Sale which will be held at both the 4:30pm Mass on February 1 and the 11:00am Mass on February 2 at St. Teresa Church. Thank you for your support.

Readings for the week of February 2, 2025

Sun.: Malachi 3:1-4 ♦ Hebrews 2:14-18 ♦ Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10 ♦ Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
 Mon.: Hebrews 11:32-40 ♦ Psalm 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24 ♦ Mark 5:1-20
 Tues.: Hebrews 12:1-4 ♦ Psalm 22:26b-27, 28 and 30, 31-32 ♦ Mark 5:21-43
 Wed.: Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15 ♦ Psalm 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a ♦ Mark 6:1-6
 Thur.: Hebrews 12:18-19, 21-24 ♦ Psalm 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 9, 10-11 ♦ Mark 6:7-13
 Fri.: Hebrews 13:1-8 ♦ Psalm 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc ♦ Mark 6:14-29
 Sat.: Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21 ♦ Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 ♦ Mark 6:30-34
 Next Sun.: Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8 ♦ Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 (1c) ♦ 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11 ♦ Luke 5:1-11

St. Stanislaus Parish Super Bowl Sunday Pancake Breakfast

On Sunday, Feb. 9, 2025, St. Stanislaus Church, 516 E. 13th St, Erie, will be hosting a Super Bowl Sunday Pancake Breakfast from 10:00am to 1:00pm. Cost is \$6 per person and includes: Pancakes, sausage, coffee or tea and orange juice. All are welcome. You may also join us for 9:00am Mass before the breakfast.

Fish Dinner Meeting at St. Teresa

Fish Dinners are rapidly approaching! We will hold a meeting for all those who would like to be involved on Tuesday, February 11, at 6:30pm in the meeting room at St. Teresa Parish Center. As always, we need help with advertising, set up, clean up, serving, making desserts, and cooking. There are things to do the day before, and the day of the dinners. We can find a place for you to help. If you can't make the meeting, let Becky Boleratz or Father Tom know and we will keep you informed as to where we need your help or where you have helped in the past.



The Lord is my helper, and I will not be afraid. Hebrews 13:6



Let your hearts take comfort, all who hope in the Lord.

(Psalm 31)

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

St. George Parish to Host February Penance Series

Every Thursday in February, St. George Parish, 5145 Peach St., Erie, will be conducting a different theme during the penance series. The first kicks off on Feb. 6, 2025, from 7:00pm to 8:00pm with Fr. Brandon Kleckner with a discussion on penance, bring your questions. The following week, Feb. 13, 2025, from 7:00pm to 8:45pm is Movie Night featuring the movie *I Confess*. This will be held in the Saint George School multipurpose room. Thursday, Feb. 20, 7:00pm to 8:30pm will have Fr. Patrick Smith from the Archdiocese of Washington D.C. speaking on the sacrament with Confessions to follow. The last week, Feb. 27 from 7:00pm to 8:00pm will wrap up the series with a Holy Hour followed by fellowship in the Saint George School multipurpose room.

2025 Parish Calendars Available in the Church

Families may take a 2025 Parish Calendar which are located near the entrances of the church at both Sts. Thomas and Teresa. Sorry they arrived late—due to circumstances beyond our control. We wish to thank this year's calendar sponsors:




Bracken Funeral Home and Warren-Glenn Funeral Home

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: January 25 & 26, 2025
Total Offertory Income \$5,795.13
Average Budgeted Offertory Income \$7,700.00
Offertory Shortfall.....\$(-1,904.87)

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.

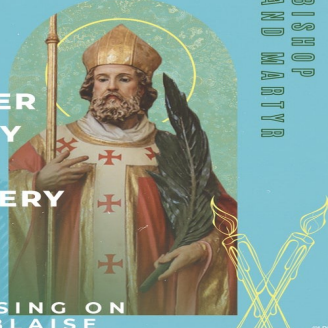


Please know that you can now give all your donations online by visiting our parish website at www.StThomastheApostle.Church and click 'Donate Online'.

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

February 3rd

“MAY GOD DELIVER YOU FROM EVERY DISEASE OF THE THROAT AND EVERY OTHER ILLNESS.”



TRADITIONAL BLESSING ON THE FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

BISHOP AND MARTYR

Blessing of the Throat will be offered at daily Mass on Feb. 3.

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 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 address, phone numbers, or email.

Religious Education News

2024-2025 Religious Education Program
 Our Religious Education Program combined this year. **Now that we are in the second half of the Religious Education year (January—May) — ALL Classes will meet at St. Thomas school building from 9:00am—10:30am on Sundays.**



Calendar Reminders for Religious Education
 February 2—Classes for all students at St. Thomas
 February 9—Classes for all students at St. Thomas
 February 16—No Classes today
 February 23—Classes for all students at St. Thomas

Have you paid in full your pledge to the 2024 CSA? If not, please do so as soon as possible. The 2025 CSA will begin soon. 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.

Eucharistic Adoration THIS WEEK
With you, O Lord, is the fountain of life...
 Our parishes will hold their monthly Eucharistic Adoration this week. It will be held on **Thursday, February 6th (8:00am) through Friday, February 7th (8:00am) at Saint Thomas Church.** It will also be held on **Friday, February 7th (8:00am –12:00pm) at St. Teresa Church.** All are welcome any time to spend a prayerful, quiet moment with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.



Presentation of the Lord

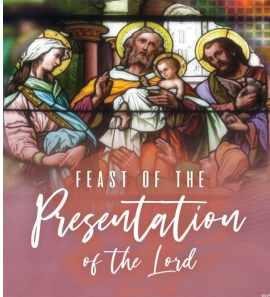
Question:
 Luke's Gospel is the only one to mention the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. What is Luke trying to communicate here and what connection does it have with Mary?

Answer:
 February 2 is exactly forty days after December 25, the nativity of Jesus. Jewish law (Ex 13:2, 12) dictated that Jesus, as the firstborn, be consecrated to God. This was done by the parents as they presented their Son in the Temple.

Jewish law further specified (Lv 12:2-8) that a mother was ritually impure after giving birth, and that she had to wait a set period of time (forty days for a boy) before she was to offer a sacrifice to the Lord for purification.

The convergence of these two Jewish regulations occasions Luke's account of both the Presentation of the Lord and the Purification of Mary. These days the liturgical emphasis is more on the Presentation of Jesus. Luke highlights the role of Simeon and Anna, two righteous Jews who recognized Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah and praised God for being able to see and experience such a marvel in their lifetimes.

Simeon's prayer concerning the special role of Jesus states that Jesus is "a light for revelation to the Gentiles." This phrase eventually originated the custom of blessing candles on this day which were to be used in the ceremonies, rituals, and processions throughout the church year. Thus February 2 is also known as Candlemas Day. This day is indeed a rich feast to be savored.



FEAST OF THE Presentation of the Lord

LPI