



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

May 18, 2025



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

I give you a new commandment:
love one another." - Jn 13:34a

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

Message from the Pastor

Here are a few upcoming events to be aware of:

- MEMORIAL DAY MASS: On Monday, May 26, at 9:00am, we will have Mass at St. Thomas Cemetery Chapel to remember our deceased loved ones.

- ASCENSION THURSDAY MASSES: Thursday, May 29, is Ascension Thursday and a Holy Day of obligation. Masses will be at 8:00am at St. Thomas and at 7:00pm at St. Teresa.

- ANointING OF THE SICK: After all the Masses on the weekend of June 28/29, we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

ANointING OF THE SICK: 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. 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.**

CEMETERY FUNDRAISER: Thanks to Rhonda Pierce and the St. Thomas-St. Elizabeth Cemetery Board members for putting on a very successful *Sip and Paint Party* last week. Everyone had fun, learned a few things, and realized how there is a creative spirit in all of us.

- Fr. Tom

**Sunday, May 18**

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

11:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa (St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, May 19

8:00a.m. †Cathryn Landis by Dick & Elaine Hasbrouck (St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, May 20

8:00a.m. †Skye Elizabeth by Grandma (St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, May 21

8:00a.m. †August Hennings and Family by Jerry & Alice Rushin (St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, May 22

No Mass or Services today at both Sts. Thomas and Teresa.

Friday, May 23

8:00a.m. †Ronald Tomcho by Hanh Tomcho and family (St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, May 24

4:30p.m. †Paul & Sally Griebel by Joan, Jan, and Alan (St. Thomas, Corry)

Sunday, May 25

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)

Let us pray that our newly elected Holy Father may be a champion of the poor, a reconciler of nations, and a force for peace and unity in our world.

Habemus Papam

INTRODUCING THE NEWLY ELECTED

Pope Leo XIV



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

Missionary Co-Op Collection TODAY— May 17/18

Today we welcome Sister Christine Kosin, OSB, from Mount Saint Benedict Monastery in Erie as this year's missionary speaker. She will share some of the work of the Alliance for International Monasticism (AIM USA). AIM USA has formed an alliance between 140 US and Canadian monasteries with over 450 Benedictine and Cistercian monasteries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Latin America and Eastern Europe. These Benedictine and Cistercian women and men form centers of prayer, education, health and agriculture in some of the poorest regions of the world. AIM responds to the needs of monasteries in the developing world by supporting mission communities in their birth, growth, development, trials, and difficulties. **Thank you for your generosity in today's special second collection at all Masses. If you were not prepared to give today, please place your donation in an envelope marked 'Missionary Co-Op' and put in the collection next weekend.** Thank you for your generosity in supporting the global Church.



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Thomas Church for the week of **May 18th** burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of **Deceased Members of the August & Mary Wascak family** and in honor of the **Blessed Virgin Mary** by Paul & Sherry Wascak.

"Question of the Week" - 5th Sunday of Easter

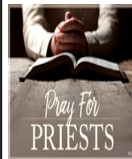
Question for Children: How do you make obvious that you love your family and friends?

Question for Youth: The world is full of examples of people who don't love others. What are the results of hate that you see in the world? How would the world be different if we followed Jesus' commandment?

Question for Adults: Jesus' commandment to love another is a challenge. What will you do this week to deepen the love you have for those around you in life?

St. Thomas Altar Rosary Meeting THIS WEEK

Ladies of the Altar Rosary Society will meet this week on **Thursday, May 22 at 6:00pm** in the multipurpose room at Saint Thomas. We hope that you will join us.



Rev. Thomas Whitman, Rev. Michael Kesicki, Rev. Brandon Kleckner, **Rev. LaMounte Sayers**, Rev. Mark Mastrian, Rev. Thomas Trocchio, Rev. Joseph Dougherty, and also *Pray for All Priests and Deacons* in our diocese.



Congratulations to Our Newest Member

We wish to congratulate and welcome Renee Sawyer who came into the Catholic Church on the Easter Vigil in April when she was baptized, received communion, and was confirmed in the faith through the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults.

Please continue to join us in prayerful support of Renee.

God, we thank you for the gift of faith and for those You are calling to Yourself. May we be a light to their path.

Seeking Donations for Garden Flowers at St. Thomas Church

It's that time of year to get started working on the gardens around St. Thomas Church. Donations are being accepted toward this project. Please place your donation in an envelope marked **"St. Thomas Garden Flowers"** and put it in the collection basket at Mass or send it to the parish office. We hope to start planting once garden beds are cleaned up. Annuals and perennials will be purchased for around the church grounds. Thank you for your generosity.



Dear Mary,

Mother of God and
Queen of the World,
we acknowledge you
in all your ways,
especially this month,
and crown you in
all your glory.
Pray for us!
Amen.



Diocese of Erie
ROMAN CATHOLIC

Catholic Daughters Meeting on Thursday, May 22

Please join us at 6:00pm in the St. Elizabeth Parish Center for our monthly meeting. All are welcome—hope to see you there.



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.

St. Teresa News

Readings for the week of May 18, 2025

Sun.: Acts 14:21-27 ♦ Psalm 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 (see 1) ♦
Revelation 21:1-5a ♦ John 13:31-33a, 34-35
Mon.: Acts 14:5-18 ♦ Psalm 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 ♦ John 14:21-26
Tues.: Acts 14:19-28 ♦ Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 ♦ John 14:27-31a
Wed.: Acts 15:1-6 ♦ Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 ♦ John 15:1-8
Thur.: Acts 15:7-21 ♦ Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 ♦ John 15:9-11
Fri.: Acts 15:22-31 ♦ Psalm 57:8-9, 10 and 12 ♦ John 15:12-17
Sat.: Acts 16:1-10 ♦ Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 5 ♦ John 15:18-21
Next Sun.: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 ♦ Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4) ♦
Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23 ♦ John 14:23-29



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of May 18th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Sandy King by Larry, Kim and family.

Family Perspective

In today's gospel, Jesus tells us: "Love one another." Love is the glue that holds a family together. It's not the activities a family engages in that make it exceptional, but the love they share for one another.

Use Caution—Be Vigilant Responding to Emails and Texts

A scam is being perpetrated across the country by malicious individuals preying on churches and members of the clergy. The scam plays on your sympathies to be helpful. Any communication asking you to purchase gift cards should be considered a scam. You should always verify such requests by calling the parish directly. Don't use phone numbers in the fraudulent email. Always look for the parish's official phone number found on our website or in our Sunday bulletin. In this age when personal data can be misused, please be aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, its clergy, and entities will never solicit your personal or business information unless initiated by you. Should you receive an unsolicited request for money or personal information – including a request for gift cards of any type – exercise extreme caution. Contact the person or entity being impersonated by using official contact information only. Do not use contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request. Financial fraud like the Gift card scam can be reported to the FTC here: <https://ReportFraud.ftc.gov> and to learn more read this article <https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/avoiding-and-reporting-gift-card-scams> from the FTC.

*I give you a new commandment, says the Lord:
Love one another as I have loved you.*

John 14:34



Save THE Date

©LPI

St. Teresa will once again be holding a **Co-Ed Cash Bingo** on **Saturday, June 14, 2025 at 6:00pm**. Doors will open at 4:30pm. More information to come. Raffle items are needed. If you have any questions, please contact Elaine Hasbrouck, Chairperson. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

2025 Wedding Anniversary Celebration with Bishop Persico

Diocesan Anniversary Celebrations for couples celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 or more years of marriage in 2025 will be held at two locations in the Diocese of Erie this summer:

- Sunday, August 3 at Our Lady of Peace, Erie at 2:00pm
- Sunday, August 24 at St. Tobias, Brockway at 3:00pm



Couples may complete registration online at <https://www.eriecdo.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html>, calling their parish office or contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at 814-824-1210. Registrations are being accepted until July 24 for the Erie celebration and until August 14 for the Brockway celebration. You may also register until Sept. 11 to have a scrolled mailed to you.

Men's Retreat: To the Heights

Adult men (18+ and out of high school) are invited to a powerful 3-day, 2-night backpacking retreat in the Quehanna Wild area (near Parker Dam State Park) from Thursday, June 19 to Saturday, June 21. Retreat leaders - Father Ben Dagher, Father Luke Dagher and Ryan Sayers - wish to share their inspiration from Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati who loved hiking and the outdoors. The cost is \$50, which includes meals, a retreat t-shirt and a Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati medal. Register by June 9 by visiting the Facebook page "[To The Heights - Diocese of Erie](#)" or online: [To the Heights](#). Please email any questions to: totheheightserie@gmail.com.



With praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God His Excellency
The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie cordially invites
the Reverend Diocesan and Religious Clergy, and the Faithful
of the Diocese of Erie to

The Presbyteral Ordination of



THE REVEREND MR.
BRANDON MATTHEW
FEIKLES



THE REVEREND MR.
MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER
SANGA

FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2025
7:00PM AT ST. PETER CATHEDRAL
230 W. 10th Street, Erie, Pennsylvania

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: May 10 & 11, 2025

Total Offertory Income \$5,741.25
Average Budgeted Offertory Income \$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage \$(-1,958.75)

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!

Mother's Day Memorials \$1,265.00
 (Thank you to everyone who contributed by using the envelope in our offertory packets. We appreciate your generosity.)

"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Cor. 9:7

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!

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



May 5, 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Ever since our Lord's admonition to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and shelter the homeless, wherever and whomever they may be, the Church has been reaching out to those in need. Today I would like to ask you to join me, as members of the worldwide Catholic family, in helping the Church to continue to provide for our needy brothers and sisters throughout the world by giving generously to the **International Needs Collection to be taken up in the Diocese of Erie the weekend of May 24-25.**

This annual collection offers a concrete way for us to reach out to those who live in lands and cultures far from our own. It is a combination of three collections:

- The Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe which helps build churches; train and educate seminarians, clergy, and lay leaders; publish Catholic newspapers; support orphanages; and support evangelization among children, youth, and adults.
- The Catholic Relief Services Collection which helps all people, regardless of race, creed, or nation, providing for the victims of war and natural disasters, aiding the Church suffering under persecution, alleviating poverty, and educating the poor; and
- The Support for the Church in Africa collection, which provides for the rapidly growing and vibrant Church on that continent.

Please give generously to the International Needs Collection on May 24-25 and, just as importantly, please include those in need in your prayers. If you prefer to make your gift online, simply scan the QR code below to access the online giving site for the International Needs Collection. Be assured of my prayers for you and your families and parishes.



Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Lawrence T. Persico

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

Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News**Congratulations to the Confirmation Class**

The gifts of the Holy Spirit were conferred on students from Saints Thomas & Teresa during the Sacrament of Confirmation Mass held on May 6th at St. Francis Xavier Church in McKean:

Eric Adams, Jacob Bridgham, Cole Halfast, Joe Kondrlik, Lucas Silka, Dallas Triscuit, Mark VanCise, and Sydney Weis.



Your parish is proud of you and we pray that the gifts of the Holy Spirit that God gives you in the Sacrament of Confirmation are sources of grace throughout your life and a constant reminder to you that God is with you and loves you.

**2025 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals:**

Diocesan Goal for our parish is \$61,792

St. Thomas portion is \$37,000 / St. Teresa portion is \$25,000

Amount Pledged at **St. Thomas** to date = \$64,485

Paid to date = \$46,345

Amount Pledged at **St. Teresa** to date = \$33,663

Paid to date = \$26,933

Total Number of Families who made a pledge = 204

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.

No gift is too small, but give as generously as you can.

