



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

August 31, 2025



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

*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

SCHOOL PLAYGROUND: Two years ago, we took down the fence around the St. Thomas School Playground. Last week we had someone interested in part of the playground and was willing to help us take the playground down. Tanner and Ken Hancock provided a tractor and their manpower, along with John Wilson, Len Clark, Mike Gluvna, and Brian Titch providing additional assistance and a variety of tools. We are grateful to them for all their hard work in taking the playground down and cleaning up the area.

CREMATION: For many years this was not permitted in the Catholic Church. It was only in 1963 that the Church allowed people to choose cremation with the stipulation that the cremains (what is left after the process of cremation) be buried in the ground or entombed in a mausoleum. Often times people forget the stipulation or the full statement of the rule and just say the church allows cremation. The Church still believes that full body burial is the proper respect to be given to the body after death, since we believe that the body will be reunited with the soul after death in the glory of eternal life. Just as Jesus rose body and soul from the dead, so we believe that the same will happen to us.

Here is another way to state that: Cremation of the body quickly reduces the body to about four to ten pounds of bone fragments. The Church requires that these remains of the body be placed in a respectful vessel and treated in the exact same way that a family would treat a body in a casket.

Since the human body has an eternal destiny in any form, the Church requires that cremated remains of a body be buried or entombed immediately after the Funeral in the same timely manner as a body. Cremated remains of a loved one are not to be scattered, kept at home or divided into other vessels among family members, just as it is clear that these practices would desecrate a body in a casket. The Church allows for burial at sea, providing that the cremated remains of the body are buried in a heavy container and not scattered.

All of these teachings on the treatment of cremated remains of the body correspond with the Christian's foundational belief in eternal life—both body and soul—in Jesus Christ among the Communion of Saints.

CHURCH PARKING LOTS: We have done work on the parking lots at both Churches this summer. Lines have been painted at St. Teresa and will be painted soon at St. Thomas. There are places that are designated NO PARKING. This means you are not allowed to park there AT ANY TIME. Some of these NO PARKING spaces are FIRE LANES or access to FIRE HYDRANTS. You endanger everyone by not obeying the NO PARKING signs. Other NO PARKING spaces are to allow access to and from the garages, all of them. Other NO PARKING spaces are to provide access to doorways and buildings, particularly in case of emergency. PLEASE have a sense of respect for others and obey the NO PARKING signs.

- Fr. Tom



Sunday, August 31

8:00a.m. ✠Cragg and Sullivan Families by the Craggs
(St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. ✠Bob Rhodes by Dorothy Rhodes and family
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, September 1—*Labor Day*

8:00a.m. ✠Markie Petrsek by Judy Flynn
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, September 2

8:00a.m. ✠Mary Jane Cable by Gerrie Karkoski and
Peg Anderson
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, September 3

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

Thursday, September 4—*Adoration*

8:00a.m. Communion Service at St. Thomas Church

Friday, September 5—*First Friday*

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

8:00a.m. Communion Service at St. Thomas Church

Saturday, September 6

4:30p.m. ✠Weis and Hermanto Families by Steve & Millie
Weis (St. Thomas, Corry)

Sunday, September 7

8:00a.m. ✠Red & Pearl Harned by Gary & Terry Snell
(St. Thomas, Corry)

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

Eucharistic *Eucharistic Adoration THIS WEEK*



Adoration

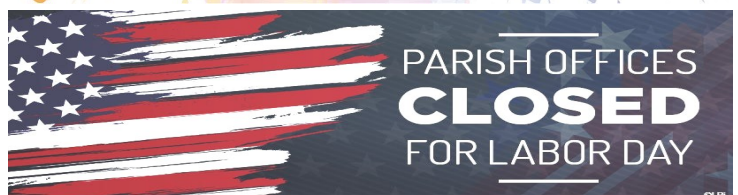
Jesus is the same... yesterday, today, and forever!

Our parishes will hold their monthly Eucharistic Adoration this week. It will be held on **Thursday, September 4th (8:00am)** through **Friday, September 5th (8:00am)** at Saint Thomas Church.

It will also be held on **Friday, Sept. 5th (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.



Remember to Support Our Advertisers



The parish office will be closed on Monday, September 1st. We will re-open on Tuesday morning, September 2nd. If there is a sacramental emergency, please call the office number (814-663-3041) and follow the prompts to reach the priest and leave a message. Thank you.

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.

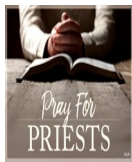
PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

"Question of the Week" - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: Jesus tells us that we should treat everyone as a guest. Who do you tend to shun or not be nice to?

Question for Youth: God asks us to do for others without hope of repayment. This past week, what did you do for someone else for which you won't be repaid? Who are the people most in need of your generosity?

Question for Adults: Who are the people living near you that you would find it most difficult to invite to a meal in your home? Or to invite to be part of your life?



The Most Rev. Lawrence Persico, Pray for All Workers (Labor Day), Very Rev. Nicholas Rouch, VG, Rev. Vincent Cieslewicz, Rev. David Perry, Rev. Stephen Collins, Rev. Msgr. Daniel Magraw, and also Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.

Milestone Anniversary Celebrations

Couples celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or more wedding anniversaries are still welcome to receive a certificate mailed to you. Registrations will close on Thursday, September 11. Couples need to complete the registration online at <https://www.eriercd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html> or contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at 814-824-1210.



"We should not serve the poor like they were Jesus. We should serve the poor because they are Jesus." - Mother Teresa
 St. Teresa of Calcutta | Feast Day—September 5th

HELP

WANTED

Seeking Corry Cemeteries Business Manager

Our parish is looking for an individual to manage our 2 Catholic cemeteries (Sts. Thomas & Elizabeth) in Corry. This is a part-time position that requires management skills, computer skills, and the ability to physically visit the cemeteries occasionally. This position will be approximately 12-15 hours per week. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact our Business Manager, Missy Silka at the parish office 814-663-3041 or business@stparish.org

Save-the-Date | Saturday, October 4th

Winds of Autumn — Corry Band Show Competition

Please join us as the Corry Marching Band hosts a home competition for all to enjoy! More information to come.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of August 31st burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Tawnya Diehl Kressler by Mom.

Come See Us at the Sparty Fair!

Members of the local Catholic Daughters of the Americas will be selling chances on several raffle baskets during the Spartansburg Fair all this week. Please stop by their table located in the first home show building at the fairgrounds. *We hope to see many of you at the fair to support the CDofA. Thank you.*



Volunteers Needed to Sell Tickets at the Fair THIS WEEK

The Corry Knights of Columbus are sponsoring the Sparty Fair Fundraiser Selling Gate Tickets THIS WEEK at the fair going on **September 1st—6th**. This annual fundraiser benefits both the Corry Knights of Columbus and St. Thomas Parish. Volunteers must be 18 years of age or older to sell tickets at the gates. We are hoping that parishioners from both St. Thomas and St. Teresa volunteer to help. For more information and available time slots, please contact Len Clark (814-664-8740), Deacon Randy Kondrlik (814-964-7823), Deacon Bill Saborsky (814-397-7332) or the parish office (814-663-3041).



Cemetery Gravestone Cleaning Project

We will be 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 will be taking orders for those who are interested. Thank you.



keep marching in pennsylvania

September 22

PENNSYLVANIA
 Join us in Harrisburg or participate from home!
MARCH FOR LIFE

Join us in giving a voice for the most vulnerable—visit the Diocese of Erie webpage for more information: <https://www.eriercd.org/pamarch.html>



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 August 31, 2025

Sun.: Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 ♦ Psalm 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a) ♦
Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a ♦ Luke 14:1, 7-14
Mon.: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 ♦ Psalm 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13 ♦
Luke 4:16-30
Tues.: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11 ♦ Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14 ♦ Luke 4:31-37
Wed.: Colossians 1:1-8 ♦ Psalm 52:10, 11 ♦ Luke 4:38-44
Thur.: Colossians 1:9-14 ♦ Psalm 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 ♦ Luke 5:1-11
Fri.: Colossians 1:15-20 ♦ Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 ♦ Luke 5:33-39
Sat.: Colossians 1:21-23 ♦ Psalm 54:3-4, 6 and 8 ♦ Luke 6:1-5
Next Sun.: Wisdom 9:13-18b ♦ Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 (1) ♦
Philemon 9-10, 12-17 ♦ Luke 14:25-3



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of August 31st burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of deceased loved ones.

Help Wanted— St. Teresa Cemetery Maintenance Manager

We are seeking a Cemetery Maintenance Manager for St. Teresa Cemetery to oversee the daily maintenance of our cemetery. This role involves coordinating burials, maintaining grounds, and ensuring compliance with regulations, while treating all visitors, property, and graves of the deceased with respect and reverence.. If interested, please contact the Parish Office (814-663-3041) or email Missy Silka, Business Manager at business@stparish.org.



Requests for Mass Intentions

Please stop in or 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.

You may also sponsor the Sanctuary Candle for a loved one at either of our churches for just \$10 for one week.

Please be aware that our Mass Intention Book for the remainder of 2025 is full.

OPENING of the 2026 Mass Book will on SEPTEMBER 1, 2025.

Payment is expected at the time of making Mass requests.

Thank you.



The Augustinian Journey: An Exploration of Pope Leo XIV's Mission

Don't miss this unique opportunity to deepen your understanding of Pope Leo XIV's mission through the lens of Saint Augustine's teachings. Join Rev. Peter M. Donohue, President of Villanova University, for *The Augustinian Journey: An Exploration of Pope Leo XIV's Mission* on Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 5:00pm. This free webinar will offer personal stories, theological insights and practical takeaways for incorporating Augustinian values of truth, charity and community into your own faith journey. Live attendees will receive a Certificate of Attendance. Even if you can't join live, register now to receive the recording, visit the website today to secure your spot: <https://go.sadlier.com/religion/the-augustinian-journey-a-exploration-of-pope-leo-xiv-formation-september-10-2025>.



NCYC to be held in Indianapolis this November

The National Catholic Youth Conference is taking place Nov. 20-22 in Indianapolis at Lucas Oil Stadium. 20,000 Catholic high schoolers from across the country will gather to experience prayer, worship, music and community. There will be powerful speakers, and a chance to meet Pope Leo virtually! The cost is \$310 (includes travel and hotel) with a deposit of \$100 due Aug. 31. For more information or to register, visit www.eriercd.org/youth/ncyc.html or contact Jillian at 814-824-1219 or jzaczky@eriercd.org.

Family Perspective

A well-lived family life affirms Jesus' words in today's gospel: "Those who humble themselves will be exalted." Commitment, intimacy, loyalty, and love are the rewards of humble service and care for one another.



Parish Care and Concern Ministry Presentation

Parish Care and Concern: Are you looking to start or breathe new life into your parish social ministries and connect with fellow parishioners in renewed service? Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie invites you to attend an information session to learn more about how Parish Care and Concern can help you use your gifts and talents as a parish family to serve your neighbors in need. On Thursday September 18th at 12pm, there will be a presentation at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie and an opportunity to attend virtually. Register at <https://bit.ly/PCandC> or contact Diane Gallagher at dgallagher@ccincerie.org or 814-824-1251 for more information.



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: August 23 & 24, 2025

Total Offertory Income \$6,105.00
 Average Budgeted Offertory Income \$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage.....\$(-1,595.00)

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 and click 'Donate Online'.

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

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: QUARTERLY UPDATE

Total Offertory Income (4-1 through 6-30)..... \$92,836.39
 Total Miscellaneous Income..... \$68,683.44
 (includes rentals, fundraisers, miscellaneous income)
 Total Income.....\$161,519.83
 Total Expenses..... \$145,798.90
 (Includes normal operating expenses, this does not include extraordinary repairs)
 Total Income after Expenses..... \$15,720.93

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!

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

ST. JAMES PLACE - 2622 BUFFALO ROAD

FREE ADMISSION FOOD TRUCKS GIFT AUCTION OVER 50 LOCAL VENDORS

4th Annual FALL CRAFT AND VENDOR MARKET

September 6th and 7th: Saturday 10am-3pm & Sunday 12pm-4pm

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 = \$66,723

Paid to date = \$58,453

Amount Pledged at **St. Teresa** to date = \$36,568

Paid to date = \$32,178

Total Number of Families who made a pledge = 225

Prayerfully consider what God is leading you to give.

Please make a pledge today. Thank you.



*Diocese of Erie
2025 Catholic
Services Appeal*

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.

Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News



Religious Education | 2025-2026 School Year

We are excited to share the teaching of the Catholic faith in our Religious Education Program.

Classes for this year will start on Sunday,

September 21st meeting from 9:30am—10:45am at St. Teresa Parish Center for ALL students of the parish. Registration packets are available this weekend in the church for registered families to pick up and complete. Families wishing to enroll new students (grades K—9) in our Religious Education are invited to pick up a blank registration packet to complete and return to the parish office. Questions, please contact Missy Silka at the parish office.

IMPORTANT—Parents/guardians should plan on attending one of the parent meetings: **Sept. 13th following the 4:30pm Mass at St. Thomas in the multipurpose room OR Sunday, Sept. 14th following the 11:00am Mass at St. Teresa in the church.** *Looking forward to seeing returning families and hopefully some new ones!*

NEW—Small Group for Youth

Let's grow in faith, build friendships, and have some fun! This year our Religious Education program is expanding to include Small Group. Our new Small Group will be for all confirmed youth in the parish who want to stay connected after Confirmation through relaxed meetups, shared meals, faith talks, service projects, and fun outings.

What to Expect:

- ✓ Real conversations about life & faith
- ✓ Snacks and chill time
- ✓ Activities & service opportunities
- ✓ A place where you belong

Please watch the bulletin for more details in the upcoming weeks.

***Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord,
and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart.***

Matthew 11:29ab

August 18, 2025



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The humanitarian crisis in Gaza prompts concern from all people of goodwill. As Catholics, we especially are called by Christ to care for the suffering and the needy.

Pastoral concern has prompted the bishops of the United States to take up a collection for the assistance of Christians and other innocent victims of violence in Gaza and surrounding areas. Many are struggling to survive, protect their children, and live with dignity in dire conditions.

I ask you to give generously to this special collection, held in our parishes on the weekend of **September 6-7, 2025**. Funds received will be passed on to Catholic Relief Services. This group has a long-standing relationship with the Catholic Church in the region, which allows them to provide humanitarian relief and medical assistance quickly and efficiently.

Thank you for doing what you can to support our suffering brothers and sisters in Gaza and surrounding areas. I join with you in praying for peace.

Scan to Give



Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Lawrence T. Persico

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

Please place your donation in an envelope with your name on it marked 'Gaza Collection' if you wish to receive credit on your year-end statement. Thank you.