



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 PARISHES OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE AND ST. TERESA OF AVILA

February 4, 2024



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee. - Mk 1:39

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1979 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

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 Parish
www.st-teresa-unioncity.org

Partnered Parish Offices
203 W. Washington Street
Corry, PA 16407
814-663-3041

Partnered 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

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL (CSA): This weekend we will kickoff our annual Catholic Services Appeal (CSA). If you have not already received a letter concerning this appeal at your home, one should be arriving this week. This letter explains the Appeal and includes a brochure and a pledge envelope. You may also have received the FAITH magazine which outlines in more detail the Appeal and the good work that it has and continues to do in our diocese. (If you do not receive FAITH magazine and did not receive a letter concerning this Appeal, then for some reason you are not registered in our parish. If this is the case, please contact the parish office, so we can correct this.)

Our parish assessments for the 2024 CSA are St. Teresa: \$24,359 and St. Thomas \$37,254. We have included two projects for each parish in addition to the diocesan assessments. These are lofty goals, but we are aiming high to address some important issues at each parish. At St. Teresa we hope to collect enough over our assessment amount to pay back our loan of \$30,000 to the diocese for the reconfigured roof on the Parish Center and in addition to that we are hoping to raise enough to pave the section of the parking lot between the church and the garage. At St. Thomas, we are hoping to collect enough over our assessment amount to upgrade the electrical wiring to the lights in the church and then any additional money will go towards paving the parking lot.

In the past we have had a generous response from a good number of parishioners. I am asking that every family make a pledge or a gift to this Appeal. This Appeal benefits everyone in the parish and we should all be making some effort to achieve the goals that benefit everyone. Pledge envelopes are in the pews today and at the exits. Please take an envelope and consider your pledge or gift in preparation for next week when we celebrate Commitment Sunday.

UPCOMING ADULT CLASSES: As part of the Eucharistic Revival, I am offering a class at each parish. The content will be the same, so you are welcome to go to either class. The first class will be at St. Elizabeth Parish Center on Monday, February 12, from 6:30 to 7:30pm. You can sign up at the exits of the church to give us an idea of how many to prepare for. The second class will be Monday, March 11, from 6:30 to 7:30pm at St. Teresa Parish Center. Sign ups will begin after the first class is over.

There will also be two sessions preparing for the upcoming Synod in Rome: Monday, March 4, at St. Elizabeth Parish Center and Tuesday, March 5 at St. Teresa Parish Center. I understand that this was not offered in preparation for the most recent Synod, so I want to make sure it is offered this time. The evening will begin at 6:30pm and end at 7:30pm. You will be invited to discuss two questions.

1. Where have I seen or experienced successes – and – distresses – within the Church's structure(s) / organization / leadership / life that encourage or hinder the mission?

2. How can the structures and organization of the Church help all the baptized to respond to the call to proclaim the Gospel and to live as a community of love and mercy in Christ?

Pope Francis is looking for your input on these issues in preparation for the Worldwide Synod in Rome. Your answers to these questions will become part of a series of discussions that will eventually reach the Synod in Rome in October 2024.

FISH DINNERS: Lent starts early this year, February 14! And with Lent, comes our fish dinners at both parishes. These are an enormous undertaking and can always use more volunteers. If you can help with cooking or serving, please contact Sue Vinca or Judy Green at St. Thomas or Becky Boleratz at St. Teresa.

We are making a special plea this year for help with cleaning up after the dinners are over. This will entail moving tables and chairs, sweeping and mopping floors. Those who cook and serve the dinners have usually put in a full day by the time the dinner is over. We are hoping to build a

**Sunday, February 4**

8:00a.m. †Joe & Joette Amy by Denny & Chris Anderson
(St. Thomas, Corry)

10:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, February 5

8:00a.m. †Priscilla Kozik by Mark & Debbie Denziak
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, February 6

8:00a.m. †James O'Brien by the estate of Anna O'Brien
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, February 7

8:00a.m. †Ann Gibas by Dave & Marie Mitchell
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, February 8

No Mass or Service today at either St. Thomas or St. Teresa.

Friday, February 9

8:00a.m. †Anne Zakovitch by Ilene Zakovith
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, February 10

4:30p.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Sunday, February 11

8:00a.m. †Dan Ahl by George Taylor
(St. Thomas, Corry)

10:00a.m. †John E. Grishaw, III by Jamie & Shellie Tomcho
and family (St. Teresa, Union City)

crew of workers who will come in after dinner and be in charge of cleaning up. If you, or your group, are willing to help us with this task, please contact the parish office or Fr. Tom.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS TAKING COMMUNION TO THE SICK: We have been trying to compile a list of the people our Eucharistic Ministers are taking communion to at home. If you are taking communion to someone from the parish who is homebound or in a nursing home could you please let the parish office know, or place of note in the collection basket with your name, the names of those you are taking communion to, the nursing home or senior living apartment, and how often you are taking communion to them. This will help us to coordinate efforts to take communion to those who are sick or shut in. Thank You.

EUCCHARISTIC RENEWAL: These will be my last introductory comments before exploring the various parts of the Mass. I have been speaking about how we prepare ourselves to celebrate the Eucharist in terms of prayer (communal vs private prayer), gestures (genuflecting, bowing, blessing ourselves with holy water), all in an attempt to be ready to celebrate the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

We speak about the real presence of God in the Eucharist, but we need to remember that God is always really present to us, but often we are not conscious, aware, attentive, or alert to that presence of God. How we prepare to celebrate the Eucharist helps us to be more aware, conscious and attentive to the presence of Christ in the Eucharist. We need to be really present to what we are doing and what is happening in the Eucharist in order to experience the real presence of Christ. How am I preparing myself to encounter the real presence of Christ?

- Fr. Tom

St. Thomas Parish News

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: January 27 & 28, 2024

Amount in Envelopes: (82)	\$3,848.00
(Total Envelopes sent: 174 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 92)	
Loose	\$322.00
Online Giving (10)	\$370.00
Faith Formation/Rel. Ed. (1)	\$5.00
Total Offertory Income	\$4,545.00
Average Weekly Expenses	\$5,335.00
(Average Weekly Expenses are for normal operating expenses, this does not include extraordinary repairs.)	
Weekly Average Shortfall	\$(-790.00)

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 St. Thomas Cemetery or St. Elizabeth 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'.

PRAYER LINE... call: Gerrie (814-665-6944), Pam (814-664-7459), or Diane (814-663-3753).
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 February 4th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of faithful members of our parish.

A Family Perspective

In today's gospel Jesus went to the "house of Andrew and Simon" to relax but discovered that Simon's mother-in-law was very ill. Like Jesus we come home to relax but are often confronted with problems. Take a tip from Andrew and Simon and tell Jesus about it "immediately".

*Here I am Lord,
I come to do Your will. (1 Samuel 3:8)*

How can you do God's will today? By doing the simple tasks that God gives you each day. By calling to mind Jesus' presence with you as you work. By asking him for the grace to perform those deeds with a loving, cheerful heart, and offering them to the Lord. These shifts in attitude can change your experience, turning drudgery into joyful service.

PERSEVERE IN PRAYER



St. Thomas' Lenten Fish Dinners

Lent is coming soon and that means our annual Fish Dinners, too. We will hold the dinners on Ash Wednesday, February 14th and every other Friday, February 23rd, and March 8th and 22nd.

Lenten Meals

Volunteers are needed to help with prep, set-up, serving, clean-up and other areas. If you are able to help, please contact Sue Vinca (814-964-0290), Judy Green (814-964-1646) or the parish office (814-663-3041). What a great way to give of our time, talent and treasures while we enjoy our community during the Lenten season! Please continue to watch future bulletins for more information regarding the upcoming Fish Dinners.

Corry Knights of Columbus Meeting in February

Brother Knights are reminded of our next meeting on Tuesday, February 13 at 6:30pm in the St. Elizabeth Parish Center. Don't forget to turn in your *Snowman Raffle* tickets - we will be drawing the winners at this meeting. If anyone from the parish wishes to purchase a ticket for a chance to win cash prizes of \$100, \$50, or \$25, please see a Knights member or stop into the parish office by Monday, February 12.

Our prayers & sympathy to the family and friends of Paul 'Sonny' Blakeslee who passed away from Saint Thomas Church. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

"Question of the Week" - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: What can you do to help your friends and classmates know more about Jesus?

Question for Youth: Jesus knew that his mission was for everyone, not just one village or group of people. How can you reach out to others (outside of friends and family) and offer them hope and Good News?

Question for Adults: If you were going to pray for healing for any reason, what would it be? What needs to be healed in our world and society?

Saturday Morning Rosary

All are invited to join us on Saturday mornings at St. Thomas Church at 9:00am as we pray The Rosary together in community.

St. Teresa Parish News

ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: January 28, 2024
Amount in Envelopes: (58) \$2,286.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 99)
Loose \$137.00
Continuing the Vision () \$0.00
Online Giving (1) \$30.00
Total Offertory Income \$2,453.00

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: Jan. 28, 2024
Amount in Envelopes: (4) 140.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 26)

St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income \$2,593.00
Average Weekly Expenses \$4,585.00
 (Average Weekly Expenses are for normal operating expenses, this does not include extraordinary repairs.)

Weekly Average Shortfall\$(-1,992.00)

*Thanks to everyone who regularly uses his/her envelopes.
 Please write checks payable to St. Teresa Church.*

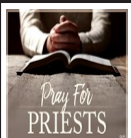


Please know that you can now give all your donations online by visiting our parish website at www.st-teresa-unioncity-org OR by scanning the QR code here.



Thanks for your generosity to our parish!

Please support the St. Teresa Rosary Altar Society by purchasing some delicious items from their Bake Sale following both Masses THIS WEEKEND—February 3 & 4. Thank you!



Rev. David Renne, Rev. Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Rev. Robert Manning, Rev. Thomas Tyler, Very Rev. Jeffery Noble, VF, Rev. Christopher Barnes, Rev. Mark Nowak, and Pray for the Pastoral Planning in the Erie Diocese.

Mark Your Calendars for Area Events

Friday-Saturday, February 9-10, 2024 Pre-Lenten Retreat with Diocese of Erie St. Thomas More House of Prayer, 365 Hill City Rd., Cranberry, PA. Step away from busyness and stress to join other single and married adults in a weekend of prayer and community. The Virtue & Integrity Education Office of the Diocese of Erie is sponsoring this retreat, which includes reflections on each person's call to holiness by Fr. Kevin Barrett. Questions: call or email Cassondra, 814-824-1216, cdragone@eriercd.org. For pricing and/or to register visit website: <https://www.eriercd.org/chastity/retreat.html>.

Sunday, February 25, 2024 (11:00am-3:30pm) Prayer & Finding God in Silence—Anawim Ministries is hosting a retreat on prayer and finding God in the silence at the Bethany Retreat Center, 1031 Germania Rd., Frenchville. Dr. Jan Satterlee will present prayer as communication with God by unpacking three expressions of prayer: vocal, meditative and contemplative. To learn more about the retreat, visit <https://www.wetravel.com/trips/prayer-and-finding-god-in-the-silence-anawim-ministries-frenchville-54384564>.

The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of February 4th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of our parish family.

Readings for the week of February 4, 2024

Sun.: Job 7:1-4, 6-7 ♦ Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (see 3a) ♦ 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 ♦ Mark 1:29-39
 Mon.: 1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13 ♦ Psalm 132:6-7, 8-10 ♦ Mark 6:53-56
 Tues.: 1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30 ♦ Psalm 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11 ♦ Mark 7:1-13
 Wed.: 1 Kings 10:1-10 ♦ Psalm 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 ♦ Mark 7:14-23
 Thur.: 1 Kings 11:4-13 ♦ Psalm 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40 ♦ Mark 7:24-30
 Fri.: 1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19 ♦ Psalm 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15 ♦ Mark 7:31-37
 Sat.: 1 Kings 12:26-32; 13:33-34 ♦ Psalm 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22 ♦ Mark 8:1-10
 Next Sun.: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46 ♦ Psalm 32:1-2, 5, 11 (7) ♦ 1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1 ♦ Mark 1:40-45

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


Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Acts 16:14b

Fish Dinner Planning at St. Teresa

It's time once again for our annual Lenten Fish Dinners. Not only are these dinners an important fundraiser for our parish, it is also a time when we open our doors to the community and welcome them to our table. We need your help. There are many jobs that need filled from washing dishes, serving drinks, seating people, and delivering food to tables, as well as kitchen and cleanup duties. We are seeking everyone who wants to help in any capacity at our dinners this year. Please consider giving the gift of service by signing up as a family for one of many open positions available. Any questions, please reach out to Becky Boleratz at 814-572-8126. 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.



"That they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you."
John 17:21

One Faith One Family

Please prayerful consider how to support the 2024 CSA

The 2024 Catholic Services Appeal Commitment Sunday will be held next weekend in our parishes. Please be on the lookout for your personal invitation in the mail. The CSA is an opportunity for Catholics throughout the diocese to unite in carrying out the work of the Gospel. The CSA reminds us that we are all part of the same Catholic family and that the work of the diocese is the work of the Church. The Church serves each of us and our support is essential in continuing God's work in our area. Every CSA donation also brings us closer to being able to complete our own parish projects (see Pastor's column for details). Thank you.

Prayer for the Catholic Services Appeal

God, loving Father,
in your every act of creation we see your love for us.
Strengthen us for our role in the work of proclaiming the Gospel.
Open our hearts to listen to the needs of our brothers and sisters.
Give us joyful spirits that invite others to be drawn into relationship with you.
Lead us in our support of the mission of your Church,
and remind us always that what we do for the least
of our sisters and brothers, we do for you.
May we serve you in all things,
through Christ our Lord.


Amen.

All Are Invited to a Class on the Eucharist with Fr. Tom

Each time we receive Holy Communion, it's an opportunity of grace for us to encounter the risen Lord in the Eucharist. That's quite a statement, don't you think? And yet, surprisingly, many Catholics do not fully understand or embrace this central facet of our faith. That's why the bishops of the United States are inviting Catholics into a three-year (2022—2025) effort (Eucharistic Revival) to grow in their understanding of the church's teaching on the Eucharist. In this same effort, we are pleased to invite all from our parishes to join Fr. Tom for a **Class on the Eucharist**. He is offering two sessions, one at each parish (both sessions will be the same so you only need to attend one):


- Monday, February 12 at 6:30pm
St. Elizabeth Parish Center (Corry)
- Monday, March 11 at 6:30pm
St. Teresa Parish Center (Union City)

Join us so that you may come to know Jesus in the Eucharist in a new and more personal way.



Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News

Calendar Reminders for Religious Education



Families of students in our Religious Education Classes at both Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes are reminded of the following schedule for February 2024:

Sunday, February 4—Classes for All Religious Education students.

Sunday, February 11—Classes for All Religious Education students.

Sunday, February 18—No Classes this week.

Sunday, February 25—Classes for All Religious Education students.

CLASS TIME: Classes meet in Corry on Sunday mornings from 9:00am until 10:30am and in Union City from 11:00am until 12:30pm; the PURPOSE/Confirmation Class in Corry meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm until 8:00pm.

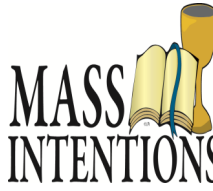
Basket Raffles to Benefit Religious Education Programs

We again will be having raffle baskets at our parishes' Fish Dinners during Lent. Families of Religious Education students are reminded to please bring in items to go in our raffle baskets. The themes are:

ST. THOMAS— Lottery Tree / Gift Cards / Easter
ST. TERESA— Lottery Tree / Gift Cards / Arts & Crafts

We ask that each student donate at least one item for one of the raffle baskets. Please feel free to donate more if you are able. You may also send in money towards the purchase of items for the baskets. All donations are due by Sunday, February 11. Thank you.

Mass Intentions for Our Parishes



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.

WELCOME

If you are new to our Parishes, 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.

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 St. Thomas Church, Corry and/or at St. Teresa Church, Union City (when Mass is celebrated that evening); and other times by request made to the parish office.