



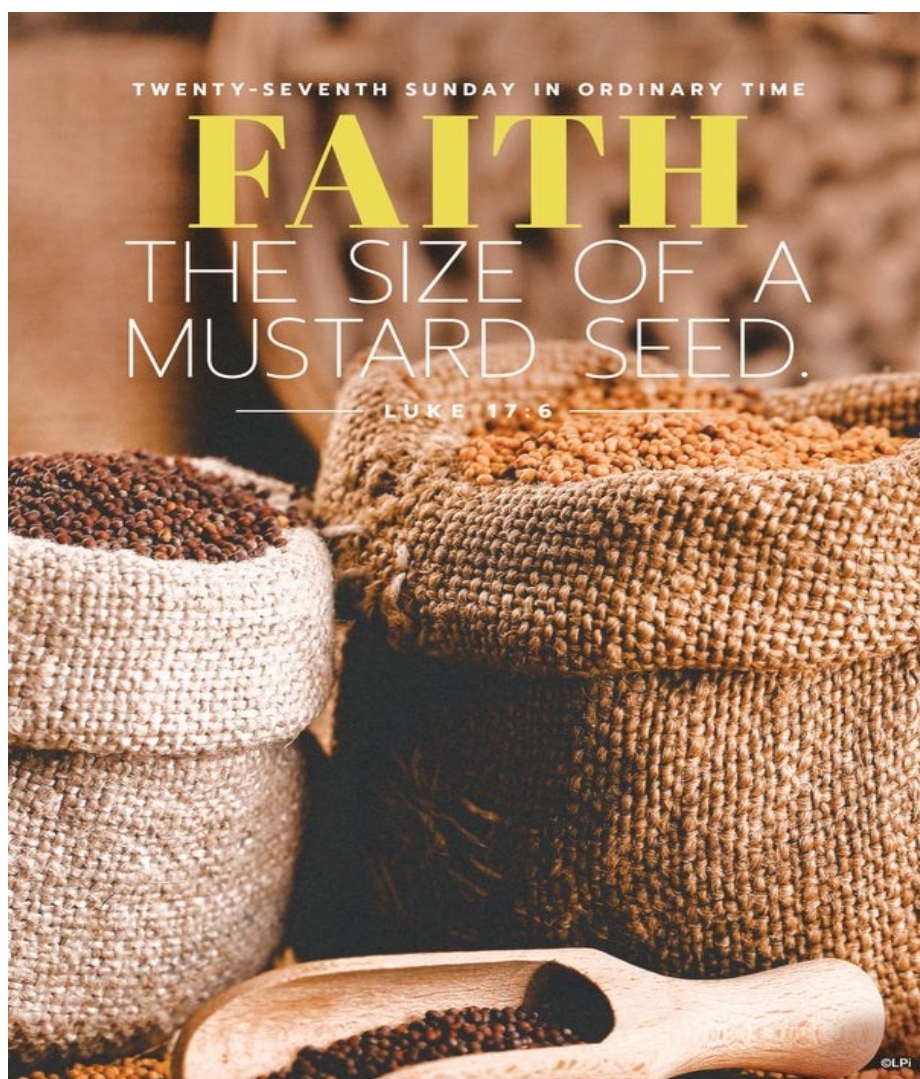
Saint Thomas the Apostle Church
203 W. Washington Street
Corry, PA 16407



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

October 5, 2025



TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FAITH

THE SIZE OF A
MUSTARD SEED.

LUKE 17:6

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

Michelle Demeter
*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

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.

Message from the Pastor

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION GRANT TO ST THOMAS: We had a very pleasant surprise this past week. Our business Manager, Missy Silka, had written for a grant from the Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Erie to help with our senior meals program (*Hearts & Hands: Cooking with Compassion*). The grant was to help defray the cost of containers for the meals we prepare and deliver to seniors in the amount of \$4700. Lisa Louis, the executive director of the Catholic Foundation, and Bob Crowley, a former president of the board and a current board member, came to morning Mass and then met with Missy, Colleen Zaczekiewicz, and me. They presented us with a letter stating that we were granted the \$4700 we requested and an additional \$5000!!! We were greatly surprised.

There is more to the story that involves many of you who may remember the Capital Campaign the Diocese fostered in 2001. During that campaign the diocese raised money for individual parishes, but also started four endowments: Catholic Education, Priestly Health and Welfare, Faith Formation, and Social Ministry. Many of you who contributed to that Capital Campaign are now seeing your money being returned through this grant and others we have received at both St. Thomas and St. Teresa in the past few years, thanks to Missy Silka's grant writing. Sometimes we wonder where our money goes when we give it to Capital Campaigns. Here is one instance where it has and is bearing fruit for us.

RCIA is now OCIA: You may be familiar with the RCIA program where we help those seeking to become Catholic to learn more about our faith. It is now called the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA). We are hoping to begin a class for those who are interested in becoming Catholic in October. If you know of someone who is interested in becoming Catholic, please contact the parish office.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE: We will be placing a Book of Remembrance in each of the Churches during the month of October. During the month of October, you can write in the book the names of your deceased loved ones whom you wish us to pray for. The book will be closed on October 31 and placed near the altar for the month of November to remind us to pray for our deceased loved ones.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Keep in mind that our annual **All Souls Service will be held on Monday, November 3**, at 7:00pm at St. Thomas the Apostle Church. All are welcome to attend. We will be remembering in a special way all those who have died in the past year and were buried from St. Thomas or St. Teresa.

The weekend of **October 18 & 19 we will be celebrating the feast of St. Teresa of Avila at all the Masses**, just as we celebrated the feast of St. Thomas back in July.

Thanksgiving Day Mass will be at 9:00am at St. Thomas Church in Corry.

Our **Advent Penance Service will be Sunday, December 7**, at 1:30pm at St. Thomas Church.

Christmas Eve Masses will be at 4:30pm at St. Thomas and at 7:00pm at St. Teresa. **Mass on Christmas Day** will be at 10:00am at St. Thomas Church.

CHURCH PARKING LOTS: We have done work on the parking lots at both Churches this summer. Lines have been painted at St. Teresa and at St. Thomas. Please, park in those spaces that have been

Continued ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡



Sunday, October 5

8:00a.m. ✠Ed & Sophie Girovsky by Diane Hall and Jean Cressley (St. Thomas, Corry)

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

Monday, October 6

8:00a.m. ✠Paul Mongera by Ann & Jim Yosten (St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, October 7

8:00a.m. For the Special Intentions of Mary Buckshaw by Charlie Buckshaw (St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, October 8

8:00a.m. ✠Deceased Alumni and Faculty of St. Edwards School by the Alumni Association (St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, October 9

No Mass or services today at both St. Thomas & St. Teresa.

Friday, October 10

8:00a.m. ✠Ann Tudorache by Ilene Zakovitch (St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, October 11

4:30p.m. For the People of the Parish (St. Teresa, Union City)

Sunday, October 12

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

11:00a.m. ✠Ronald Tomcho by Hanh Tomcho and family (St. Teresa, Union City)



October | Respect Life Month

designated by these lines. Those are the only designated parking places. If there are no lines there, it is not a parking space but an area where people are to drive. There are unpaved sections of St. Teresa that are not lined but are used for parking.

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. Please do not block entrances and exits to the buildings.

At St. Teresa, there is parking on only one side of 3rd Avenue on Sunday morning. (The side closest to the Church).

- Fr. Tom

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.

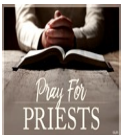
PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

"Question of the Week" - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: Jesus teaches us that our faith is powerful and with it, we can do great things. We can forgive, love, and share with others. Which of these do you do most often?

Question for Youth: The Gospel tells us even a little bit of faith is enough to make amazing things happen. How are you keeping your faith alive and growing? What good things happen in your life because of your faith?

Question for Adults: Being "in Christ" means living as Christ teaches. What signs do you see in your life of generosity, forgiveness, hospitality, or any other of Jesus' teachings?



Rev. Lawrence Richards, Rev. David Carter, Rev. John Chaplin, Rev. Zab Amar, Rev. John Miller, Rev. Ian McElrath, Rev. David Perry, and also *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*

Cemetery Gravestone Cleaning Project

We are 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. Base 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.



If today you hear His voice,
harden not your hearts.

Psalm 95



Next Knights of Columbus Meeting

Brother Knights of Council #425 will meet on Tuesday, October 14 at St. Elizabeth Parish Center. We will pray The Rosary at 6:30pm and the business meeting will follow. Hope you join us.

Knights of Columbus Food Drive Collection

The Knights of Columbus, Council #425 is holding a food drive to benefit the Corry Food Pantry from now until the week prior to Thanksgiving. Parishioners are asked to please donate non-perishable food items. Place donations in the marked bins at the entrances of St. Thomas Church. Thank you!



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of October 5th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Sally Griebel by Joan & Brad Allen.



Coffee and Donuts TODAY

Coffee and Donuts at Saint Thomas Parish will be served in the multipurpose room in the former school following the 8:00am Mass TODAY, Sunday, October 5th. Donations will be accepted to help cover the cost of the donuts. All are welcome to join us for a time of socializing.

Catholic Charities' 2025 Helping Hands Gala

Get ready for an unforgettable evening at the Helping Hands Gala! Join us on Thursday, October 9th, from 6:00-8:00pm at Gannon University's Yehl Ballroom. We will honor Joe Tarquinio as the Helping Hands of Justice Honoree, and Chris & Maria Ehrman as the Helping Hands of Service Honorees. Tickets are \$100 each, or \$750 for a table of eight. Proceeds directly support Catholic Charities. Enjoy a special performance by the Erie Playhouse Showstoppers! Can't attend? Participate in our online silent auction, bidding opens Saturday, October 4th at 9:00am, at <https://givebutter.com/c/hhgala25/auction>. Visit <https://ccincerie.org/gala-tickets> to purchase your tickets today!

WE PRAY:

Clergy Appreciation Month

Almighty God, thank You for the gift of the priests and deacons of the Diocese of Erie.
We are grateful for their "yes" to You;
for the Masses they celebrate, the confessions they hear,
the comfort they bring to the sick, and the ways
they guide and serve our parishes with love.

We thank You, too, for our retired priests
whose quiet witness still blesses our communities.
Their lives remind us what it means
to follow Jesus with faith and joy.

Lord, give them strength when they are tired,
peace when they are stretched thin,
and encouragement in times of struggle.
May they always know how much
they are loved and appreciated.

Keep calling new vocations in our diocese.
Open the hearts of young men to serve You as priests
and deacons, and give them the courage to say,
"Here I am, Lord, send me."

Through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

Provided by the Office for Divine Worship



Diocese of Erie
ROMAN CATHOLIC



St. Teresa News

Readings for the week of October 5, 2025

Sun.: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4 ♦ Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8) ♦
2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14 ♦ Luke 17:5-10
Mon.: Jonah 1:1—2:2, 11 ♦ Jonah 2:3, 4, 5, 8 ♦ Luke 10:25-37
Tues.: Jonah 3:1-10 ♦ Psalm 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8 ♦ Luke 10:38-42
Wed.: Jonah 4:1-11 ♦ Psalm 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10 ♦ Luke 11:1-4
Thur.: Malachi 3:13-20b ♦ Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 ♦ Luke 11:5-13
Fri.: Joel 1:13-15; 2:1-2 ♦ Psalm 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9 ♦ Luke 11:15-26
Sat.: Joel 4:12-21 ♦ Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 ♦ Luke 11:27-28
Next Sun.: 2 Kings 5:14-17 ♦ Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b) ♦
2 Timothy 2:8-13 ♦ Luke 17:11-19

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.

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



We are now scheduling 2026 Mass Intentions.
Payment is expected at the time of making Mass requests. Thank you.

Festivals/Events Around the Diocese

Oct. 12—St. Lawrence/St. Philip Annual Fall Dinner, Albion

129 E. Pearl St., Albion, PA from 11:30am to 2pm, until sold out. Menu is road beef, gravy, mashed potatoes, corn or green beans, applesauce, coleslaw, roll and pie. Cost is \$15. Takeouts available, as well as Auction, Bake Sale, Raffle, and 50/50.

Oct. 25—Sisters of St. Joseph Open House, Erie

At the SSJ Community Living Center, 5031 West Ridge Rd., Erie, from 3pm—5pm. Join them as they celebrate 165 years of ministry in the Catholic Diocese of Erie. Guests will enjoy hors d'oeuvres, refreshments, brief tours, and live entertainment. RSVP by Oct. 14 to 814-836-4202 or almi.clerkin@ssjerie.org.

Oct. 26—Cathedral Prep Open House, Erie

250 W. 10th St., Erie from 12pm-3pm; open to all middle school students. Tour the campus, meet students, teachers, and coaches and discover what it's like to be a Rambler. Pre-register for a visit at www.cathedralprep.com/oh2025registration.

The "October Count" is Now Underway

During the month of October, we will be counting how many people attend each Mass at both churches. This count is done throughout our diocese annually to see attendance trends. Come to Mass—Be counted!

Consider Engagement Encounter

Getting married in 2026? Take time to invest in your future with an Engagement Encounter weekend, **February 6-8, 2026** at *St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie*. This retreat fulfills diocesan marriage preparation requirements and offers couples—Catholic and interfaith alike—a chance to deepen their connection before the big day. Space is limited, so early registration is encouraged. Call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 or email: familylife@eriercd.org. Details and registration: <https://www.eriercd.org/familylifeoffice/>. Remember: "A wedding is one day, but marriage is for a lifetime."



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of October 5th 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.

Family Perspective

Faith is one of those things we just can't get enough of! In today's gospel, the apostles asked Jesus to "Increase our faith." Where do you need an increase in faith: in yourself, your spouse, your children or in God? Faith helps us to overlook annoyances, forgive others, and seek forgiveness. "Lord, increase our faith!"

St. Teresa Rosary Altar Meeting

Ladies are reminded that we will NOT hold our meeting this week due to our Harvest Moon Card Party coming up in mid October. The Rosary Altar Society will meet on Tuesday, October 14th at 9:00am in the parish center to prepare for the card party and bake cookies. We will also hold a business meeting at that time. We hope you will join us.

ST. TERESA'S

Harvest Moon Card Party



Sponsored By
ST. TERESA'S
ROSARY-ALTAR SOCIETY

Drawings
50-50
Gas Card.

Door
Prizes

Admission
\$ 6.00

*Includes Light Dinner
with Coffee or tea*

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Doors open at 5:00 p.m.

6:00 P. M.

**AT ST. TERESA'S CENTER
UNION CITY**

Gift Baskets



Reservations ELAINE 814-450-2766

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: September 27 & 28, 2025

Total Offertory Income \$5,788.65
 Average Budgeted Offertory Income \$7,700.00
 Offertory Shortage.....\$(-1,911.35)

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!

No Checkbook or Offertory Envelope Today?

No problem! Just visit our parish website to make a one-time donation or, even better, set up a recurring donation for hassle-free, consistent giving. You'll never have to worry about forgetting again! Thank you for your generosity and support. Your contributions are invaluable and help us continue our mission. We deeply appreciate your kindness. If you decide to give regularly online, please let the parish office know so offertory envelopes can be stopped.



Use your phone to scan the QR Code to give today!

Remember to Support Our Advertisers

"Man cannot live without hope. Many hopes go down when they crash against the rocks of life. However, Christian hope 'does not disappoint,' because it is based on the solid foundation of faith in the love of God revealed in Christ."
Pope John Paul II

Winterizing Our Cemeteries

Parishioners are reminded to remove all potted urns/plants from graves for the winter after Veteran's Day at our cemeteries. Holiday wreaths and decorations allowed following Thanksgiving. Please contact the parish office with any questions/concerns.

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 = \$66,793

Paid to date = \$60,718

Amount Pledged at **St. Teresa** to date = \$36,593

Paid to date = \$33,664

Total Number of Families who made a pledge = 226

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.



Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News



Welcome Back Religious Education Students!

We are so excited to have all our students back—the first class went wonderfully, and it's a joy to see everyone again!

A very special **thank you** to our returning and new catechists this year:

- **PreK, K & 1st Grade** – Mrs. Natalie Moss
- **2nd Grade** – Mrs. Donna Blessing
- **3rd Grade** – Mrs. Heather Wilson
- **4th & 5th Grade** – Mr. Seth Moss & Mr. Eric Williams
- **EDGE (6th–8th Grades)** – Mrs. Jeannette Boyd with Mr. Jack Brigham
- **Confirmation (9th Grade)** – Deacon Randy Kondrlik with Mrs. Anne Kondrlik

Reminder for First Communion Parents:

One parent is asked to attend Sunday morning classes with their child for the preparation of the sacrament from Sept. 28—Nov. 16.

Upcoming Calendar Dates for Religious Education:

- October 5—Class
- October 12 – No Class
- October 19 – Class

NEW—Small Group for Youth

Let's grow in faith, build friendships, and have some fun! 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 / Place where you belong. Please watch the bulletin for more details in the upcoming weeks.

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.