



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

June 16, 2024



11th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants.”- Mk 4:30-32b

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

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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

PRIESTS AND DEACONS AT EMMAUS CONVOCATION: Every year at this time the priests of the diocese and deacons of Erie gather at St. Vincent College in Latrobe to spend some time updating themselves through a speaker that is brought in and working on issues that affect the diocese. This week the priests and deacons of the diocese will be at St. Vincent from Monday through Friday (June 17—21).

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS: Just a reminder to all of those who were recently confirmed. In my interview with each of you, I gave you a form that listed a number of ministry opportunities. If you are interested in any of these ministries, please return that form to Mrs. Silka, Deacon Randy, the parish office, or Fr. Tom so we can begin the training to get you started in that ministry. If you lost the form, I will have extras at Mass each weekend.

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS: The readings today are not easy ones, but the message they offer is one of great hope.

The first reading gives us the image of cutting off the top of a cedar tree and transplanting it into the ground somewhere else. It is the image of a mighty tree being cut off in a foreign nation and being planted back in Israel. It is an image of God bringing his people back home from exile and raising them up as a great nation. It is the hope of all those who find themselves exiled from their homeland.

The gospel is really two parables about seeds. The first parable seems to suggest that the farmer plants the seed and then has nothing else to do until the seed sprouts and grows. When the time comes the farmer harvests the crop. If only farming were so simple, everyone would be doing it. The image here is that the seed is God's Word, the Word that Jesus speaks to us. Once this word is planted within us it cannot help but grow. It grows not just when we do great things, but actually grows best with the little things we do each day for others. The Christian life is not so much about trying to be martyrs, or preaching the gospel, or fighting for the cause of justice; but the Christian life is really about trying to do the simple things with great love.

The second parable is that of the mustard seed. The smallest of seeds but it grows into a huge plant. It is another reminder that even the simplest of good things that we do for others will bear fruit and grow. It is also a reminder that it doesn't all depend on us. If we do the simple things well, God will bring to fulfillment the greater things that we cannot do. What a hopeful message that is for all of us.

- Fr. Tom

**Sunday, June 16**

8:00a.m. †All Deceased Fathers
(St. Thomas, Corry)

10:00a.m. †All Deceased Fathers
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, June 17

8:00a.m. †Ed Weaver by Bill & Judy Flynn
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, June 18

8:00a.m. Communion Service at St. Thomas, Corry

Wednesday, June 19

8:00a.m. Communion Service at St. Thomas, Corry

Thursday, June 20

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

Friday, June 21

8:00a.m. William Flynn by Union City Knights of Columbus,
Council #4070 (St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, June 22

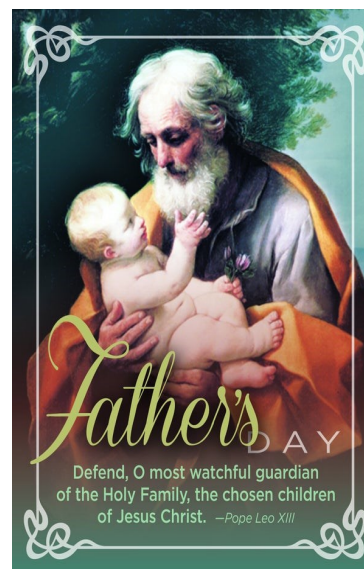
4:30p.m. †Richard Landis by Cathryn Landis and
Mary Harned (St. Teresa, Union City)

Sunday, June 23

8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes
(St. Thomas, Corry)

10:00a.m. †Jim Reagan by Family
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Happy Father's Day—to all fathers, step-fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, and other men who have loved and mentored children. We ask our Lord God to bless the men of our parish, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. May the example of our Heavenly Father's care and compassion inspire them, and may their sons and daughters always honor them with loving respect. We also remember and give thanks for the wonderful fathers that raised us, but are no longer with us. *Saint Joseph – Pray for Us!*

**A Father's Day Blessing**

God our Father,
in your Wisdom and Love
you made all things,
Bless all fathers,
may they be strengthened
as Christian fathers.
Let the example of their faith
and love shine forth.
Grant that we,
their sons and daughters,
may honor them always
with a spirit of
profound respect.
Amen.

Have you made your pledge to the 2024 CSA?

Diocese of Erie
2024 Catholic Services Appeal

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

**One Faith
One Family**


St. Thomas Parish News

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: June 9, 2024

Amount in Envelopes: (64)	\$3,483.00
(Total Envelopes sent: 145 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 81)	
Loose	\$165.00
Online Giving (9)	\$330.00
Faith Formation/Rel. Ed.	\$0.00
Total Offertory Income	\$3,978.00
Average Weekly Expenses	
Average Weekly Expenses are for normal operating expenses, this does not include extraordinary repairs.)	
Weekly Average Shortfall	\$(1,357.00)

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'.

Father's Day Memorials	\$750.00
Sister Parish Donations	\$522.00

Thank you for those who used their special offertory envelope to donate to our Sister Parish, Our Lady of Padua, in Chemax Mexico. Your generosity helps to spread the Gospel to our brothers and sisters in far off lands.



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 June 16th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of all deceased fathers.



"Question of the Week" - 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: Have you ever had to walk in the dark with no light? How is that like walking by faith and not by sight? What did you have to do to keep going in the dark?

Question for Youth: Do you pray and ask for faith? How do you work on building your faith?

Question for Adults: When do you find it hardest to have faith? Must you "see" answered prayer, or can you peacefully accept God's will?

PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

2024 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 06/02):

St. Thomas Diocesan Goal is \$37,254.00
 Total Amount Pledged to date = \$60,035.00
 Total Paid to date = \$48,180.00
 # of Families who made a pledge = 118

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.

Family Perspective


Parenting is a lot like the story of the farmer in the gospel parable today. All growth is the Lord's work. We have no control over the process. In fact, the farmer doesn't even understand it, for the seed grows even when he sleeps. As parents we can influence our children but can't guarantee results.

Help Needed with the St. Thomas Flower Gardens

Please contact Lois Woodcock at 814-462-4948 if you are interested in helping maintain the flower gardens around St. Thomas Church this growing season. Thank you.


Time to Return the LifeCare Baby Bottles

It's time to return the baby bottles filled with coins/bills for LifeCare's fundraiser which runs from Mother's Day through Father's Day (TODAY—June 16). If you didn't take a bottle home to fill, you can still donate; there are large bottles at each entrance for one-time donations which are still being accepted. Please make every effort to return your baby bottle to the church or parish office sometime this week. Thank you for supporting LifeCare!



Seeking Individual to Fill Bookkeeper Position

Our Partnered Parish Office is looking for a part-time bookkeeper. This position will be approximately 10-15 hours per week. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact our Business Manager, Missy Silka, at the parish office by phone 814-663-3041 or email: business@stparish.org.

Saturday Morning Rosary

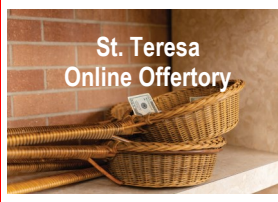
All are invited to join us on Saturday mornings at Saint Thomas Church at 9:00am as we pray The Rosary together in community.


St. Teresa Parish News

ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: June 8 & 9, 2024
Amount in Envelopes: (55) \$1,815.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 102)
Loose \$376.00
Continuing the Vision (2) \$80.00
Online Giving (1) \$30.00
Total Offertory Income \$2,301.00

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: June 9, 2024
Amount in Envelopes: (7) \$155.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 23)
St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income \$2,456.00
Average Weekly Expenses \$4,585.00
 (Average Weekly Expenses are for normal operating expenses, this does not include extraordinary repairs.)
Weekly Average Shortfall \$(-2,129.00)

*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!


2024 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 06/09):
St. Teresa Diocesan Goal is \$24,359.00
 Total Amount Pledged to date = \$37,064.00
 Total Paid to date = \$31,572.00
 # of Families who made a pledge = 97
 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. TERESA CHURCH' when making a CSA payment.



Rev. Walter Packard, Rev. Johnathan Schmolt, Rev. Raymond Hahn, Very Rev. Chris Hamlett, VF, Rev. John Beal, Rev. William Sutherland, and also please *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese as they attend the Emmaus Retreat this week.*


An Invitation to St. Teresa Rosary Altar Society Members
 Please join us for a time of fellowship, conversation, and laughs
POTLUCK PICNIC
 Date: **Wednesday, June 19, 2024**
 Time: **4:30pm gather / 5:00pm meal served**
 Where: **Knights of Columbus Pavilion in Mead Park, Corry**
 The ladies of the St. Thomas Altar Rosary Society invite you to join us. Beverages of water, lemonade, and iced tea provided. We will have table settings. Please bring a dish to share. Just a note, there is no electricity available at the pavilion.
Hope to see you there!

 **The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of June 16th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Bill Flynn.**

 Our prayers & sympathy to the family and friends of **William (Bill) Flynn** who passed away and was buried from St. Teresa Church. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Getting Ready for Our Annual Lawn Festival
 St. Teresa's Lawn Festival will be held on Thursday, July 18th this year. **We are in need of the following items to make this endeavor successful: Plants, Chinese Auction Items, 2 Liter Bottles of Pop (LOTS!), Baked Goods, and YOUR TIME!!** If you can help work one of the many booths for a couple of hours please reach out to Matt Moon at 814-490-1494. Be on the lookout for raffle tickets and signs in the back of the church soon! Raffle tickets can be returned to the parish in an envelope marked "Lawn Festival" and placed in the collection basket or turned in the evening of the festival before 8:00pm. Thank you.

Lawn Festival Meeting—Sunday, June 23
 We will hold a meeting to plan for our annual Lawn Festival. The meeting will be at St. Teresa Parish Center following Mass on Sunday, June 23 (beginning at 11:00AM). All those interested in helping with this year's festival should plan to attend. Thank you.

Cemetery Prices to Increase at St. Teresa
 Beginning **July 1, 2024**, there will be an increase of fees associated with St. Teresa Cemetery. The cost to purchase cemetery plots will increase as follows:
Full Burial Plot: current price is \$500/**new price will be \$600**
Cremation Burial Plot: current price \$250/**new price will be \$350**
 Those who wish to purchase plots in our cemetery prior to the cost increase should contact Chris Slocum, Cemetery Coordinator, at 814-462-6375. Any questions or concerns regarding St. Teresa Cemetery should also be addressed to Chris Slocum or the parish office. 

Upcoming Events at St. Teresa Parish
 July 18—St. Teresa's Lawn Festival
 September 7—St. Teresa's Cash Bingo
 October 9—Rosary Altar Society Card Party

Readings for the week of June 16, 2024
 Sun.: Ezekiel 17:22-24 ♦ Psalm 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 (see 2a) ♦ 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 ♦ Mark 4:26-34
 Mon.: 1 Kings 21:1-16 ♦ Psalm 5:2-3ab, 4b-6a, 6b-7 ♦ Matthew 5:38-42
 Tues.: 1 Kings 21:17-29 ♦ Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 11 and 16 ♦ Matthew 5:43-48
 Wed.: 2 Kings 2:1, 6-14 ♦ Psalm 31:20, 21, 24 ♦ Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
 Thur.: Sirach 48:1-14 ♦ Psalm 97:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7 ♦ Matthew 6:7-15
 Fri.: 2 Kings 11:1-4, 9-18, 20 ♦ Psalm 132:11, 12, 13-14, 17-18 ♦ Matthew 6:19-23
 Sat.: 2 Chronicles 24:17-25 ♦ Psalm 89:4-5, 29-30, 31-32, 33-34 ♦ Matthew 6:24-34
 Next Sun.: Job 38:1, 8-11 ♦ Psalm 107:23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-31 (1b) ♦ 2 Corinthians 5:14-17 ♦ Mark 4:35-41



**The seed is the Word of God,
Christ is the sower.
All who come to Him will live for ever.**

Caution When Sharing Personal Information
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 or natural inclination to be helpful. Any communication asking you to purchase gift cards should be considered a scam. 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 the diocesan website or in the parish's Sunday bulletin. In this age when personal data can be misused by scam artists, please be aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, its clergy and entities such as parishes and schools will never solicit your personal or business information by any method 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 by using official contact information only. Financial fraud like the gift card scam can be reported to the Federal Trade Commission here: <https://ReportFraud.ftc.gov>. To learn more, read this article: <https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/avoiding-and-reporting-gift-card-scams> from the FTC.

Mass Intentions for Our Parishes

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.

Wedding Anniversary Celebrations with Bishop Persico
Diocesan Anniversary Celebrations for couples celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 or more years of marriage in 2024 will be held at two locations in the Diocese of Erie this summer:

- **Sunday, August 4 at St. George, Erie at 2:00pm.**
- **Sunday, August 18 at Beloved Disciple, Grove City at 2:00pm.**

Couples may contact the parish office, complete a registration form online at <http://www.eriecnd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html>, or contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at 814-824-1210. Registrations are being accepted until July 21 for the Erie celebration and until August 4 for the Grove City celebration.

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!

Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News

New Look to Our Religious Education Program
Our Religious Education Program will combine this coming year. The number of students does not merit having two separate programs. Combining our resources will help to make our program stronger. This Fall for the 2024-2025 Religious Education Year, we will have classes at St. Teresa for the first half of the year (September—December) and at St. Thomas for the second half of the year (January—May).



This will also constitute a change in Mass times. We will continue to alternate the Saturday Mass at 4:30pm each month. On Sunday morning Mass will be at St. Thomas at 8:00am and at St. Teresa at 11:00am. Religious Education will be held in between those two Sunday morning Masses. On those Sundays where Religious Education is at St. Teresa class will be from 9:30am—10:45am. This will enable people who go to 8:00am Mass at St. Thomas to get to class at St. Teresa and enable those who go to class to be finished in time for Mass at St. Teresa. And when class is at St. Thomas, class will be 9:00am—10:30am in order for people to get back to St. Teresa for Mass.

Have a great Summer Vacation!
Families with school-aged children should be on the lookout for registration information over the summer.

As the School Year Ends
We wish all of our school children a safe and happy summer. We also hope teachers have an enjoyable and relaxing vacation. Although the student's classroom education is on hiatus for a few months, that doesn't mean they will stop learning. Consider this: YOU may be the best Christian your child/grandchild/niece/nephew, or neighborhood youngster knows, so teach them well by your fine example!

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 the church where the anticipatory Mass is celebrate 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 be sure to notify the parish office of any changes to your address, phone numbers, or email address. Thank you.