



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

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



Saint Teresa of Avila Church  
9 Third Avenue  
Union City, PA 16438

## September 29, 2024



### 26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

At that time, John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us." Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me." - Mk 9:38-39

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](http://www.stthomastheapostle.church)

**Saint Teresa of Avila Parish**  
[www.st-teresa-unioncity.org](http://www.st-teresa-unioncity.org)

**Parish Offices**  
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

**Notes from the Pastor**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES:** Classes began last weekend at St. Teresa Parish Center for all students of both parishes. Thanks to Missy Silka and our wonderful staff of catechists for starting off the year in such a great way. We are really blessed to have the teachers (catechists) that we have.

As these classes will begin at 9:30am and end at 10:45am, please be careful in the parking lot as there will be extra traffic before Sunday Mass starts at 11:00am.

**MISSIONARY APPEAL:** I received a letter from the Diocesan Mission office thanking us for the very generous collection we gave to the Hospitaller Sisters of Mercy. Our collection totaled \$1,629.50. Your gracious welcome to the sisters who visited us, and your generous support of their cause is overwhelming. Thank you!!

**THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY:** I will continue my column with the last three points about the upcoming Synod and Synods in general.

The fifth point is that Synodality does NOT jeopardize the unchanging doctrinal teaching of the Church. Some people think the doctrine of the church does not change, but in fact it does. Those changes may be small or minor, but doctrine does change. Our faith tradition is a living tradition and because it is a living tradition it does change and grow over time as all living things do. Another way to think of this is that the doctrine does not change, but how we present it or teach it in each new age does change.

Some denominations see tradition as a mere human invention, but we see tradition as the ongoing activity of the Holy Spirit guiding us, as the Body of Christ, to an ever-deepening understanding of the mystery of salvation.

The sixth point is that Synodality is NOT a fad that will disappear when the present papacy comes to a close. You might recall that Synodality goes back to Paul VI and even goes back to the early church and the Apostles. It was not something that Pope Francis started. Pope Francis has just allowed it to be used at the local level, the regional level, and the universal level of the church in order to hear where the Holy Spirit is guiding us.

The seventh, and last point, is that Synodality is NOT something that is more appropriate for Protestant or Orthodox churches and not the Catholic Church. Given what we discussed in the first point about how Synodality is not something new or a novelty invented by recent church leaders, but it is something that goes back to the early church as found in the Acts of the Apostles. The Apostles gathered people to hear about issues that were causing division and concern in the early church and listened to their witness and experience in order to discern the path the Holy Spirit wanted the church to move in. The church is synodal and conciliar to its core.

**UPCOMING CHANGES:** Now that the official merger of St. Teresa of Avila Parish into St. Thomas the Apostle Parish has taken place there are some changes that you might need to be aware of.

*Continued* ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡



**Sunday, September 29**

8:00a.m. †Deacon Bill Sproveri by Family  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

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

**Monday, September 30**

8:00a.m. †Steve Mongera, Sr. by Steve & Cherly Mongera  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Tuesday, October 1**

8:00a.m. †Fr. William Kuba  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

**Wednesday, October 2**

8:00a.m. †Paul & Sally Griebel by Joan, Jan, and Alan  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

**Thursday, October 3— Eucharistic Adoration**

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

**Friday, October 4—Eucharistic Adoration**

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

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

**Saturday, October 5**

4:30p.m. †James & Catherine Dodson and Jimmy  
Dodson by Mary Dodson Brown  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Sunday, October 6**

8:00a.m. †Deceased & Living Members of the Rushin and  
Hennings Families by Steve & Julie Rushin  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

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

***Your word, O Lord, is truth.*** John 17:17

• **Beginning in October, please make out your checks for offertory and CSA to St. Thomas Church.** We will be combining our accounts into one account to eliminate unnecessary accounts and consolidate our record keeping.

• We will be merging the two parish websites into one. At some point, if you go to St. Teresa’s website, you will be automatically redirected to St. Thomas’ website. This will allow us to keep everything in one place.

• We will also be combining into one parish envelope system. As a result, your envelope number may change.

• We will also be combining our online giving into one program. Currently we have one program for St. Thomas, WeShare, and one for St. Teresa, Vanco.

• Many of these changes do not dramatically affect how things operate but help us at the office level to coordinate things better.

- Fr. Tom

# St. Thomas News

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: Sept. 21 & 22, 2024

<b>Amount in Envelopes:</b> (72) .....	\$2,969.00
(Total Envelopes sent: 145 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 73)	
<b>Loose</b> .....	\$277.00
<b>Online Giving</b> (11) .....	\$380.00
<b>Faith Formation/Rel. Ed.</b> .....	\$5.00
<b>Total Offertory Income</b> .....	\$3,631.00

**Average Weekly Expenses** .....\$5,335.00  
 (Average Weekly Expenses are for normal operating expenses, this does not include extraordinary repairs.)

**Weekly Average Shortfall** ..... \$(-1,704.00)

*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](http://www.StThomastheApostle.Church) and click 'Donate Online'.*

## Catholic Education Collection.....\$762.00

Thank you for giving to the Catholic Education Collection taken up in our diocese/parish the weekend of September 14/15. This collection supports lifelong faith formation and educational needs for all generations in our diocese. Half of what you gave (\$381) remains in our parish to support our own Religious Education Program. Thank you for your generosity to this special collection.

## PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

### 2024 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 09/22):

**St. Thomas Diocesan Goal is \$37,254.00**

**Total Amount Pledged to date = \$60,841.00**

**Total Paid to date = \$55,736.00**

**# of Families who made a pledge = 131**

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

The words in today's gospel, "Whoever gives a cup of water in the name of Christ will not lose their reward" hits us at home. As parents we gain our "reward" when we bring a bottle to a crying infant in the middle of the night, or juice boxes to parched five-year olds, or hold ice chips to the fevered lips of a spouse. It is that simple and that sacred. In our homes we give until it hurts "in the name of Christ."

**God is full of compassion. He is with you in your joy and in your sorrow. And He is with you today.**



**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.*



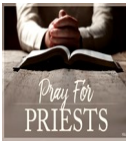
**The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of September 29<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Z. Marion & Irene Zaczekiewicz by their family.**

### "Question of the Week" - 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Question for Children:** In what specific ways do you share with the poor from what you have been given?

**Question for Youth:** Who are the people you have met who are against you? Are there people who persecute you because of your faith? How do you treat these people?

**Question for Adults:** In today's worldwide community, who are the rich and what does God want of them?



Rev. Thomas Aleksa, Rev. Mark O'Hern, Rev. Thomas Tyler, Rev. Jeffrey Lucas, Rev. Matias Quimno, Very Rev. Michael Ferrick, Pray for Vocations and also please *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*



### Winterizing Our Parish Cemeteries

Parishioners are reminded to remove all potted urns/plants from graves for the winter as of November 10 at both St. Thomas and St. Elizabeth Cemeteries. We will be cleaning up the cemeteries on Nov. 16. Holiday wreaths/decorations may be placed on graves. Thanks.



### Additional Winner of a CDA Baskets at the Sparty Fair

A third basket drawn at the fair was won by Lisa Johnson. We did not have her name when winners were announced in last weekend's bulletin. A correction to a winner's name, it was Kathy Oostemp who won the second basket. Congratulations!

### Corry Knights of Columbus Food Drive Collection

The Corry Knights are 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. Thanks!



**St. Teresa News**

**ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:** Sept. 22, 2024  
**Amount in Envelopes:** (47) ..... \$2,091.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 110)  
**Loose** ..... \$182.00  
**Continuing the Vision ( )** ..... \$0.00  
**Online Giving (2)** ..... \$110.00  
**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$2,383.00

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP:** Sept. 22, 2024  
**Amount in Envelopes:** (6) ..... \$290.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 24)  
**St. Teresa Offertory Income** ..... \$2,673.00  
**Average Weekly Expenses** ..... \$4,585.00  
 (Average Weekly Expenses are for normal operating expenses, this does not include extraordinary repairs.)  
**Weekly Average Shortfall** ..... \$(1,912.00)

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



Please know that you can now give all your donations online by visiting our website at [www.st-teresa-unioncity-org](http://www.st-teresa-unioncity-org) OR by scanning the QR code here.



**Catholic Education Collection** ..... \$465.00  
 Thank you for giving to the Catholic Education Collection taken up in our diocese/parish the weekend of September 14/15. This collection supports lifelong faith formation and educational needs for all generations in our diocese. Half of what you gave (\$232.50) remains in our parish to support our own Religious Education Program. Thank you for your generosity to this special collection.

**2024 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 09/22):**

St. Teresa Diocesan Goal is \$24,359.00  
 Total Amount Pledged to date = \$39,014.00  
 Total Paid to date = \$37,020.00  
 # of Families who made a pledge = 102  
 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.

**Rosary Altar Bake Sale at Masses on October 5 & 6**  
 Please plan to pick up a delicious treat for yourself or to share with family at our Bake Sale which will be held at both the 4:30pm Mass on October 5 and the 11:00am Mass on October 6 at St. Teresa Church. Thank you for your support.



**THANK YOU** to all of our bulletin sponsors!



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of September 29<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Steve Mongera, Sr. by Steve & Cheryl Mongera.

**Upcoming Events for St. Teresa**

October 5 & 6—Bake Sale at weekend Masses  
 October 9—Rosary Altar Society Card Party  
 November 9—Cash Bingo

**St. Teresa Church**



**Saturday, November 9th, 2024**

Doors open 4:30 - Bingo starts at 6:00  
 Union City Fire Hall  
 50 2nd Avenue • Union City, PA

**ADMISSION \$30.00**

BYOB, Non Alcoholic Beverages will be Available  
 Food Truck will also be available

Large Basket Raffle  
 Chinese Auction  
 Lottery Tree  
 50-50 and more...

No one under 21 admitted -  
 For reservations Contact Dick or Elaine Hasbrouck  
 814 450-2766

**Seeking Items for the Cash Bingo Fundraiser**

We are in need of new Chinese auction gifts and/or gift cards for the Cash Bingo which will now be held on **Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**. Donations can be dropped off at St. Teresa Church at weekend Masses, weekdays Monday through Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm, or in the locked mailbox beside the Rectory. For other arrangements call Elaine Hasbrouck at 814-450-2766 or Sherri Margie at 814-392-7950. We hope you purchase a ticket and plan to join us for the bingo event!

**ST. TERESA'S**



Sponsored By  
**ST. TERESA'S ROSARY-ALTAR SOCIETY**

**Admission \$6.00**

Includes Light Dinner with Coffee or tea

Wednesday, October 9, 2024  
 Doors open at 5:00 pm

**6:00 pm**

AT ST. TERESA'S CENTER UNION CITY



Reservations ELAINE (814) 450 2766



August 28, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On November 5, we will have another opportunity to practice good citizenship and fulfill a sacred duty by going to the polls to cast our votes.

We have been met with a great deal of tension and anxiety throughout the campaign season at both the national and local levels. I know sometimes Catholics wish their bishops would endorse candidates. But as your bishop, that is not my role.

Part of the role of the bishop is to be a teacher. In terms of the election, I am addressing that responsibility through this letter as well as through the guide we've prepared on this election microsite.

Very few candidates' views align perfectly with the Catholic Church. Our response, therefore, is to educate ourselves on key issues, making sure we are well-informed about what the church teaches regarding each.

The USCCB provides numerous documents and pastoral statements that present church teaching on various issues. These writings on everything from pro-life issues and health care to poverty, immigration and the environment not only detail the church's position, but also explain why it stands where it stands.

The bishops of the United States have worked hard on these resources, but honestly, they are useless unless they are read, studied and comprehended. What we've done on our website is to offer a synopsis of church teaching on critical issues, as well as links to the full documents so you can study them as well.

The goal is to help you form your conscience, allowing yourself to be influenced by church teaching as you prepare to cast your vote.

As Americans, we are fortunate to have the opportunity to participate in our government and to elect our leaders. We need to use that privilege well and with integrity.

I ask you to study the information on this election microsite and spend time in prayer before you cast your vote.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
+ Lawrence T. Persico

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

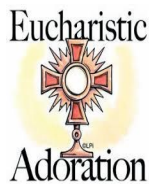
**Election 2024**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
A guide for Catholics in the Diocese of Erie

Please visit the diocesan micro site at <https://www.eriecd.org/election.html>

**Eucharistic Adoration THIS WEEK**

*Let my prayer come before you, Lord.*

Our churches will hold their monthly Eucharistic Adoration this week. It will be held on **Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> (8:00am) through Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> (8:00am) at Saint Thomas Church.** It will also be held on **Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> (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.



**Readings for the week of September 29, 2024**

- Sun.: Numbers 11:25-29 ♦ Psalm 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 (9a) ♦ James 5:1-6 ♦ Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48
- Mon.: Job 1:6-22 ♦ Psalm 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7 ♦ Luke 9:46-50
- Tues.: Job 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23 ♦ Psalm 88:2-3, 4-5, 6, 7-8 ♦ Luke 9:51-56
- Wed.: Job 9:1-12, 14-16 Psalm 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15 ♦ Matthew 18:1-5, 10
- Thur.: Job 19:21-27 ♦ Psalm 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14 ♦ Luke 10:1-12
- Fri.: Job 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5 ♦ Psalm 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab ♦ Luke 10:13-16
- Sat.: Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17 ♦ Psalm 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130 ♦ Luke 10:17-24
- Next Sun.: Genesis 2:18-24 ♦ Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 ♦ Hebrews 2:9-11 ♦ Mark 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

**Religious Education News**

**New Look to Our Religious Education Program**



Our Religious Education Program combined this year. Combining our resources will help to make our program stronger. 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). **Classes started last weekend on Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> with all students (from both churches) meeting at St. Teresa Parish Center at 9:30am.** If you have school-aged students not yet registered, please contact Missy Silka at the parish office and/or come to class on Sunday mornings with your student to get them registered.

**Custodian Position Available at Sts. Thomas & Teresa**

We are seeking a person who is interested in working a custodial position for the parish. The job would be approximately 25 hours per week. Duties include cleaning the churches, parish office, and other buildings of the parish. If interested, please contact the parish office (814-663-3041) or email Missy Silka, Business Manager, at [business@stparish.org](mailto:business@stparish.org).



**The "October Count" begins Next Weekend**

During the month of October, the ushers will be counting how many people are attending each Mass at both churches. This count is done throughout our diocese annually in the fall to see attendance trends. Be sure you come to Mass and be counted! **Ushers, please review the instructions near the collection baskets at both churches.** Thank you.

**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 be sure to notify the Parish Office of any changes to your address, phone numbers, or email address. Thank you.*