



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 10, 2025



Donate at
www.eriegives.org

- OR -

Visit our
website
www.stthomastheapostle.church

NEW this year—NO FEES !!!

All Online Fees will be covered!

**This means that 100% of your
gift goes directly to the local
nonprofits of your choice.**

Tuesday—August 12, 2025

A great day to help your favorite nonprofits.

Please consider supporting us

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish

St. Teresa of Avila Church

St. Thomas Cemetery

St. Teresa Cemetery

St. Elizabeth Cemetery

Religious Education

St. Thomas Cemetery Endowment Fund

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

ERIE GIVES – AUGUST 12, 2025: The annual Erie Gives Day will be Tuesday, August 12, 2025. St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and its Mission St. Teresa of Avila Church will be participating, as well as St. Thomas Cemetery, St. Teresa Cemetery, St. Elizabeth Cemetery, St. Thomas Cemetery Endowment Fund and our Religious Education Program. You can access our site at ErieGives.org or on our parish website [Parish of Saint Thomas the Apostle and its mission Saint Teresa of Avila Church](#). One of the great things about this program is that Erie Gives contributes a percentage of their funds to each organization that receives pledges. So, all that you donate, plus a percentage from Erie Gives, goes to each of our organizations which people contribute to through Erie Gives. In addition, Erie Gives is waiving all credit card transaction fees for those who donate. Thank you in advance for your generous support of our parish!

BOOK RECOMMENDATION: *“HOPE: The Autobiography”* Pope Francis. This book was released shortly before Pope Francis died. I have not finished it yet but it is a profound look at the world in which we live through the eyes and the life of Pope Francis. This book gives us a modern understanding of the Church and where the Gospel of Jesus is found in today’s world.

CHRIST’S PRESENCE IN THE EUCHARIST:

We do not begin our celebration of the Eucharist with Christ’s **absence** and then suddenly experience Christ’s **presence**. God is always present to us; it is a matter of us being aware of that presence.

The Eucharist = Christ’s real presence + our real presence.

Christ is present in four ways in the Eucharist: In the **Assembly** (people), the **Word of God** in the Scripture readings, the **Bread and Wine** that become the Body and Blood of Christ, and the person of the **Priest**. Let’s look at each one over several weeks in order that we might enter more deeply into the prayer that is the Eucharist:

1. First, Christ is present in those who are assembled – the people – **THE ASSEMBLY**. Jesus tells us, “Wherever two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in their midst.” When we gather in the name of Jesus, when we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, Jesus promises us that he is present. Think about the difference between these two types of meals and how it applies to our celebration of the Eucharist. At a Formal Dinner, you encounter people you don’t know, and the meal becomes a chore. At an Informal Dinner with friends and family, the meal is fun, inviting, strengthening, renewing. There is some need on our part to make our gathering to celebrate the Eucharist one in which we are more like family and friends.

It also means that we need to participate in this meal. We don’t just sit at the table and wait for someone to feed us. We engage with those who are present by greeting them and sharing with them. It will mean that we participate in the responses and in singing the songs and the parts of the Mass that are ours to sing. All the music at Mass is intended for everyone to participate in.

It also means that we prepare ourselves to celebrate the Eucharist. It might mean that we read the readings before we come to church, or while we are waiting for Mass to begin. It might mean that we prepare our hearts and minds to hear God’s Word and receive God in the Eucharist under the forms of bread and wine. We might prepare by simply entering into a moment of silence to remember why we are there and the sacrifice that Jesus makes for us on the cross which we celebrate in the Eucharist. When we are

Continued ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡

**Sunday, August 10**

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Deceased Members of the Jeffords and Palmer Families by Richard & Jean Farver (St. Thomas, Corry)
11:00a.m. For the People of the Parish (St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, August 11

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Rosemary Sefchick by Ilene Zakovitch (St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, August 12

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Madalyn Jawdy by Joe & Janet Jawdy (St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, August 13

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Pauline Skalos by nieces and nephews (St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, August 14—*Vigil Mass for the Holy Day*

- 7:00p.m. ✠ Jim Teed by parish friends (St. Thomas, Corry)

Friday, August 15—*Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Ed Weaver by Irene Weaver and family (St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, August 16

- 4:30p.m. ✠ Ronald Tomcho by Hanh Tomcho & family (St. Teresa, Union City)

Sunday, August 17

- 8:00a.m. ✠ Z. Marion & Irene Zaczekiewicz by Sue, Gary, and Joseph Johnston (St. Thomas, Corry)
11:00a.m. For the People of the Parish (St. Teresa, Union City)

invited to a meal, we usually bring something with us, we prepare something to be shared. We also need to prepare our minds and hearts to celebrate the Eucharist.

Christ is present in us as we gather to celebrate the Eucharist.

2. The second way that we experience Christ’s presence in the Eucharist is in the **WORD OF GOD** or the readings at Mass. The readings and the responsorial psalm all come from the Bible. We believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God, not in a literal sense, but in a contextual sense. The story may not contain all the facts or get them exactly right, but the point or meaning of the story is what God intends for us to hear. We do not take the Bible, the Scriptures, to be word for word, or literal, truth. That is a distinction that is not always made clear about how the Catholic Church interprets Scripture compared to how other Churches interpret Scripture.

The readings at Mass typically come from the Old Testament, the New Testament, and one of the Gospels. The first reading is typically from the Old Testament (although in the Easter Season and at various other times it comes from the New Testament). The second reading always comes from the New Testament. And the Gospel reading is from one of the four Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John. The first reading and the Gospel always have a common theme to them.

Continued (on shared page 4) ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡

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.*

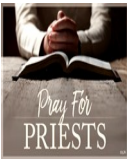
PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

"Question of the Week" - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: Jesus tells us to always be ready to hear him. What are some ways that he speaks to us?

Question for Youth: If Jesus were to knock on your door today and give you a report card on your life as His disciple, what grade would you get? Where would be your areas for improvement?

Question for Adults: On a daily basis, what are some ways to keep yourself "ready for God to act?" How do you pay attention to God's often-less-than-obvious actions?



Very Rev. Scott Jabo, V.F., Rev. Vincent Cieslewicz, Rev. Matthew Kujawinski, Very Rev. Nicholas Rouch, V.G., Captain Joseph Campbell, Rev., Joseph Kalinowski, and also *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*



ATTENTION Union City & Corry Knights of Columbus

Our final summer picnic meeting will be this month on **Tuesday, August 12th** in Corry Mead Park at the **Knights of Columbus Green Top Pavilion**. Meeting starts at 6:00pm. Grilled hotdogs/buns and beverages are provided. Please bring a food item/dish to share—thank you. We hope to see you there!



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.



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Thomas Church for the week of **August 10th** burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of the **Wascak and Stolar Families** by Carol & Darrell Huffman.

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

St. Luke's Church, Youngsville to hold Silver Rose Ceremony

Come join us Tuesday August 19th at 7:00pm as The Silver Rose Pilgrimage, hosted by Knights of Columbus Council 13006, visits St. Luke Parish in Youngsville, PA. *Our Lady of Guadalupe is the only known image of Mary as an expectant Mother.* A ceremony and the Rosary will be said and afterwards there will be an opportunity to photograph the Silver Rose before you leave the service. Come join us in this special prayer service—all are welcome.

Volunteers Needed to Help Sell Gate Tickets at the Fair

The Corry Knights of Columbus are sponsoring the Sparty Fair Fundraiser Selling Gate Tickets at this year's 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). Much help is needed—sign up today!



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 = \$66,708

Paid to date = \$57,223

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

Paid to date = \$31,478

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.

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.



St. Teresa News

Readings for the week of August 10, 2025

Sun.: Wisdom 18:6-9 ♦ Psalm 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 (12b) ♦
 Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12 ♦ Luke 12:32-48 or 12:35-40
 Mon.: Deuteronomy 10:12-22 ♦ Psalm 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14 ♦
 Matthew 17:22-27
 Tues.: Deuteronomy 31:1-8 ♦ Deuteronomy 32:3-4ab, 7, 8, 9 and 12 ♦
 Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
 Wed.: Deuteronomy 34:1-12 ♦ Psalm 66:1-3a, 5 and 8, 16-17 ♦
 Matthew 18:15-20
 Thur.: Joshua 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17 ♦ Psalm 114:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 ♦
 Matthew 18:21—19:1
 Fri.: *Vigil*: 1 Chronicles 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2 ♦ Psalm 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14 ♦
 1 Corinthians 15:54b-57 ♦ Luke 11:27-28
 Day: Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab ♦ Psalm 45:10, 11, 12, 16 ♦
 1 Corinthians 15:20-27 ♦ Luke 1:39-56
 Sat.: Joshua 24:14-29 ♦ Psalm 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 11 ♦ Matthew 19:13-15
 Next Sun.: Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10 ♦ Psalm 40:2, 3, 4, 18 (14b) ♦
 Hebrews 12:1-4 ♦ Luke 12:49-53

Family Perspective

In today's gospel, a servant waited for the master to return. Waiting is a normal part of family life. We wait for a child's birth, then for small legs to catch up. Later, we wait for teenagers to return home safely. Finally, we wait alone, anticipating a call or visit from an adult child. Waiting is sacred time, for even in the waiting, we are connected.



Extra Items for Sale from the St. Teresa Lawn Festival

We hope to sell some of the extra food from the festival. If interested, please contact Matt Moon or stop into the St. Teresa Parish Center after the 11:00am Mass to purchase. **Here is an update of what we have to sell:** Frozen French fries - \$10 for a 5 pound bag – there are 11 bags available. Pop is \$4 a 12 pack—quantity & kind available: 1 Coke, 2 Pepsi, 4 Diet Pepsi, and 2 mixed 12 packs.

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.



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of August 10th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of deceased loved ones.

2025 Wedding Anniversary Celebration with Bishop Persico

Diocesan Anniversary Celebration for couples celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 or more years of marriage in 2025 will hold a final celebration in the Diocese of Erie this summer at

• **Sunday, August 24 at St. Tobias, Brockway at 3:00pm**

Couples may complete registration online at <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html>, calling their parish office or contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at 814-824-1210. Registrations are being accepted until July 24 for the Erie celebration and until August 14 for the Brockway celebration. You may also register until September 11 to have a scrolled mailed to you.



Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Diocesan Requirements for working with children: Working alongside the Bishop, the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth reinforces the ongoing implementation of policies and procedures that protect children. All clergy, employees, and volunteers in the Diocese of Erie who work with children must undergo criminal record checks. The diocesan Policy for the Protection of Children and Youth screening guidelines and abuse prevention training programs emphasize the importance of knowing the employees and volunteers who have access to children in our schools and parishes. Parents should remain vigilant in insisting that those with access to their children have gone through an application process and obtained the required clearances and trainings before being granted access to their children. Visit www.eriecd.org/childprotection/ to see what is required for those who work with children and youth in our parishes/schools/agencies.

Stay awake and be ready! For you do not know on what day your Lord will come.
 Matthew 24:42a, 44

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, Cory 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.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: August 2 & 3, 2025

Total Offertory Income \$7,969.00
Average Budgeted Offertory Income \$7,700.00
Offertory Overage \$269.00

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 the specific cemetery: 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!



Prosper the work
of our hands!



July 17, 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Collection for the Church in Latin America is scheduled to take place in our Diocese on the weekend of August 16 and 17, 2025. This is one way to support the growth and strength of our Catholic faith in different parts of the world. Your participation in this collection is a meaningful and practical expression of solidarity with people in these regions.

Latin America is home to many Catholics, but it still experiences challenges in the work of evangelization. Shortages of resources, pastoral workers and poor infrastructure make simple things like attending weekly Mass difficult for many. As members of the same family of faith, we are called to help our sisters and brothers in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The proceeds of this collection are used in dioceses, parishes, religious congregations, seminaries and other Catholic institutions. The collection also assists in the formation of priests, religious, lay ministers, missionaries, catechists and youth ministers. I encourage you to be generous toward this collection. Take this opportunity to share your faith with our sisters and brothers in need. Your financial support, just as importantly as your prayers, will truly make a difference.

For more information on the Church in Latin America and the many projects funded by the collection, please visit www.usccb.org/latin-america. Be assured of my own prayers for you and your family.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
+ Lawrence T. Persico

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

Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News**Religious Education | 2025-2026 School Year**

It is time to begin to think about 'back to school' now that we are already into the month of August. With that – it is also time to plan for our parish's Religious Education Program. Please watch the bulletin in the next few weeks for information about student registration and the date classes will begin. We hope you enjoy the last few weeks of summer and know that we are excited to again share the teaching of the Catholic faith in our Religious Education Program. *Looking forward to seeing returning families and hopefully some new ones!*

NEW—Small Group for Youth

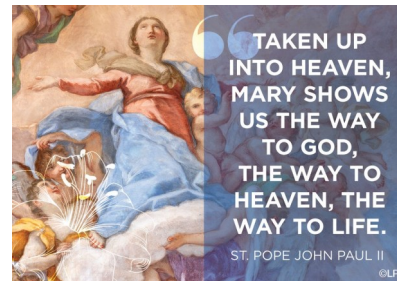
Let's grow in faith, build friendships, and have some fun! This year our Religious Education program is expanding to include Small Group. Our new Small Group will be for all confirmed youth in the parish who want to stay connected after Confirmation through relaxed meetups, shared meals, faith talks,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

*** Erie Gives** is a great way to support our **youth small group**—your donation helps fund outings, meals, and meaningful faith-based experiences for our confirmed teens. **Donate to Religious Education.**

**Holy Day of Obligation**

This week we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on **August 15th**. Please join us as we honor Mary, who took upon herself the lifelong burden of selfless obedience to the will of

God, and was rewarded for her fidelity to the demands of discipleship by being taken up, both body and soul, into heaven.

Mass Times are:

- **7:00pm at St. Thomas Church on Thursday, Aug. 14 (Vigil)**
- **8:00am at St. Teresa Church on Friday, Aug. 15**

[Notes from the Pastor—continued]

The second reading typically does not relate to the first reading and the Gospel. The second reading gives us an alternate message to hear or to preach on. The readings at Mass, and at all our Sacraments are taken from the Bible, and only from the Bible. We believe these to be the Word of God in the sense that God speaks a particular message to us through the readings, hence we believe that Christ is present in the readings from Scripture.

One of the best ways to prepare to celebrate the Eucharist is to read the readings before you come to church, so you are ready to "hear" them at Mass. The Scripture references are listed in the bulletin each week for daily Mass and for Sunday Mass. Listening is not always one of our best skills. But each week we are invited to "listen" to God speak to us through the readings from Scripture.

– Fr. Tom