



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

THE PARISH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE AND ITS MISSION ST. TERESA OF AVILA



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

May 4, 2025



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them, and in like manner the fish. - Jn 21:13

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1988, 1970 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

Carol Huffman
Bookkeeper
finance@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 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

Notes from the Pastor

SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER: We will be using a sprinkling rite at the beginning of Mass during the Easter season. The proper response to being blessed with holy water is to make the sign of the cross. When I sprinkled the palms on Palm Sunday, I noticed people doing a variety of things. I was somewhat surprised that many people didn't know what to do when they were sprinkled with holy water. The proper response to being blessed with holy water is to make the sign of the cross. The only time we genuflect is to the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle or the monstrance.

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION: We will be celebrating this weekend with our young people who are joining us to receive the Eucharist. They have been preparing all year in class, with their parents, and even on retreat. Last weekend we celebrated at St. Teresa and this weekend at St. Thomas.

Our confirmation students have been preparing as well in class, on retreat, and in their service to our parish. They will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday, May 6, at St. Francis Xavier Church in McKean.

THANK YOU: Our continued thanks to Lois Woodcock for working with our parish gardens. Thanks to all those who helped prepare the gardens for the mulching that happened last weekend, and thanks to all those who helped with the mulching at St. Thomas and St. Elizabeth.

Thanks to Kim and Larry Yapple for coordinating our Reverse Raffle and all those who helped work the raffle. Thanks to all those who supported the raffle by purchasing tickets and attending the event. It was a fun and profitable evening.

I know I offered thanks to all those who worked our Fish Dinners. They were a huge success thanks to those who worked, those who made desserts, and those who helped in so many other ways. But I really want to offer my personal thanks to Becky Boleratz at St. Teresa and Sue Vinca and Judy Green at St. Thomas for their tremendous work in coordinating the dinners and the volunteers. The various tasks that need to be done in order for these dinners to happen is due largely to the efforts of Becky, Sue, and Judy. We are blessed by their generosity and how they engage the rest of us in that generosity.

MISSIONARY APPEAL: This year our Missionary Appeal will be conducted by Sr. Christine Kosin, OSB, from AIM USA – Alliance for International Monasticism on the weekend of May 17-18. The Alliance for International Monasticism promotes cooperation and solidarity among monasteries throughout the world. AIM responds to the needs of monasteries in the developing world by supporting mission communities in their birth, growth, development, trials, and difficulties.

ANointing OF THE SICK: The Anointing of the Sick was started 50 years ago as a way to better minister to those who were seriously ill and dying. Some of you may remember what the church called last rites. Last Rites was a sacrament that could be received only once in a lifetime and thus people waited until their last breath to receive it. Sometimes the priest arrived in time and sometimes he didn't. Priests even anointed dead bodies. The Catholic Church no longer has what is called "last rites." It has been replaced with the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. It is surprising that people 50 years later are still using the term "last rites" and even talking about the sacrament in terms that we stopped using 50 years ago.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is a healthy revision of what was called Last Rites. The Anointing of the Sick can be received as many times as a person needs it, where last rites were given only once. The Anointing of the Sick still carries with it forgiveness of sins, a prayer for physical healing, and a prayer for strength in the midst of one's suffering. The Anointing of the Sick is intended to strengthen people in faith and hope in the midst of their struggle with illness and even death.

Continued ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡

**Sunday, May 4**

8:00a.m. ✠Nick & Betty Jo Waltier by Denny & Chris Anderson
(St. Thomas, Corry)

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

Monday, May 5

8:00a.m. ✠Bill Flynn by Kathleen Green
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, May 6

8:00a.m. ✠Frank Karkoski by Family
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, May 7

8:00a.m. ✠Wascak and Stolar Families by Carol & Darrell Huffman
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, May 8

No Mass or Services at either Sts. Thomas or Teresa today.

Friday, May 9

8:00a.m. ✠Fr. Monty Sayer
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, May 10

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

Sunday, May 11—Mother's Day

8:00a.m. ✠All Deceased Mothers
(St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. ✠All Deceased Mothers
(St. Teresa, Union City)



One does not live by bread alone but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

We try to minister to people in their illness and suffering rather than just waiting until they are at the moment of their last breath. **Today, a priest is not allowed to anoint someone who has died – sacraments are for the living, not the dead.** Anyone who has a serious or chronic illness, is preparing for major surgery, or who is struggling with a serious mental illness can, and should, be anointed. Even children who have sufficient use of reason to understand the effects of the sacrament can be anointed in case of serious or chronic illness. If you are not sure if the illness is serious or not, the person should be anointed. The sacrament can be received as many times as needed.

One of the things I started when I arrived here was what we call "First Friday Calls." Catholics who are sick or homebound are visited on the First Friday of each month to receive Communion and the Anointing of the Sick. Some people have taken advantage of this, and others have not. I have altered this so that one Friday I will visit those in Corry and the next month those in Union City. This gives people support in their illness and at times isolation. This is what the Anointing of the Sick is intended for. It prevents the cases where we try to find a priest at the last minute to anoint someone who is dying, because they have already been anointed.

If you, or some member of your family, is homebound, please have them call the parish office to be put on the First Friday List.

- 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



You're Invited to Coffee and Donuts NEXT WEEKEND

Coffee & Donuts will be served after Sunday's 8:00am Mass on May 11th in the multipurpose room at Saint Thomas. Donations accepted to help cover expenses. All are welcome to join us.



Our prayers & sympathy to the family and friends of **Barb Nichols** who passed away from St. Thomas Church. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.



Rev. William Sutherland, Rev. Jeffrey Lucas, Rev. William Barron, Rev. Glenn Whitman, Rev. Luke Daghir, Rev. Richard Allen, Rev. Kevin Holland, and also *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*

Family Perspective

Jesus invited the disciples to "Come and have breakfast." Just like the Last Supper, Jesus shows us at this beach breakfast that meals are about more than just eating. They are opportunities to share prayer, listen to each other's stories, and support one another in love.

Pope Francis Resource Page on the Diocese of Erie Website



On this solemn occasion, the Diocese of Erie joins the global Catholic community in mourning the passing of our beloved Holy Father, Pope Francis. His unwavering faith, profound humility and steadfast commitment to the Gospel have left an indelible mark on the Catholic Church and the world. As we reflect on his life, we offer prayers of thanksgiving for his leadership and service. Please visit <https://www.eriecd.org/popefrancis.html> for resources and information.

Eternal rest grant on to him, O Lord

As we continue to pray for the soul of Pope Francis, may we also seek the intercession of the Holy Spirit in guiding the cardinals as to the future of our church in the selection of the next pope.

I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me. (Psalm 30)

Seeking Donations for Garden Flowers at St. Thomas Church

It's that time of year to get started working on the gardens around St. Thomas Church. Donations are being accepted toward this project. Please place your donation in an envelope marked "St. Thomas Garden Flowers" and put it in the collection basket at Mass or send it to the parish office. We hope to start planting once garden beds are cleaned up. Annuals and perennials will be purchased for around the church grounds. Thank you for your generosity.



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Thomas Church for the week of May 4th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Pope Francis.

"Question of the Week" - 3rd Sunday of Easter

Question for Children: Jesus asks Peter three times if Peter loves Jesus. What one thing can you do this week to show Jesus your love?

Question for Youth: Jesus asked Peter three times to "feed my sheep." Who are you being called to help in your life right now?

Question for Adults: Christ continues to feed us as his disciples, even after his death and resurrection. How does the Eucharist feed your faith?

Join Us This Week—RSVP due by Monday!



ST. ELIZABETH AND ST. THOMAS CEMETERIES FUNDRAISER

Come paint with Debbie Bird

May 8, 2025, 6pm – 9pm at St. Elizabeth Center

Cost \$40.00 (in advance payment is encouraged but not required) call parish office at **814-663-3041** or send email to cemetary@stparrish.org to **reserve your spot.** **The class has limited seating.**

There will be raffle baskets, Light food, refreshments and drinks. Grab a friend and support a great cause while creating a beautiful art piece.

**Don't give up! Know the Lord sees your efforts.
He sees your devotion to Him—and He rejoices in it.**

Thank You for Helping with the Flower Gardens

Thank you to everyone who came out to help spread the mulch in the garden beds at St. Thomas, both at the church and parish center last weekend on Saturday, April 26. We are grateful to everyone for their time and effort to help beautify our parish grounds. As the weather continues to improve we will hopefully begin planting flowers in the gardens soon. We will let you know when more help is needed—thanks again.



St. Teresa News

Readings for the week of May 4, 2025

Sun.: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 ♦ Psalm 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a) ♦
 Revelation 5:11-14 ♦ John 21:1-19 or 21:1-14
 Mon.: Acts 6:8-15 ♦ Psalm 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 ♦ John 6:22-29
 Tues.: Acts 7:51—8:1a ♦ Psalm 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab ♦
 John 6:30-35
 Wed.: Acts 8:1b-8 ♦ Psalm 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a ♦ John 6:35-40
 Thur.: Acts 8:26-40 ♦ Psalm 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 ♦ John 6:44-51
 Fri.: Acts 9:1-20 ♦ Psalm 117:1bc, 2 ♦ John 6:52-59
 Sat.: Acts 9:31-42 ♦ Psalm 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 ♦ John 6:60-69
 Next Sun.: Acts 13:14, 43-52 ♦ Psalm 100:1-2, 3, 5 (3c) ♦
 Revelation 7:9, 14b-17 ♦ John 10:27-30



Our prayers & sympathy to the family and friends of **Cathryn Landis** who passed away from St. Teresa Church. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Did you know that Catholics celebrate Easter for 50 days?

This special liturgical season is called Eastertide or Paschaltide. It starts on Easter Sunday and ends on Pentecost Sunday — seven Sundays in all!

During Eastertide, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Each Sunday of the season can be treated as an Easter Sunday — making this time period one large joyful feast!

Help Wanted at St. Teresa Cemetery

We are seeking a **Cemetery Manager** for St Teresa Cemetery to oversee the daily operations and 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.

We are also seeking **seasonal summer help** at St. Teresa Cemetery to help maintain the grounds such as lawn mowing, weed eating, laying mulch, trim bushes and shrubs, etc.

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 May 4th burns in honor of our Lord and in honor of the wedding of Megan & Craig Blouvet.

St. Teresa Reverse Raffle

A big 'THANK YOU' to Kim Yaple, chairperson, and her team of volunteers and all those who helped make our Reverse Raffle held on Saturday, April 26th a success again this year. We appreciate everyone's efforts. A reporting about the Reverse Raffle will be in an upcoming bulletin.

2025 Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebrations

Mark Your Calendars for the 2025 Wedding Anniversary Celebration with Bishop Persico. Couples celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or more wedding anniversaries are invited to attend the annual Diocesan Anniversary Celebration. This years celebrations are scheduled for:

- Sunday, August 3, 2025 at Our Lady of Peace, Erie (2:00pm)
- Sunday, August 24, 2025 at St. Tobias, Brockway (3:00pm)

Couples may complete registration online at <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html> or contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at 814-824-1210. Registrations are being accepted until July 24 for the Erie celebration, until August 14 for the Brockway celebration or until September 11 to be mailed to you. We look forward to celebrating this beautiful sacrament with you in August 2025.



Be Alert & Use Caution When Replying to Text and Emails

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 unless initiated by you. Should you receive an unsolicited request for such information — including a request for gift cards of any type — exercise extreme caution. Contact the person or entity by using official contact information only. Do not use the contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request.

AVAILABLE NOW! PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

The Support of Your Business is Greatly Appreciated

Tim Weir from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the upcoming weeks. It is the support of the business community that helps to make our church thrive. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation makes our bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

Church bulletin advertising is a cost-effective way to advertise 52 times per year and show support for your local community; in turn, parishioners will support you!

Digital advertising allows your business to be front and center to anyone who visits a church profile page on ParishesOnline.com — that's approximately 500,000 page views per month!



Tim Weir, LPi Sales Account Exec.
 (716) 602-4588
TWeir@4lpi.com

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: April 26 & 27, 2025

Total Offertory Income \$5,698.00

Average Budgeted Offertory Income \$7,700.00

Offertory Shortfall.....\$(-2,002.00)*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 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!***THANK YOU** to all of our bulletin sponsors!

We appreciate their support of our parishes and ask our parishioners to please patronize these business.



April 14, 2025



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

When you look back on your life, you can easily remember times when your life was transformed by the ministry of your parish priest as he celebrated the Sacraments with you and your family. Our priests have given their lives to our Lord and to you, dedicating themselves to the celebration of the Eucharist, ministry and service. I imagine that, like me, many of you have feelings of gratitude toward these priests who have served you so well over the years.

On the weekend of May 10 – 11, our annual Good Shepherd Collection for retired diocesan priests will be taken in our parishes. This is our opportunity to express our gratitude with a financial gift to those priests who spent their lives in service to the Church. We look to you, the people of our Diocese, to help with the care of those priests who are retired now and those who will retire in future years.

I thank you in advance for your generosity to our annual Good Shepherd Collection for the support and care of our retired diocesan priests. If you prefer to make your gift online, simply scan the QR code below to access the online giving site for the Good Shepherd Collection.

Finally, I ask you to remember all our priests in your prayers. Pray for those who are currently serving you, those who have retired and those who have died. Please also pray for vocations to the priesthood. We pray that others will follow in the footsteps of those who have given their lives as Good Shepherds, leading you, the People of God, by their priestly ministry.

I wish you and your families a blessed Easter Season.

Scan to Give



Sincerely yours in Christ,
+ Lawrence T. Persico
The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie

Religious Education News**2024-2025 Religious Education Program**

Today is our final class for this year's Religious Education Program. We wish to thank all of our families and students who participated—we hope you enjoyed the year, learned more about our faith, and deepened your friendship with Jesus. A special 'thank you' to all of the catechists and adult volunteers who prepared lesson plans and worked tirelessly each week in our classrooms. We appreciate you! May everyone enjoy a Summer break and we hope to see you (and hopefully some new families) in the Fall when we resume classes. God bless!

**First Holy Communion at Our Parish**

We celebrate with the students of our parish and their families as they receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion either on Sunday, April 27 at St. Teresa or Saturday, May 3 at St. Thomas:

Ellie Halfast, Caroline Moon, Connor Swank and Henry Weis
May they receive Jesus in the Eucharist and in their hearts.

Pray for Our Confirmation Candidates

Please keep the following students from our parish in prayer as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation this week on Tuesday evening, May 6 at St. Francis Xavier Church in McKean:



Eric Adams, Jacob Bridgam, Cole Halfast, Joe Kondrlik, Lucas Silka, Dallas Triscuit, Mark VanCise, and Sydney Weis.
May they grow in their faith and be strengthened by the Spirit as they continue their journey in the faith.

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 = \$64,060

Paid to date = \$44,005

Amount Pledged at **St. Teresa** to date = \$33,663

Paid to date = \$26,833

Total Number of Families who made a pledge = 203

Prayerfully consider what God is leading you to give.

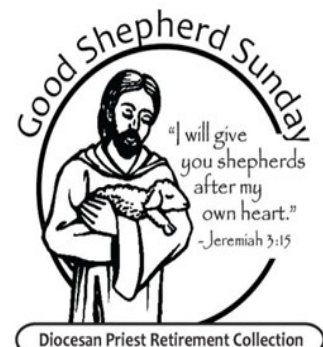
Please make a pledge today. Thank you.

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.

**GOOD SHEPHERD
COLLECTION
BENEFITS
ERIE DIOCESAN
RETIRED PRIESTS**

**Provides for those
retired priests
the same love and generosity
they provided for us
for generations**

MAY 10 & 11, 2025

Diocesan Priest Retirement Collection