



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

April 28, 2024



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.” - Jn 15:1-2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 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

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

REVERSE RAFFLE: I want to offer my personal thanks to Kim and Larry Yaple for the wonderful job they did in organizing and running the Reverse Raffle at St. Teresa last week. It was an incredible meal and a great opportunity for people to have fun and enjoy each other's presence. Thanks to all those who helped with set up, clean up, decorating, selling tickets, working in the kitchen, and all the organization and behind-the-scenes work that made it an extremely successful and fun event.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: I failed to offer my thanks to the Knights of Columbus and men of the parish for their work in helping Lois Woodcock with the cleaning up of the parish grounds at St. Thomas. The use of your heavy equipment and muscle helped to clean up a number of things around the church and made the exit from the parking lot much safer.

SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER: We will be using a sprinkling rite at the beginning of Mass during the Easter season. I am surprised that many people did not 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. Genuflecting or bowing are not the appropriate gestures.

FIRST FRIDAY COMMUNION CALLS: I want to thank those who have taken advantage of this opportunity for me to visit those who are shut into their homes or seriously ill. I am also surprised that some of the people who told me they needed or wanted this have not called the parish office (814-663-3041) to make arrangements for this. I encourage you to call the parish office to alert us to people who are shut-in to their homes on hospice, or in nursing homes, so that we can organize what we have long called, "First Friday Calls" in the Catholic church. Every first Friday of the Month, the priests, deacons, and Eucharistic Ministers take communion to those who are shut-in to their homes or in nursing homes. Other Eucharistic Ministers may take communion to them more frequently, but First Friday is a time where we make a dedicated effort to reach out to those who are shut-ins and for the priest to celebrate the sacrament of the anointing of the sick.

GREETING/SHAKING HANDS: I am grateful to all those who have been understanding of my situation and not shaking hands with me before and after Mass. I know at times, I forget. For those of you who were not here when I announced this earlier this year, I am immune suppressed and thus do not shake hands with everyone before or after Mass, particularly in cold and flu season. This is for my protection, and for yours. I will still be there to greet you, but I ask that we refrain from shaking hands.

- Fr. Tom



Sunday, April 28

- 8:00a.m. †Gerri Cragg by the Catholic Daughters (St. Thomas, Corry)
- 10:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes (St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, April 29

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

Tuesday, April 30

- 8:00a.m. †Jane Farver by Richard & Jean Farver (St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, May 1

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

Thursday, May 2

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

Friday, May 3

- 8:00a.m. †Thomas Zakovitch by Ilene Zakovitch (St. Teresa, Union City)


Saturday, May 4

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

Sunday, May 5

- 8:00a.m. †Dan Ahl by Martha Morton (St. Thomas, Corry)
- 10:00a.m. †Josephine Knight by Tim & Pam Ashoff-Roberts (St. Teresa, Union City)






Prayer - Planning - Possibilities


Pastoral Planning

in the
Diocese of Erie



Go to the Erie Diocesan website at <https://www.eriercd.org/planning.html> for more information about the Pastoral Planning in the Diocese of Erie, review the plan and get information on definitions, prayers, and other resources.

For our ministry to be fruitful we must acknowledge our reliance upon Christ. We are vessels, through which the love and salvation of Christ is poured out.



Mass Intentions for Our Parishes

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.

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.

St. Thomas Parish News

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: April 21, 2024

Amount in Envelopes: (73)\$3,190.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 145 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 72)
Loose\$163.00
Online Giving (9)\$330.00
Total Offertory Income\$3,683.00

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

Weekly Average Shortfall \$(-1,652.00)

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'.



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 April 28th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of George Kuzma.

This Week's Events at St. Thomas Parish

- Sunday, April 28
9:00am Rel. Ed. Classes at the former school building
- Tuesday, April 30
5:30pm Cemetery Committee Meeting for St. Thomas Parish
- Wednesday, May 1
6:30pm Confirmation Class in the former school building
- Thursday, May 2
8:00am Eucharistic Adoration in St. Thomas Church begins and continues until 8:00am Friday morning, May 3
- 1:00pm Cursillo Women's Small Group in multipurpose room
- Saturday, May 4
3:30pm Confession at St. Thomas Church, Corry
4:30pm First Holy Communion Mass at St. Thomas Church

PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

2024 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 04/21):

St. Thomas Diocesan Goal is \$37,254.00

Total Amount Pledged to date = \$56,540.00

Total Paid to date = \$42,770.00

of Families who made a pledge = 114

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.

Readings for the week of April 28, 2024

- Sun.: Acts 9:26-31 ♦ Psalm 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a) ♦ 1 John 3:18-24 ♦ John 15:1-8
- Mon.: Acts 14:5-18 ♦ Psalm 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 ♦ John 14:21-26
- Tues.: Acts 14:19-28 ♦ Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 ♦ John 14:27-31a
- Wed.: Acts 15:1-6 ♦ Psalm 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 ♦ John 15:1-8
- Thur.: Acts 15:7-21 ♦ Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 ♦ John 15:9-11
- Fri.: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 ♦ Psalm 19:2-3, 4-5 ♦ John 14:6-14
- Sat.: Acts 16:1-10 ♦ Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 5 ♦ John 15:18-21
- Next Sun.: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 ♦ Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b) ♦ 1 John 4:7-10 ♦ John 15:9-17



*I am the true vine
 and you are the branches,
 says the Lord.
 whoever remains in me,
 and I in him,
 bears fruit in plenty.
 (Psalm 116)*



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

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



Recent Baptism

With joy, we welcome into the family of God and the Church, **Dawson Henry Rodriguez**, son of Dom & Sarah Rodriguez who was baptized on April 21, 2024 at Saint Thomas Church. *May God pour out His blessings on him, his parents, and godparents.*



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.

Donations Being Accepted for Flowers at St. Thomas Church

We hope to plant new flowers around the church this spring and we need your help. We are seeking donations toward this project. **Please place your donation in an envelope marked "St. Thomas Garden Flowers"** and place it in the collection basket at Mass or send it to the parish office. We hope to start planting in early May. We are hoping to purchase annuals and perennials for around the church grounds. Thank you for your generosity.



St. Teresa Parish News

ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: April 20 & 21, 2024
Amount in Envelopes: (69) \$2,159.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 88)
Loose \$254.00
Continuing the Vision (1) \$15.00
Online Giving (2) \$110.00
Total Offertory Income \$2,538.00

OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP: April 21, 2024
Amount in Envelopes: (10) \$370.00
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 20)

St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income \$2,908.00
Average Weekly Expenses \$4,585.00
 (Average Weekly Expenses are for normal operating expenses, this does not include extraordinary repairs.)
Weekly Average Shortfall \$(1,677.00)

*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 04/21):
St. Teresa Diocesan Goal is \$24,359.00
 Total Amount Pledged to date = \$36,850.00
 Total Paid to date = \$29,587.00
 # of Families who made a pledge = 96
 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.

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. Psalm 22

Those who leave everything in God's hand will eventually see God's hand in everything.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of April 28th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Ed Weaver by Irene Weaver (for their anniversary).

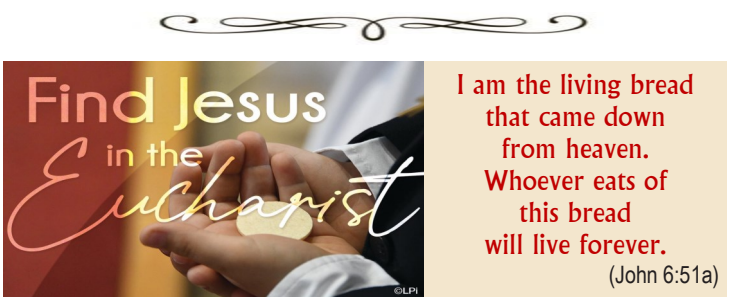
This Week's Events at St. Teresa Parish
 Sunday, April 28
 11:00am Rel. Ed. Classes at the parish center
 Friday, May 3
 8:00am Eucharistic Adoration at St. Teresa following Mass

"Question of the Week" - 5th Sunday of Easter
Question for Children: How do you keep yourself connected to Jesus in your daily life?
Question for Youth: Jesus is the vine – we are the branches, connected to Him as our life-source. When do you feel most connected to Jesus in your everyday life? How can you go there more often?
Question for Adults: How does your own connection to Christ, the vine, affect your daily life? What image from this reading helps you see the importance of this connection to Christ?

Family Perspective
 Like the vine grower in today's gospel, parents must "prune and cleanse" the branches in their family if their children are going to be rooted. Discipline, limits and setting goals are a necessary part of parenting so our children will grow and "bear fruit."

Prayer for Priests
 Very Rev. Andrew Boyd, VF, Rev. Richard Allen, Rev. David Perry, Rev. Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Rev. William Sutherland, also please *Pray for the Pastoral Planning in our diocese.*

Prayer for Peace
 God our Creator, You call blessed, those who work for peace. Help us to work without ceasing for that justice which brings true and lasting peace. Banish war and violence from our world and keep us safe from weapons of hate, so that all people might rejoice in Your love and live in Your peace. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



St. Teresa Church Organizations / Groups
 •**Rosary—Altar Society**
 Meets the first Monday of each month at 4:30 PM
 •**Knights of Columbus**
 Meet every third Wednesday at 7:00 PM
 •**Religious Education Guild**
 Meets during the school term

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

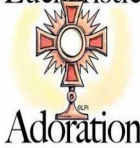
Follow-up letters for the 2024 CSA were sent out last week. We encourage everyone to make a pledge to support the good works and programs of the diocese, as well as our parishes. Remember, all money raised from this point goes directly to Sts. Thomas and Teresa parishes as we have met our diocesan goals for this year. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Eucharistic Adoration THIS WEEK

I have Risen, and I am with you still, Alleluia...

Our parishes will hold their monthly Eucharistic Adoration this week. It will be held on **Thursday, May 2nd (8:00am) through Friday, May 3rd (8:00am) at Saint Thomas Church.** It will also be held on **Friday, May 3rd (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.

Eucharistic Adoration



Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Child Abuse Prevention Month: Recent statistics tell us one out of every ten children will be abused before they turn 18. 91% of sexual abuse is perpetrated by someone the child or the child's family knows. This means that on every Sunday in our congregation there are people who have been abused and may continue to experience the pain of that abuse. Reaching out to those who have suffered from abuse is critical in bringing hope and the love of Christ to them. Assistance is available for victims/survivors of clergy sexual abuse by contacting the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Dr. Gerard Tobin at 814-451-1521.

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!

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 St. Thomas Church, Corry and/or at St. Teresa Church, Union City (when Mass is celebrated that evening); and other times by request made to the parish office.

Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News

Religious Education Wrapping Up Soon
Families of students at both Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes are reminded of the following schedule for remainder of the 2023/2024 school year:

Sunday, April 28—Classes for All Religious Education students.

Saturday, May 4—First Holy Communion celebrated in Corry

Sunday, May 5—First Holy Communion celebrated in Union City and **Last Classes for All Religious Education students.**

CLASS TIME: Classes meet in Corry on Sunday mornings from 9:00am until 10:30am and in Union City from 11:00am until 12:30pm; the **PURPOSE/Confirmation Class** in Corry meets on Wednesday from 6:30pm until 8:00pm.

Keep First Holy Communion Students in Prayer
Please keep the following students from our parishes in prayer as they participated in a retreat this weekend to continue to prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion:

Elise Kafferlin, Teagen Parker, and Isaac Shick.

Pray for Our Confirmation Candidates
Please keep the following students from our parishes in prayer as they continue to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation which is schedule to be held on Wednesday, May 29 (while some students will receive the sacrament on Thursday, May 2 due to a conflict):

Porter Allyn, Allie Anderson, Avery Bird, Colton, Boyd, Ellie Carey, Kendall Donoghue, Nolan Gesing, Ava Hallberg, Joseph Johnston, Henry Moss, Jesse Nordin, Josh Nordin, Anya Styborski, Ava Tomcho, JR Trauner, Nathan Weis, Ava Wetherbee, Brady Whitmeyer, and Mason Wienczkowski. May they grow in their faith and be strengthened by the Spirit as they continue their journey towards reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Youth Masses Celebrated Last Sunday, April 21
We wish to thank all those students who helped in ministry as lectors, ushers, servers, and/or greeters for the Youth Masses celebrated last weekend at both St. Thomas and St. Teresa. It was wonderful to see the youth actively participating in the Mass—YOU are the future of the Church. It was so nice to see all the families there supporting our young parishioners. Thank you!



Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

Tim Weir from LPI, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.

Please call me. I look forward to making your business visible to this parish community!

LPI Tim Weir
Cell Phone :716-602-4588
TWeir@4lpi.com