



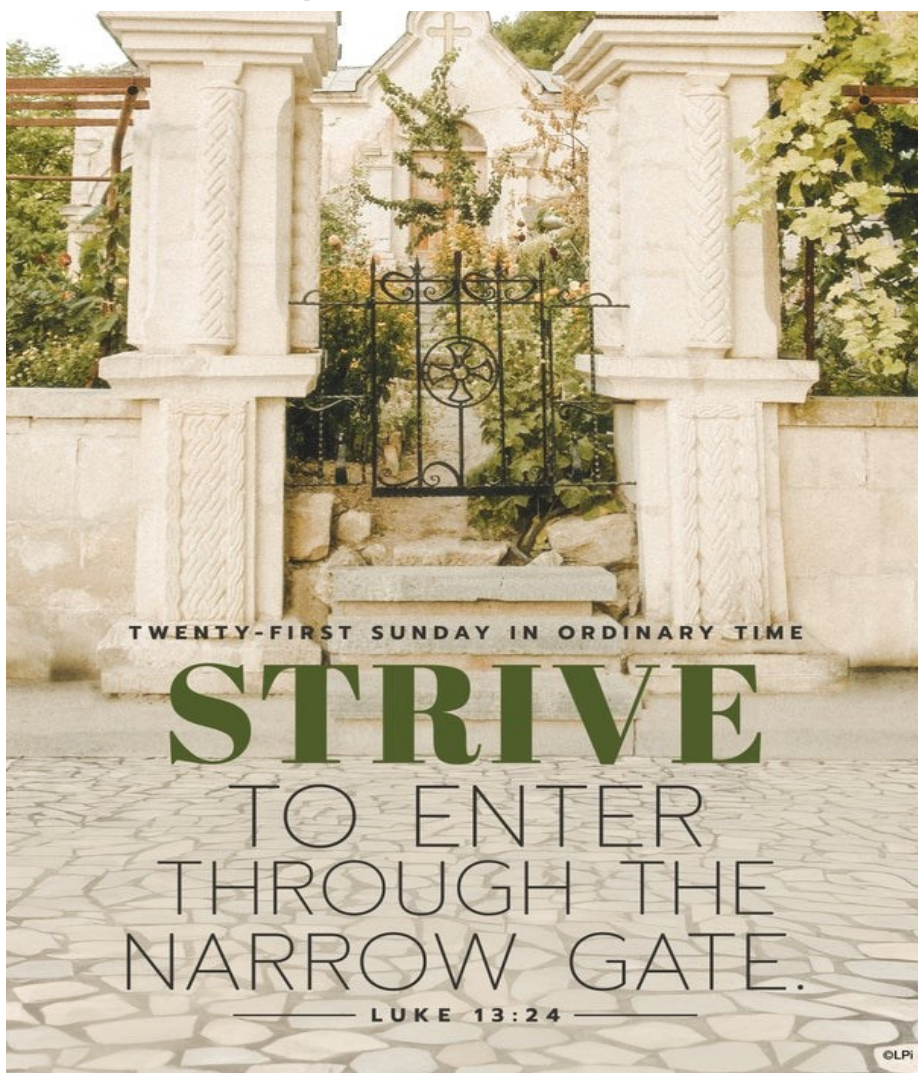
Saint Thomas the Apostle Church
203 W. Washington Street
Corry, PA 16407

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

August 24, 2025



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

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.

Message from the Pastor

ERIE GIVES – AUGUST 12, 2025: Thanks to all those who donated to our various projects during the Erie Gives campaign. Your generosity is amazing, and your gifts will continue to nourish our parish, our churches and our cemeteries.

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.

I have been reflecting on the presence of Christ in the Eucharist. 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**. I have reflected the last three weeks on how Christ is present in us, the assembly, in the Word of God in the readings from Scripture, last week on how Christ is present to us in the Bread and Wine. Allow me to look at Christ present in the person of the priest this week.

4. Christ is present in the person of the priest. This in no way compares the holiness of Christ to the holiness of the priest. Christ is the all holy one, the priest is another human being, like the rest of us. But the priest has a special role in the Eucharist in which he does the things that Jesus did at the Last Supper. The priest takes on a leadership role in the celebration of the Eucharist, as the presider, the head of the household. He is the lens (3d-glasses, binoculars, telescope, microscope) that helps us to see God in all these different ways. The priest is the one who directs our attention and our focus to the presence of Christ that is with us in our celebration of the Eucharist: in us as an assembly, in the Words of Scripture, and in the changing of Bread and Wine into the Body and Blood of Christ.

We need to remember that Christ is present, not just in the priest as the leader of the celebration of the Eucharist. All of us, the assembly, those gathered, are also participants in the Eucharist by our responses, by our singing, by our listening, and in our attentiveness to what is happening. The Eucharist is not a spectator sport, but a participation sport. It is something the priest and people do together. This reminds us then how all these different presences of Christ are connected. They are part of one celebration of the Eucharist and how we need to take the Eucharist from our celebration in Church and live that Eucharist in our lives each day of the week.

CHURCH PARKING LOTS: We have done work on the parking lots at both Churches this summer. Lines have been painted at St. Teresa and will be painted soon at St. Thomas. There are places that are designated NO PARKING. This means you are not allowed to park there AT ANY TIME. Some of these NO PARKING spaces are FIRE LANES or access to FIRE HYDRANTS. You endanger everyone by not obeying the NO PARKING signs. Other NO PARKING spaces are to allow access to and from the garages, all of them. Other NO PARKING spaces are to provide access to doorways and buildings, particularly in case of emergency. PLEASE have a sense of respect for others and obey the NO PARKING signs.

- Fr. Tom



Sunday, August 24

8:00a.m. ✠Janet Mitchell by Donald Mitchell
(St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. ✠Diana Hanlin Strefeler by her daughter,
Becky Boleratz
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, August 25

8:00a.m. ✠Priscilla Kozik by Eric & Barb Jones
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, August 26

8:00a.m. ✠Anne Crawford by her son, Daniel Crawford
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, August 27

8:00a.m. ✠Gene & Mary Vinca and family by
Jerry & Alice Rushin
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, August 28

No Mass or Services today at both Sts. Thomas and Teresa.

Friday, August 29

8:00a.m. ✠Cleo & Dick Flynn by Judy Flynn
(St. Teresa, Union City)

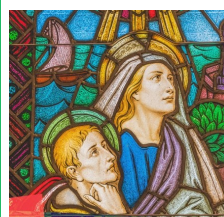
Saturday, August 30

4:30p.m. For the People of the Parish
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Sunday, August 31

8:00a.m. ✠Cragg and Sullivan Families by the Craggs
(St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. ✠Bob Rhodes by Dorothy Rhodes and family
(St. Teresa, Union City)



St. Monica and St. Augustine of Hippo's feast days are August 27 & 28. As a young man, Augustine strayed from Church teaching. His mother, Monica, followed him as he traveled and prayed constantly for his conversion. Her prayers were eventually answered and St. Augustine became a follower of Jesus and teacher of philosophy and theology. He later became a Doctor of the Church.

Many prayers focus on seeking St. Monica's help in guiding loved ones back to the faith or to a closer relationship with God.

Knights of Columbus News

Monthly Meeting of Council #425 on September 9th

All Brother Knights from Union City and Corry are encouraged to attend our next regular council meeting which will be held on **Tuesday, September 9 at St. Teresa Parish Center in Union City**. Rosary will begin at 6:30pm and the regular business meeting will follow at 7:00pm. Refreshments will be provided. Hope you will join us!

2025 Knights of Columbus NFL Football Sweeps Fundraiser

Council #425 of Corry is selling PA Knights NFL Football Sweeps tickets for \$10 each. If interested in purchasing a ticket, please see Len Clark or stop into the parish office. Tickets will only be sold until October 12. Weekly prizes totaling \$3,00 to be awarded.



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.*

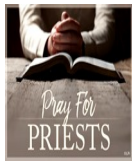
PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

"Question of the Week" - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: How do you show that you are a follower of Jesus?

Question for Youth: Jesus tells us that being His disciple will be very hard. Of all the things that Jesus tells us about the way that we are to live our lives, what is the hardest thing for you to do? Why?

Question for Adults: As you wrestle with today's Gospel, what signs do you see in your own life that you are "with God."



Very Rev. Michael Polinek, VF, Rev. David Carter, Rev. John Jacquell, *Pray for Consecrated Life*, Rev. Msgr. David Rubino, Rev. Cory Pius, The Most Rev. Lawrence Persico, and also *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*

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



Volunteers Needed to Help Sell 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). Many timeslots are available—WE NEED YOUR HELP!



Catholic Daughters' Meeting This Week

Members of the Catholic Daughters will hold a meeting on **Thursday, August 28 at 6:00pm at St. Elizabeth Parish Center.** We hope you will join us.



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Thomas Church for the week of August 24th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Tawnya Diehl Kressler by Pam Mennen.

Thank You for Supporting LifeCare

We received a nice 'thank you' letter from LifeCare Ministries for our parish's participation in this year's Baby Bottle Boomerang campaign. **Our parish donated \$704.68 to LifeCare** in support of their prolife efforts for mothers, babies, and families. Your generosity to their ministry helps to strengthen our community. Thanks again to all who participated.

Cemetery Gravestone Cleaning Project

We will be offering gravestone cleaning on a limited scale at ST. THOMAS & ST. ELIZABETH CEMETERIES ONLY. Some members of our cemetery committees are trained in gravestone cleaning/preservation. The process will help remove dirt, lichen, and lighten up some discolorations/stains on gravestones. It is safe and gentle, so it will not damage the stones. Because each stone is unique, pricing may vary. Rate estimates are: Small stone (24"-35")—\$50; Medium (36"-59")—\$100; and Large (60"-75")—\$150. If you wish to have a loved one's stone cleaned, please contact the parish office. We will be taking orders for those who are interested. Thank you.



Requests for Mass Intentions

Please stop in or 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.

You may also sponsor the Sanctuary Candle for a loved one at either of our churches for just \$10 for one week.

Please be aware that our Mass Intention Book for the remainder of 2025 is full.

OPENING of the 2026 Mass Book will on SEPTEMBER 1, 2025.

Payment is expected at the time of making Mass requests.

Thank you.



St. Teresa News

Readings for the week of August 24, 2025

Sun.: Isaiah 66:18-21 ♦ Psalm 117:1, 2 (Mark 16:15) ♦ Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13 ♦ Luke 13:22-30
 Mon.: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10 ♦ Psalm 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b ♦ Matthew 23:13-22
 Tues.: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 ♦ Psalm 139:1-3, 4-6 ♦ Matthew 23:23-26
 Wed.: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 ♦ Psalm 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab ♦ Matthew 23:27-32
 Thur.: 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13 ♦ Psalm 128:1-2, 4-5 ♦ Matthew 24:42-51
 Fri.: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 (429) ♦ Psalm 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 ♦ Mark 6:17-29
 Sat.: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11 ♦ Psalm 98:1, 7-8, 9 ♦ Matthew 25:14-30
 Next Sun.: Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 ♦ Psalm 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a) ♦ Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a ♦ Luke 14:1, 7-14

2025 Wedding Anniversary Celebration with Bishop Persico

Congratulation to all couples celebrating **Milestone Anniversaries** today (Sunday, August 24 at 3:00pm) at St. Tobias, Brockway. **Couples celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or more wedding anniversaries are still welcome to receive a certificate mailed to you.** Registrations are accepted through Thursday, September 11 for mailed certificates. Couples may complete registrations online at <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html>, contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at 814-824-1210 or call the parish office for assistance.



Liturgical Overview for the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Can you grow? Are you willing to accept the challenges of this life and grow stronger through them? The readings today act as a corrective to those who wonder why bad things happen. For those who follow Jesus, the gift of faith does not guarantee that everything will always be easy, or that bad things will never happen to us. Our faith is not to be seen as a way out of suffering or challenging events; faith is to be the means for dealing with trouble when it comes. The first reading tells us that the reason we can deal with sorrow is that the end times are coming, the call of God that will bring us all home to the heavenly Jerusalem. As for the Gospel reading and the second reading, the reason for our suffering has more to do with making us better people, making us strong enough to endure the passage to eternal life in Christ.

And so the readings challenge us not only to accept the trouble that comes our way, but to use it as a means of becoming more aware of how we can live the Gospel life, of how we can prepare to meet the Lord at the end of time.

©Liturgy.com



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of August 24th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Elaine Lazarow.

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.

Thanks for Supporting St. Teresa's Lawn Festival

The lawn festival brought in a profit of approximately \$2,940 this year. We wish to thank Matt and Beth Moon, for organizing this year's festival. THANK YOU to ALL who helped and supported the festival, making this event successful!

Family Perspective

The phrase in today's gospel, "I don't know where you're coming from," is often echoed by parents about their children and vice versa. With rapid changes, one generation often has little in common with another. To bridge this gap, we must rely on love, trust, and mutual respect.



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

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 celebrate 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 16 & 17, 2025

Total Offertory Income \$5,412.00
 Average Budgeted Offertory Income \$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage.....\$(-2,288.00)

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.

gathering of catholic men

09.13.2025 - Duquesne University, Pittsburgh PA



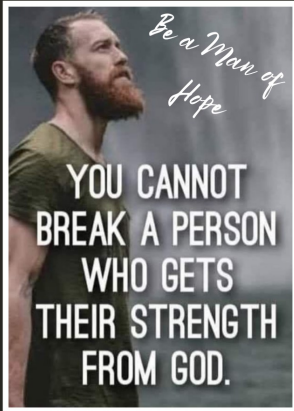
Mark Harfiel



Mike Cormley



Jon Leonetti



www.cmfwpa.org

SCHEDULE:
 12:00 PM - Holy Hour
 01:30 PM - Hartfiel
 02:30 PM - Gormley
 03:30 PM - Leonetti
 04:40 PM - MASS

COST:
 \$25/Man before 8/31
 \$35/Man after 8/31
 \$10/Student
 Free/All Clergy
 Scholarship Available



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.

Special Collection for the People of Gaza

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has requested an emergency special collection to provide humanitarian relief in Gaza and surrounding areas. **A collection will be taken in our diocese the weekend of September 6 & 7, 2025.** Thank you for your generosity. Place your gift in an envelope marked "Gaza" if you wish to receive credit toward your financial giving on your year-end statement.



Praying for every student in our community as they return to school

Praying for peace in our schools and classrooms. May they be places of safety and learning for students.

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 = \$66,718
 Paid to date = \$58,098

Amount Pledged at **St. Teresa** to date = \$36,568
 Paid to date = \$31,678

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.

