



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

## July 27, 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](http://www.stthomastheapostle.church)

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

**Notes from the Pastor**

LAWN FESTIVAL AT ST. TERESA: Thanks to Matt Moon and Elizabeth Malec for coordinating our Lawn Festival. Thanks to all those who helped to set up and tear down, and all those who helped the night of the event. A tremendous amount of work goes into making this event happen. Thanks to all those who played some part in making this event a success.

ERIE GIVES – AUGUST 12, 2025: The annual Erie Gives Day will be 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, and St. Thomas Cemetery Endowment Fund. You can access our site at [ErieGives.org](http://ErieGives.org) or on our parish website [Parish of Saint Thomas the Apostle and its mission Saint Teresa of Avila Church](http://Parish of Saint Thomas the Apostle and its mission Saint Teresa of Avila Church). Thank you in advance for your generous support of our parish!

QUESTION ABOUT THE OUR FATHER AND GESTURES: During the recitation of the "Our Father" (Lord's Prayer) in a Catholic Mass, the priest is instructed to extend his hands in the "orans" posture (arms outstretched, palms up). The laity, however, are not instructed to adopt the orans posture; they are free to stand with hands joined, or in another posture as they see fit. Some congregations have the tradition of holding hands during the "Our Father", but this is not prescribed by the Church. Some families hold hands as a visual sign of how they are praying together. Detailed Explanation:

- **Orans Posture:**

This gesture, with hands extended and palms up, is specifically for the priest during the "Our Father" as he prays on behalf of the congregation.

- **Laity's Posture:**

While the priest's posture is prescribed, there is no specific instruction for the laity in the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) regarding posture during the Lord's Prayer.

- **Freedom of Choice:**

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops notes that the faithful are free to choose their posture, including standing with hands joined, or adopting another posture that expresses their devotion.

- **Holding Hands:**

The practice of holding hands during the "Our Father" is a common custom in some congregations, but it is not mandated by the Church. Some may find it a meaningful expression of unity, while others may find it distracting or uncomfortable. This was discouraged during COVID, but is more common among individual families and not a whole congregation.

PARISH OFFICE: The parish office is located at St. Thomas Church in Corry. The office is in the old convent building that sits behind the Church. The office hours are listed here:

Monday: 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Thursday: 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Friday: Closed

*Continued ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡*

**Sunday, July 27**

8:00a.m. ✠ Philip Wascak by Mom & Dad  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. For the People of the Parish  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Monday, July 28**

8:00a.m. ✠ Jean Calfo by Yvonne Stauffer  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Tuesday, July 29**

8:00a.m. ✠ Frank Green by Judy Green  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

**Wednesday, July 30**

8:00a.m. ✠ Janet Mitchell by Carol & Darrell Huffman  
(St. Thomas, Corry)

**Thursday, July 31**

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

**Friday, August 1**

8:00a.m. ✠ Herb Combs by Family  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

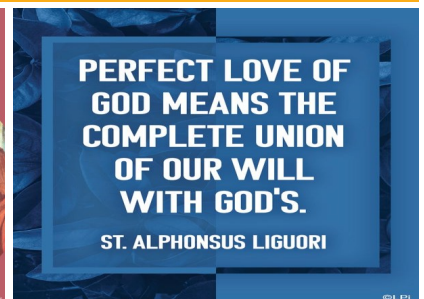
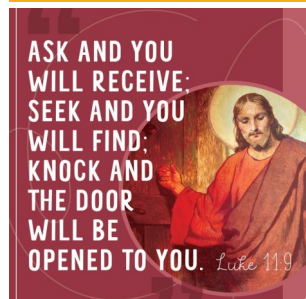
**Saturday, August 2**

4:30p.m. ✠ Rod, Marilyn, Mike Knowlton and Marty  
Roehrig by Punk & Lana Messina  
(St. Teresa, Union City)

**Sunday, August 3**

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

11:00a.m. For the People of the Parish  
(St. Teresa, Union City)



The phone number is 814 663 3041. This number will connect you to our parish staff or to Fr. Whitman.

Mail can be sent to either 203 W. Washington St. Corry, PA 16407 or 9 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave Union City, PA 16438. At St. Teresa there is a secure Mail Box next the rectory garage where things can be dropped off or placed in the collection basket.

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 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.

- 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

#### "Question of the Week" - 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Question for Children:** Prayer is talking with God and listening to God in our hearts. Where do you talk to God and how do you listen to what God says to you?

**Question for Youth:** Jesus teaches us how important it is to pray. How do you ask God for what you need? How do you listen for his response?

**Question for Adults:** Jesus teaches us how to pray. When this past week did you take the time to pray, to talk to and listen to God?

#### First Friday Calls

If you, or a loved one, is shut-in to your home or in a nursing home and wishes to have a visit from the priest, deacon, or Eucharistic Minister, please call the parish office.

#### Hospital Visits

Please let us know if a family member is in the hospital. A visit from the priest may be arranged. Please know that Hamot and Saint Vincent hospitals have priests on call in cases of emergency. Be sure to ask your nurse.

*You have received a Spirit of adoption, through which we cry, Abba, Father.* (Romans 8:15bc)

#### 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 1<sup>st</sup>—6<sup>th</sup>**. 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).

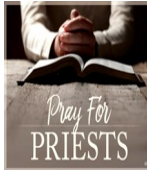


#### ATTENTION Union City & Corry Knights of Columbus

Our annual summer picnic meetings are underway. We meet on the first Tuesdays of the month, with only one summer meeting remaining in August. **All Brother Knights are encouraged to attend on August 12<sup>th</sup> 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!



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Thomas Church for the week of July 27<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of deceased members of the parish.



Rev. Thomas Aleksa, Rev. John Beal, Rev. Thomas Curry, O.S.B., *Pray for Consecrated Life*, Rev. Msgr. Bruce Allison, Very Rev. Justin Pino, Rev. Raymond Gramata, 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](mailto:business@stparish.org)

#### Last Call for LifeCare Baby Bottles

If you still have a baby bottle from the LifeCare fundraiser, please return it to the church or parish office as soon as possible. Thank you!



*"God loves a cheerful giver."* 2 Cor. 9:7

Don't just squirrel all your 'nuts' away... please consider a donation to local non-profits.



## DIocese of ERIE

*Sharing the Catholic faith in northwest Pennsylvania*

Visit the diocese's website at [www.eriecd.org](http://www.eriecd.org) for information, news and resources about our Catholic faith and much more.



#### 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.

## St. Teresa News

### Readings for the week of July 27, 2025

Sun.: Genesis 18:20-32 ♦ Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 (3a) ♦  
Colossians 2:12-14 ♦ Luke 11:1-13  
Mon.: Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34 ♦ Psalm 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 ♦ Matthew 13:31-35  
Tues.: Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28 ♦ Psalm 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13 ♦  
John 11:19-27 or Luke 10:38-42  
Wed.: Exodus 34:29-35 ♦ Psalm 99:5, 6, 7, 9 ♦ Matthew 13:44-46  
Thur.: Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38 ♦ Psalm 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11 ♦  
Matthew 13:47-53  
Fri.: Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37 ♦ Psalm 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab ♦  
Matthew 13:54-58  
Sat.: Leviticus 25:1, 8-17 ♦ Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 ♦ Matthew 14:1-12  
Next Sun.: Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23 ♦ Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 (1) ♦  
Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11 ♦ Luke 12:13-21

### 2025 Wedding Anniversary Celebration with Bishop Persico

Diocesan Anniversary Celebrations for couples celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 or more years of marriage in 2025 will be held at two locations in the Diocese of Erie this summer:

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

Couples may complete registration online at <https://www.eriercd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html>, call 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 Sept. 11 to have a scrolled mailed to you.



### Bake Sale at St. Teresa Next Weekend

The ladies of the Rosary Altar Society will hold a Bake Sale at St. Teresa Masses next weekend, August 2 & 3. Please purchase a treat for yourself and/or your family, and support the Society's good works. Thank you.



### St. Teresa's Lawn Festival | July 17, 2025

#### Thank You from the St. Teresa's Lawn Festival

We wish to thank all those who helped to make this year's Lawn Festival a success, especially to Matt Moon & Beth for coordinating the festival. We will post the profits raised from the Lawn Festival in an upcoming bulletin.

#### Congratulations to the Ticket Raffle Prize Winners

**Cash Prizes:** \$500—Jess Reynolds, \$100—Jim Pifer, \$25—Chuck Amy, Andrew Smrcka, Mary Thomas, and Tina Arnold.

**Gift Cards:** \$300 Walmart card—Andrew Tomcho, Jr., \$100 gas card—Irene Weaver, and \$100 gas card—Seth Keiper.

#### Extra Items for Sale from the 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 what we have:** Frozen French fries - \$10 for a 5 pound bag – there are 13 bags available. Pop is \$4 a 12 pack—quantity & kind available: 5 Coke, 3 Diet Coke, 2 Sprite, 3 Pepsi, 4 Diet Pepsi, and 2 mixed 12 packs.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of July 27<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Bob Rhodes by Dorothy Rhodes and family.

### Family Perspective

Today's gospel assures us that if we "ask," we will 'receive'—perhaps not what we wanted, but what our Heavenly Father knows is best for us. The love we have for our children is but a fraction of the love God has for us. Just as our children trust us, we must trust "Our Father."

### St. Teresa Reverse Raffle on April 26, 2025

The Reverse Raffle which was held in April brought in a profit of \$6,210. We wish to thank Kim Yaple and her team for organizing this year's Reverse Raffle. THANK YOU to all who helped and supported the raffle, making this a successful event.

### 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](mailto:business@stparish.org).

### Staying Safe Online

With more people trying to access our phones without permission, it's important to keep them secure, especially since we rely on them to stay connected with our church and loved ones. To protect your phone, use a strong password or fingerprint lock, download apps only from trusted sources like the official app store, and regularly update your phone and apps. Be cautious when using public Wi-Fi, as it can expose your private information. You might also consider installing a trusted security app for extra protection. These simple steps can help keep your phone safe and ensure you stay connected with your community. Find out more: <https://www.wizer-training.com/blog/how-to-keep-your-mobile-phone-more-secure>.





**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:** July 19 & 20, 2025

**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$5,928.44  
**Average Budgeted Offertory Income**.....\$7,700.00  
**Offertory Shortage**.....\$(-1,771.56)

*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](http://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.

**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 = \$66,698

Paid to date = \$56,478

Amount Pledged at **St. Teresa** to date = \$36,218

Paid to date = \$30,978

Total Number of Families who made a pledge = 224

Prayerfully consider what God is leading you to give.

**Please make a pledge today. Thank you.**



Diocese of Erie  
2025 Catholic  
Services Appeal

**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.*

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

from Bishop Persico

Lord God, creator of all things and source of all gifts and talents, your Son came to this world to fulfill His vocation as the Redeemer of all humanity.

Grant the sons and daughters of the parishes of the Diocese of Erie a profound awareness of their own vocations.

Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, may they come to realize their distinct place in your divine plan.

Give them the grace to recognize and the courage to pursue vocations as devoted priests, deacons and consecrated women and men to assist the Diocese of Erie in fulfilling her mission.

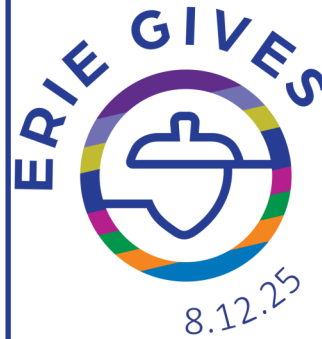
With the intercession of Saint Patrick, our patron, who preached the Gospel in word and deed, we pray that they may find happiness and fulfillment in a life of service to others.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



**PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

**SAVE THE DATE | August 12, 2025**

Please join us in celebrating the generosity of the people of Northwest PA in support of local area nonprofits.

We hope you will consider donating to our churches and cemeteries:

**St. Thomas the Apostle Parish**

**St. Teresa of Avila Church**

**St. Thomas Cemetery**

**St. Teresa Cemetery**

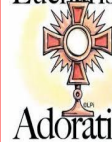
**St. Elizabeth Cemetery**

**St. Thomas Cemetery Endowment Fund**

**Religious Education Program**

Want to Support Us and Not Wait until Erie Gives Day?

Check donations being accepted NOW! Be sure to see today's bulletin insert for details and the Erie Gives Check Donation Form.

**Eucharistic Eucharistic Adoration THIS WEEK**

*'Bless the Lord, O my soul...'*

Our parishes will hold their monthly Eucharistic Adoration this week. It will be held on **Thursday, July 31<sup>st</sup> (8:00am) through Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup> (8:00am)** at Saint Thomas Church. It will also be held on **Friday, August 1<sup>st</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.

*Lord, you have conquered the world.  
Help me to be a champion of HOPE today!*

**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 notify the Parish of changes to your address, phone numbers, or email.*