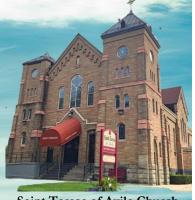
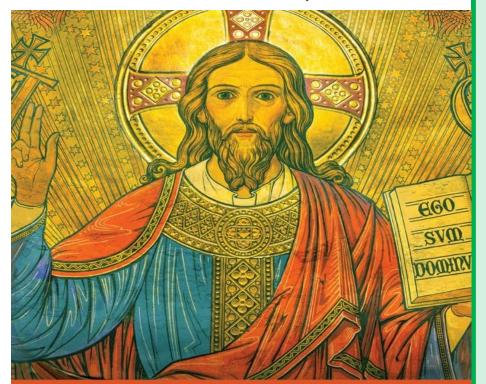
Saint Thomas the Apostle Church 203 W. Washington Street Corry, PA 16407

# 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

# November 23, 2025



# OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

610

He said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." - Lk 23:42-43

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

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

#### **Michelle Demeter**

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

WILSON FAMILY TRAGEDY: Recently, Michael, Heather, & Emily Wilson and Rosemary Hill, lost their house, their possessions, and their family pet in a terrible fire. They lost everything, but were able to escape with their lives. We can all help them rebuild their home and their lives by contributing to a GOFUNDME page at GoFundMe.com and search for "posie hill." If you are not able to use the GoFundMe page, you can place your donation in an envelope marked "Wilson Family" and place it in the collection basket. We will then forward the money on to the family with a check from the church. Thank you for your generosity in this terrible tragedy.

MISSIONARY COLLECTION THANK YOU: Earlier this year, Sr. Chris Kosin spoke at all the Mass about the work of AIM USA (Alliance for International Monasticism). I received a thank you letter from her this week thanking you for your generosity.

She also stated that many of the monasteries are struggling due to the effects of climate change and violence from civil wars in certain areas. Some of those monasteries are in the Ukraine, Israel and Nigeria. She asks your continued prayers for those working in these very troubled areas of the world.

<u>2026 CALENDARS</u>: The 2026 Calendars are available at the entrances/exits this weekend. We are grateful to our local funeral homes for sponsoring these calendars. PLEASE TAKE ONE CALENDAR for your home. If there are extras after a few weeks, then you will be welcome to take extra ones.

#IGIVECATHOLIC: #iGiveCatholic is on GivingTuesday, December 2, 2025. You can support your local Catholic parish, school, or ministry on that day or you can make an #iGiveCatholic donation at any time during the advanced giving period from November 17 through December 1, 2025. Gifts made by check or cash can be made directly to qualifying organizations during this same time frame. A link to the online giving site (Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish | #iGiveCatholic) can be found on our NEW parish website at www.stthomastheapostle.church.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Our **Advent Penance Service** will be **Sunday, December 7, at 1:30pm** at St. Thomas Church.

**Christmas Eve Masses** will be at 4:30pm at St. Thomas Church and at 7:00pm at St. Teresa Church. **Mass on Christmas Day** will be at 10:00am at St. Thomas Church.

- Fr. Tom

#### The Season of Advent Begins Next Weekend

Advent is a season filled with anticipation as we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas. It's also a season of waiting and hoping for His return at the end of time. This Advent, look for ways that Jesus will come into your life every day, because even as we wait He is still present to us.

#### Submission Deadline for Bulletin Items

Generally, items for publication in our bulletin must be sent to the parish office by Monday afternoon the week prior to when you wish your item to appear. Please email written content to secretary@stparish.org. Please note that during holiday seasons, bulletin deadlines are moved up as much as 1-2 weeks earlier, so the earlier you provide the office with your bulletin items the better. All bulletin items are subject to approval and editing for content and space. If you have any questions, please call the parish office. Thank you.



#### Sunday, November 23

8:00a.m. & Wascak, Stolar, and Froman Families by

Carol & Darrell Huffman (St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m.  $\,\,$   $\,$   $\,$  For the People of the Parish

(St. Teresa, Union City)

#### Monday, November 24

8:00a.m. \$\psi\$Sophie Combs by Family (St. Teresa, Union City)

#### Tuesday, November 25

#### Wednesday, November 26

#### Thursday, November 27—Thanksgiving Day

9:00a.m. ♥Cragg and Sullivan Families by the Craggs (St. Thomas, Corry)

#### Friday, November 28

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

#### Saturday, November 29

#### Sunday, November 30—First Sunday of Advent

Anderson (St. Thomas, Corry)

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



#### **Thanksgiving Day Mass**

This Thanksgiving, let us remember all the good things, and especially people, who have come into our lives. We thank God for His blessing and the good gifts of this world. A Thanksgiving Day Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am at St. Thomas Church.

#### A Thanksgiving Prayer

God our Father,
Graciously accept from your humble people
a thankful heart and spirit.
Everything we have and are able to share with others
ultimately comes from your love of your creations.
Often we think that everything we have
is our own creation;
we ask you this day to create in us
a spirit of gratitude,
that we may always know
that all good gifts come from you.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

### **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 ©



#### Cemetery Gravestone Cleaning Project

Gravestone cleaning is offered on a limited scale for ST. THOMAS & ST. ELIZABETH CEMETERIES ONLY. Rates range from \$50-\$150, but because each stone is unique, pricing may vary. We are taking orders for those who are interested. Cleaning will begin again in the spring.





Rev. Msgr. David Rubion, Rev. Marc Solomon, Rev. James McCormick, Rev. John Beal, Happy Thanksgiving, Rev. Chris Hamlett, Pray for Consecrated Life, and also Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.

#### Holiday Pastry Sale by St. Thomas Altar Rosary

Today is the final weekend for the St. Thomas Altar Rosary Society to sell pastries before and after both the Saturday and Sunday Masses. Cost is \$16 for Kolachi (Walnut or Apricot) and \$13 for Baklava. As a reminder, all monies raised by the Altar Rosary



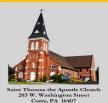
are used for purchases made to enhance the altar and our church. Your support is always appreciated. Thank you.



#### 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 ACCEPTED ONLINE OR BY ENVELOPE PLACED IN THE COLLECTION BASKET







aint Teresa of Avila Chu 9 Third Avenue Union City, PA 16438



## **DECEMBER 2, 2025**

**ADVANCED GIVING DATES** NOVEMBER 17 - DECEMBER 1

Scan the QR code or visit www.iGiveCatholic.org and search for St. Thomas the Apostle.

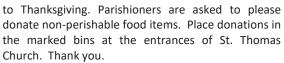




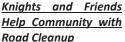
The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of November 23<sup>rd</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of William VanCise by his wife, Mary and children.

#### **Knights of Columbus Food Drive Collection**

The Knights of Columbus, Council #425 is holding a food drive to benefit the Corry Food Pantry from now until the week prior







Picture here are some of the Knights and friends who helped with the highway cleanup along the Route 6 plaza in Corry which took place on Saturday, November 8. THANK YOU for helping for community and planet.



"Question of the Week" - Solemnity of Christ the King

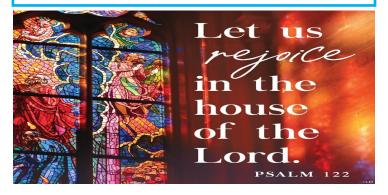
Question for Children: Jesus is always kind to those who love him. How do you show your love for Jesus?

Question for Youth: This week we celebrate Christ the King. In the best sense of the word, a King is some one who cares for the people under his care, and also has authority over them. When have you felt Jesus' care for you? How do you allow Jesus to have authority over you?

Question for Adults: As you think about Jesus on the cross, having compassion on the "good thief," what lesson do you draw from it for your own life?

#### St. Thomas Church Choir

Choir practice is on Thursdays evenings from 6:00pm to 7:30pm at St. Thomas Church to prepare for Advent and Christmas. If you love to sing or just want to give it a try, you are welcome to join us!



# St. Teresa News

#### Readings for the week of November 23, 2025

Sun.: 2 Samuel 5:1-3 ♦ Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 (see 1) ♦ Colossians 1:12-20 ♦ Luke 23:35-43

Mon.: Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20 ♦ Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 ♦ Luke 21:1-4 Tues.: Daniel 2:31-45 ♦ Daniel 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61 ♦ Luke 21:5-11

Wed.: Daniel 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28 ♦ Daniel 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67 ♦

Luke 21:12-19

Thur.: Daniel 6:12-28 ♦ Daniel 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 ♦ Luke 21:20-28 Fri.: Daniel 7:2-14 ♦ Daniel 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81 ♦ Luke 21:29-33 Sat.: Daniel 7:15-27 ♦ Daniel 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87 ♦ Luke 21:34-36

Next Sun.: Isaiha 2:1-5 ♦ Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 ♦ Romans 13:11-14 ♦ Matthew 24:37-44





O Lord,
on the throne of
your Kingdom,
praiseworthy and
glorious above all
forever.





#### Seeking Volunteers to Serve at Christmas Masses

Look for sign up sheets in both churches soon to volunteer to serve at one of our Masses for Christmas. Thank you.

#### Try Online Giving -Scan this QR Code

No checkbook or offertory envelope today? No problem! Just visit our website at <a href="https://www.stthomastheapostle.church">www.stthomastheapostle.church</a> to make a one-time



donation or, even better, set up a recurring donation for hassle-free, consistent giving. You'll never have to worry about forgetting again! Thank you for your generosity and support. Your contributions are invaluable and help us continue our mission. We deeply appreciate your kindness.

#### Staying Safe Online

Old online accounts can quietly put your security at risk. Unused and often lacking safeguards like multi-factor authentication, these dormant accounts are easy targets for cybercriminals who can use them to steal data, commit fraud or access other systems—like a forgotten, unlocked door. Take a few minutes to review and delete any accounts you no longer use. Learn more: <a href="https://www.rd.com/">https://www.rd.com/</a> article/old-online-accounts-security-risk/.

#### <u> Help Wanted— St. Teresa Cemetery Maintenance Manager</u>

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 <a href="mailto:business@stparish.org">business@stparish.org</a>.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of November 23<sup>rd</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Bob Adams by Melody Admas and family.

#### Family Perspective

Today's gospel reminds us the Kingdom of Heaven is not like Disney's Magic Kingdom. Admission to Christ's Kingdom is paid with the currency of acceptance, forgiveness, attention to the poor, and love of one's enemy.





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#### Parish Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, November 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday. Our office will re-open to the public on Monday, December 1. May you have an enjoyable and blessed Thanksgiving.



The Lord sits as King for ever
The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Psalm 29(28):10-11

#### **Thanksgiving Food Baskets**

Today is the last day to drop off food donations for the Thanksgiving Food baskets. We will compiling items to provide a Thanksgiving Dinner to 30 families in our area! Thank you to all who donated. Together, we can make this Thanksgiving special for our neighbors in need!



The Lord will bestow His bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase. Psalm 85 (84):13



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: November 15 & 16, 2025

Total Offertory Income \$7,024.00

Average Budgeted Offertory Income \$7,700.00

Offertory Shortage \$(-676.00)

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!

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

**THANK YOU** to all of our bulletin sponsors! We appreciate their support of our parishes and ask our parishioners to please patronize these business.



Thank you for your generosity to last weekend's second collection for the Local Needs Collection. If you were not prepared to give and wish to do so, please use the envelope in your offertory packet or mark another envelope 'Local Needs Collection' and place it in the collection basket at Mass next weekend. Thank you.

Your support for the Local Needs Collection brings lasting change to communities. For more than 50 years, this collection—formerly known as the Catholic Campaign for Human Development—has helped families living in poverty break the cycle of hardship and build a future rooted in dignity and hope. In the Diocese of Erie, 75% of your contribution stays here at home, strengthening Catholic Charities and local ministries that respond daily to urgent needs—providing food, shelter, counseling and life-changing resources. The remaining 25% supports national efforts, helping vulnerable communities across the country.

#### 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 = \$67,153 Paid to date = \$64,538

Amount Pledged at **St. Teresa** to date = \$36,555 Paid to date = \$34.581

Total Number of Families who made a pledge = 226

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.



#### **Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News**

#### **Calendar Dates for Religious Education:**

- November 23 Class / Safe Environment
- November 30 NO Class / Thanksgiving
- December 7 Class
- December 14 Class / Advent Activity
- Dec. 21 & 28 **NO Class** / Christmas break

We are grateful for the opportunity to teach our faith to future generations.

#### Students Attend Diocesan Confirmation Retreat

Confirmation candidates from our parish participated in the diocesan sponsored Confirmation Retreat: *I Am Called - I Am Sent* held on Saturday, Nov. 8 at the campus of Gannon University. They had a wonderful experience with 400 students from across our diocese. Please continue to pray for our Confirmation students, and all those who are preparing to receive sacraments this year. Shown below are students: Hunter Donoghue, Chase Whitmeyer, Luca Proy, Emma Geer and Emily Wilson, together with our leaders, Missy Silka and Deacon Randy Kondrlik.



#### 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, 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.