



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

# THE PARISHES OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE AND ST. TERESA OF AVILA



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

## September 8, 2024

**23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" - Mk 7:33b-34

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

**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](http://www.stthomastheapostle.church)

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

**Parish Offices**  
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**

**BULLETINS:** I apologize for running out of bulletins last week. We have tried to cut back on the number of bulletins and when our order arrived there were bulletins from another church mixed in with ours. Some of the information from last week’s bulletin is included here.

**FATIMA UPDATE:** This past week the property and buildings at Our Lady of Fatima were put up for sale through Sander Realty and Vicki Melnichak.

Thanks to all those who have been helping us clean out and move things from Our Lady of Fatima. Your help has been a tremendous blessing.

You may see some new things at St. Teresa and St. Thomas. We have tried to reincorporate various religious items from Our Lady of Fatima into each of the parishes.

**BOOKS:** From time to time, I will recommend books on a variety of topics. Since we don’t have Catholic Religious Goods stores anymore, Amazon becomes sometimes the easiest way to find books and even books on Kindle. All of these books are available in book form and on Kindle.

There has been a great deal of talk about the Eucharist lately so I will recommend two books:

*Why Go To Church? The Drama of the Eucharist* by Timothy Radcliffe, OP.

*Our One Great Act of Fidelity: Waiting for Christ in the Eucharist* by Ronald Rolheiser, OMI.

*Prayer: Our Deepest Longing* by Ronald Rolheiser, OMI

*The Sower of Black Field*, by Katherine Koch – this is a novel, based on a true story about a Passionist Priest from our Diocese (from Sharon, PA). It is the story of an American Priest in Nazi Germany. It is a story of a local hero. (This book was just awarded a gold medal by Readers’ Favorite in the category of Fiction- Religious Theme.)

I recommend these books not to rehash old teachings, but to help people grow deeper in their faith. Often times our Catholic Education ended with Confirmation Class during our Religious Education on Sunday mornings. These books challenge us to take that next step in our faith into a deeper relationship with God and with one another.

**NEW MASS TIME HAS BEGUN:** Mass at St. Teresa will now be at 11:00am on Sunday. This started on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**UPCOMING CHANGES:** Now that the official merger of St. Teresa of Avila Parish into St. Thomas the Apostle Parish has taken place there are some changes that you might need to be aware of.

• **Most importantly, the 10:00 Mass at St. Teresa will move to 11:00am starting in September.**

• We will be merging the two parish websites into one. At

Continued ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡



**Sunday, September 8**

8:00a.m. †Ed & Sophie Girovsky by Diane Hall and Jean Cressley (St. Thomas, Corry)

10:00a.m. †Fred Zakovitch by Ilene Zakovitch (St. Teresa, Union City)

**Monday, September 9**

8:00a.m. †Dorothy Mongera by Libby Blare and family (St. Teresa, Union City)

**Tuesday, September 10**

8:00a.m. †Judy Bitters by Bob & Judy Macko (St. Thomas, Corry)

**Wednesday, September 11**

8:00a.m. †Jack Carl McCoy by Len & Ann Clark (St. Thomas, Corry)

**Thursday, September 12**

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

**Friday, September 13**

8:00a.m. †Paul Mongera by Ann & Jim Yosten (St. Teresa, Union City)

**Saturday, September 14**

4:30p.m. †Dan Ahl by Tom & Marilyn Varrassa (St. Thomas, Corry)

**Sunday, September 15**

8:00a.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa (St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. †Andrew & Helen Harnak by Dorothy Rhodes (St. Teresa, Union City)

***“He has done all things well  
He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”***

some point, if you go to St. Teresa’s website, you will be automatically redirected to St. Thomas’ website. This will allow us to keep everything in one place.

- We will also be combining into one parish envelope system. As a result, your envelope number may change.
- We will also be combining our online giving into one program. Currently we have one program for St. Thomas, WeShare, and one for St. Teresa, Vanco.
- Many of these changes do not dramatically affect how things operate but help us at the office level to coordinate things better.

**BULLETIN ADVERTISEMENTS:** You have noticed that various businesses advertise on the back of the bulletin. We are grateful to those businesses and individuals for their continued support of our parish. We invite you to support their businesses in gratitude for their support of our parish. We are always looking for additional sponsors to fill the empty spaces. These ads not only provide our parish bulletins, but also our parish website.

- Fr. Tom

# St. Thomas Parish News

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: Sept. 1, 2024

<b>Amount in Envelopes: (70)</b> .....	\$4,750.00
(Total Envelopes sent: 145 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 75)	
<b>Loose</b> .....	\$164.10
<b>Online Giving (18)</b> .....	\$1,090.00
<b>Faith Formation/Rel. Ed.</b> .....	\$238.00
<b>Total Offertory Income</b> .....	\$6,242.10

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

**Weekly Average Overage**.....\$907.10

*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](http://www.StThomastheApostle.Church) and click 'Donate Online'.*

**Church in Latin America Collection** .....\$592.00

Thank you for giving to the Church in Latin America collection taken up in our diocese the weekend of August 17/18. Your donation is an essential resource for dioceses, (such as our Sister Archdiocese of Yucatán in Mexico) parishes, religious congregations, seminaries, and other Catholic institutions in Latin America. Thank you for your generosity to this special collection.

## PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

**2024 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 09/01):**

**St. Thomas Diocesan Goal is \$37,254.00**

**Total Amount Pledged to date = \$60,796.00**

**Total Paid to date = \$54,751.00**

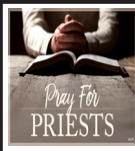
**# of Families who made a pledge = 131**

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.**



Rev. Joh Chaplin, Rev. David Renne, Rev. Cory Pius, Rev. Gregory Passauer, Rev. Msgr. Joseph Riccardo, V.F., Rev. Richard Allen, Rev. Joh Jacquel, and also please *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*

***FAITH is a journey, not a destination.***

**St. Thomas Altar Rosary Meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>**

Members of the Altar Rosary are reminded of their upcoming meeting on Wednesday, September 18 at 6:00pm in the multipurpose room at St. Thomas. We hope you plan to join us!



**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.*



**The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of September 8<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of those who lost their lives on 9/11.**

**"Question of the Week" - 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Question for Children:** How do you shun others whom you don't like?

**Question for Youth:** Who are the people in our world today who sometimes go unnoticed? What could you do to help them?

**Question for Adults:** In what ways do you discriminate in your heart against those whom you judge less than fully worthy?



**You're Invited to Coffee and Donuts TODAY**

Coffee and Donuts at Saint Thomas Parish will be served in the multipurpose room following the 8:00am Mass on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. Donations will be accepted to help cover the cost of the donuts.

All are welcome to join us for a time of socializing and food.

Catholic Education Collection

## FOSTERING THE SEEDS September 14-15



Benefits lifelong learning in faith formation and Catholic schools

**GIVE! Parish envelope or donate online:**  
[www.ErieRCD.org/CEC.html](http://www.ErieRCD.org/CEC.html)



SUPPORTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION FOR OVER 30 YEARS!



**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.

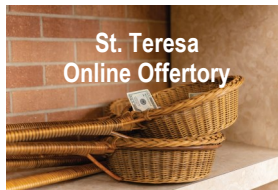
*"The power of the Rosary is beyond description." - Archbishop Fulton Sheen*


# St. Teresa Parish News

**ST. TERESA FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:** Aug. 31/Sept. 1, 2024  
**Amount in Envelopes:** (49) ..... \$2,199.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 157 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 108)  
**Loose** ..... \$297.00  
**Continuing the Vision (2)** ..... \$50.00  
**Online Giving (2)** ..... \$70.00  
**Total Offertory Income** ..... \$2,616.00

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA STEWARDSHIP:** Sept. 1, 2024  
**Amount in Envelopes:** (6) ..... \$100.00  
 (Total Envelopes sent: 30 / Number of Unused Envelopes: 24)  
**St. Teresa Parish Offertory Income** ..... \$2,716.00  
**Average Weekly Expenses** ..... \$4,585.00  
 (Average Weekly Expenses are for normal operating expenses, this does not include extraordinary repairs.)  
**Weekly Average Shortfall** ..... \$(1,869.00)

*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](http://www.st-teresa-unioncity-org) OR by scanning the QR code  here.*

**Thanks for your generosity to our parish!**

**Church in Latin America Collection** ..... \$529.00  
 Thank you for giving to the Church in Latin America collection taken up in our diocese the weekend of August 17/18. Your donation is an essential resource for dioceses, (such as our Sister Archdiocese of Yucatán in Mexico) parishes, religious congregations, seminaries, and other Catholic institutions in Latin America. Thank you for your generosity to this special collection.

**2024 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals (as of 09/01):**

**St. Teresa Diocesan Goal is \$24,359.00**  
 Total Amount Pledged to date = \$38,893.00  
 Total Paid to date = \$35,954.00  
 # of Families who made a pledge = 102  
 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.**

*With the Lord there is mercy;  
 in Him is plentiful redemption.*

**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



**The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of September 8<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Virginia Poninsky by Pete & Carol Poninsky.**

**Upcoming Events for St. Teresa**

October 9—Rosary Altar Society Card Party

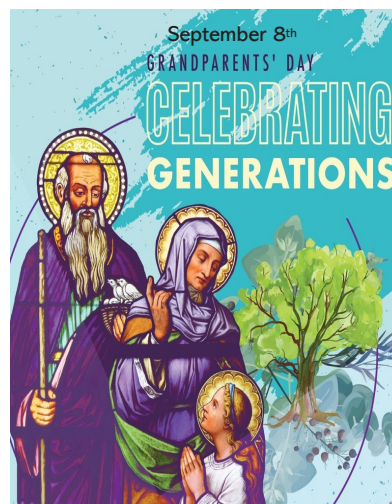
**Family Perspective**

Deafness abounds not only when we cannot hear, but when we refuse to listen. Before Jesus can enter your home and heal, you must first recognize your deafness. Have trouble speaking your thoughts? Try choosing loving words, even if the message might be a difficult one to say. All things said in love are easier to hear and accept.



**Readings for the week of September 8, 2024**

Sun.: Isaiah 35:4-7a ♦ Psalm 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1B) ♦ James 2:1-5 ♦ Mark 7:31-37  
 Mon.: 1 Corinthians 5:1-8 ♦ Psalm 5:5-6, 7, 12 ♦ Luke 6:6-11  
 Tues.: 1 Corinthians 6:1-11 ♦ Psalm 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a & 9b ♦ Luke 6:12-19  
 Wed.: 1 Corinthians 7:25-31 ♦ Psalm 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17 ♦ Luke 6:20-26  
 Thur.: 1 Corinthians 8:1b-7, 11-13 ♦ Psalm 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24 ♦ Luke 6:27-38  
 Fri.: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22b-27 ♦ Psalm 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12 ♦ Luke 6:39-42  
 Sat.: Numbers 21:4b-9 ♦ Psalm 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 ♦ Philippians 2:6-11 ♦ John 3:13-17  
 Next Sun.: Isaiah 50:4c-9a ♦ Psalm 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (9) ♦ James 2:14-18 ♦ Mark 8:27-35



**Prayer for Grandparents**

Dear God,  
 What a grace to live in a world of all ages and stages.  
 Bless our grandparents, today and always.  
 Thank You for their experiences, wisdom, and insight.  
 Thank You for the gifts they bring the Church.  
 Thank You for the lessons they teach the next generations. Amen.

August 26, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:



Vicar General

I ask for your support of the **Catholic Education Collection being taken up on the weekend of September 14-15.**

This annual second collection supports lifelong education and faith formation opportunities for everyone throughout our diocese. Please generously support this collection. You play an integral part in our success in nurturing growth in the minds, hearts and spirits of the faithful.

Half of the funds raised from this collection remain in your parish to support your local education and faith formation programs. The other half is used across the diocese for ministry and leadership training, technology support, creative projects in faith formation, as well as tuition assistance for families attending Catholic schools. A small portion also supports The Catholic University of America.

Thank you for your generosity. Contributions can be made directly at your parish or online at <https://www.eriercd.org/cec.html>.

Be assured of my prayers for you and your family.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Nicholas J. Rouch

The Very Reverend Nicholas J. Rouch, STD  
Vicar General

**THANK YOU** to all of our bulletin sponsors!



We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world.

**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 be sure to notify the Parish Office of any changes to your address, phone numbers, or email address. Thank you.*

**Religious Education News**

**Religious Education Registration for THIS YEAR**



Families should have received Registration packets for this year. We invite new families of school-aged children (grades K-9) to pick up and complete the Registration packet for the upcoming 2024-2025 Religious Education year. Packets are available in the church or online at our parish websites. Questions, please contact Missy Silka. Classes start Sunday, September 22 with all students (from both churches) meeting at St. Teresa Parish Center at 9:30am.

**New Look to Our Religious Education Program**

Our Religious Education Program will combine this year. Combining our resources will help to make our program stronger. This Fall for the 2024-2025 Religious Education Year, we will have classes at St. Teresa for the first half of the year (September—December) and at St. Thomas for the second half of the year (January—May).

**Volunteers Needed for Religious Education**

Members of our parish who have a desire to teach the faith and are interested in helping with Religious Education should contact Missy Silka at the parish office (phone: 814-663-3041 or email: [business@stparish.org](mailto:business@stparish.org)). We are in need of catechists, volunteers to help with youth special events, and/or our EDGE and PURPOSE programs, as well as leaders for small groups. Parents are always encouraged to be a part of our Religious Education program.

Also, please be on the lookout in future bulletins for unique needs/donations which will be used to run our EDGE and PURPOSE programs for middle and high school students to help make it more effective and enjoyable. Thank you.

**Important Parent Meeting for Religious Education**

Please plan to attend a Parent Meeting where at least one parent or family representative needs to attend. The information presented will be the same at both meetings, so parents are asked to come to the one that fits their schedule:

- Saturday, Sept. 14 at St. Thomas after the 4:30pm Mass
- Sunday, Sept. 15 at St. Teresa after the 11:00am Mass

We will discuss the upcoming year along with Sacrament details.

**Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments**

**Diocesan Child Protection Policies:** The Diocese of Erie, is committed to protecting minors who are entrusted to our care. The Diocese has policies and procedures in place to address the national problem of child abuse, to aid in the prevention of abuse and to develop and maintain safe environments. All those who minister to minors are screened, trained, and agree to a Code of Conduct. To read the Policy that includes the Code of Conduct, go to: <https://www.eriercd.org/childprotection/policies-1.html> For more information, contact the diocesan Office for the Protection of Children and Youth at 814-824-1195.

