



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

March 1, 2026



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.” - Mt 17:5b

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

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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

PENANCE SERVICE ON SUNDAY MARCH 8: Just a reminder that our Lenten Penance Service is next Sunday, March 8, at 1:30pm at St. Teresa. There will be several priests to hear confessions after our brief Communal Penance Celebration.

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL: We are in the process of taking pledges for our Catholic Services Appeal. Hopefully, you have received a letter from Bishop Persico inviting you to be a part of this Appeal and a pledge envelope. More pledge envelopes are available in the pews. Be on the lookout for the Faith Magazine that will have more information about this year's Appeal.

In my homily I outlined how we are using the Catholic Services Appeal to also fund some major projects at the two Churches. There are three boilers at St. Thomas – Church, School, and Office that desperately need to be replaced. We have been band-aiding them for the past two years and again just a few weeks ago.

At St. Teresa the roofs on the Parish Center need to be replaced, as we have been patching them for the past two years and years prior to that. We have been cleaning up one leak after another on the inside of the building.

These are projects that need to be done now. The future of our Churches is now. We cannot wait. And these projects, as you can imagine, are quite costly.

The boilers at St. Thomas will cost around \$250,000. The roofs at St. Teresa will cost around \$200,000.

We plan to begin these projects this summer, so we are ready for the next winter.

We plan to pay for these projects by adding them to our Catholic Services Appeal over the next three years. That will mean adding a significant goal to our yearly assessment. At St. Teresa our goal for each of those three years will be \$94,000 - \$27,000 for our CSA assessment and \$67,000 to go towards the roofs. At St. Thomas our goal each of those three years will be \$123,000 - \$38,000 for our CSA assessment and \$85,000 to replace the boilers.

These projects are crucial for our present and our future. I have seen the good work you have done in the past and I trust that you will see how important these projects are to our present and our future, and that you will support these projects with your gifts to the Catholic Services Appeal over the next three years.

CSA WHICH CHURCH? Someone asked a very good question last weekend about the CSA and how do we know which church it goes to? We keep track of all contributions to the church by your name and envelope number. So, all CSA from St. Teresa people goes to St. Teresa and all CSA from St. Thomas people goes to St. Thomas. We have been tracking this since we partnered and have continued it now that we have merged. We keep track of contributions and expenses at each Church so that we can see how much each building costs us and how much each church is contributing to those expenses. The year end report we published in the bulletin a few months ago detailed that for each Church. So, it doesn't matter if you put your CSA envelope in the basket at St. Thomas or St. Teresa, we keep track of where it should go.

THE WORD AMONG US BOOKLETS: People seem to like these booklets, and we are continuing to purchase them for people from our parish. These booklets are intended for individual people of our parish. We hope that you continue to find them as a source of prayer and growth in your relationship with God.

ISSUE: We usually purchase enough booklets for those who want to use them. Recently, we seem to have someone taking large numbers of these booklets from St. Thomas to use at another location. Hence there are not enough for our parishioners who want them. This person needs to purchase the books for their purpose and not take ours. I might remind this person what you are doing is stealing. If the issue persists, we will find other ways to distribute the booklets to our parishioners.



Sunday, March 1

8:00a.m. For the People of the Parish
(St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. † Laura Hanlin Chew by Irene Weaver
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, March 2

8:00a.m. † Colleen Amy-Rambish by Dick & Elaine
Hasbrouck (St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, March 3

8:00a.m. † Steve Mennen by Pamela Mennen and family
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, March 4

8:00a.m. Peace on Earth by Gil & Barbara Wascak
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, March 5

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

Friday, March 6

8:00a.m. † Ed Weaver, Sr. by Randy & Tricia Young
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, March 7

4:30p.m. † Gilbert Rowland by Nancy Giblin
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Sunday, March 8

8:00a.m. † Steve Mennen by Pamela Mennen and family
(St. Thomas, Corry)

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



PARISH COUNCIL: So far, I have a few people from St. Thomas who are interviewing for positions on Parish Council and no one from St. Teresa.

The new format for Council is still in the early stages of development. The heart of this new Council will be that they will brainstorm ideas to keep our parish moving forward and building community. They will not only be responsible for the idea phase but will also be responsible for making those ideas become reality. It will be a Council of planning and implementing those plans. Over the next few months, I will be interviewing people who may be interested in being a part of this Council. Depending on the number of interested people, we may have a Council and then a group of people who are interested in helping us implement the ideas Council proposes. If you are interested in interviewing for some part of this Council, please contact me at the parish office (814-663-3041) or by email (TJWhitman@eriercd.org) to schedule an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: One of the most important parts of the sacrament of reconciliation is what we do outside of the sacrament – examining our conscience. There are many ways this can be done. Some people will use the ten commandments as a guide and examine which ones they have broken. Others might use the beatitudes as a guide and look at what they have NOT done for others. Some people might look at their relationships with God, others, and self. What is good/bad in my relationship with God? Am I going to church, praying,

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.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of March 1st burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of the Wascak and Stolar Families by Darrell & Carol Huffman.



Rev. Thomas Fialkowski, Rev. Dennis Veltri, Rev. James Gutting, Rev. Jason Feigh, Rev. Robert Manning, Rev. Jeffrey Noble, Rev. Jerome Simmons, and also please *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*

Cursillo Retreats for Men & Women

“Cursillo (kur-SEE-yo) literally means “little course” and is an intense three-day spiritual retreat, the purpose of which is a deep personal encounter with Jesus Christ. Those who experience the Cursillo Movement know it is more than just three days of religious instruction. It’s an effort to change the spiritual environment, to bring Jesus Christ into the world.” See www.ericursillo.org for more info or ask a friend, you’d be surprised how many people are part of the Cursillo community. Register online at <https://ericursillo.org> or contact Mike & Sue Gluvna. The upcoming retreats are both in Harborcreek:



- Men’s Cursillo #257, March 20-22, at Our Lady of Mercy Church
- Women’s Cursillo #266, April 17-19, at Our Lady of Mercy Church

LifeCare Ministries Seeking Volunteer Leaders

LifeCares Ministries started a local chapter of American Heritage Girls in Corry. This is similar to scouting. They currently have 41 girls involved and more on a waiting list. They need adults who are able to complete the appropriate clearances and training, and willing to help lead or work with other adults to lead a group. If you are interested contact Kristen Behm, kristen.b.lifecare@gmail.com or call 814-663-9318. More information is on a flyer at the main entrance to the church.

**Lord, let your mercy be on us,
 as we place our trust in you.** Psalm 33

COAL SWEEPSTAKES 16 GREAT PRIZES 0093806

1 st Prize \$15,000	2 nd Prize \$10,000	3 rd Prize \$7,500	4 th Prize \$5,000
5 th Prize \$5,000	6 th Prize \$5,000	7 th Prize \$2,500	8 th Prize \$2,500
9 th Prize \$2,500	10 th Prize \$2,000	11 th Prize \$2,000	12 th Prize \$2,000
13 th Prize \$1,000	14 th Prize \$1,000	15 th Prize \$1,000	16 th Prize \$1,000

©2016 Knights of Columbus. Drawing - PA State Council, Cooperator, Philadelphia by Hilton, Pittsburgh, PA. FROM: MAY 15 2026 - 9:00 PM. *Prizes not available until 9:00 PM. *Prizes subject to change without notice.

COAL Tickets (Chance of a Lifetime) are on sale now from the local 4th Degree Council of the Knights of Columbus. You may contact Mike Gluvna (814-664-4416) or stop into the parish office to get your tickets. Donation of \$5 per ticket will give you a chance to win a prize. Winners will be drawn in May. Proceeds benefit the Knights State Council Charities. 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.

“Question of the Week” - Second Sunday of Lent

Question for Children: Share about a time when you felt especially close to God or Jesus.

Question for Youth: Have you ever had a “mountain top” experience where you felt exceptionally close to God? How was your life changed by that experience?

Question for Adults: Perhaps this reading calls us, not to cling to the familiar, but to leave the comforts of the parish and reach out to the world around us. In your neighborhood or community, who is waiting to hear the Good News?

Choir Rehearsals at St. Thomas Church

Choir rehearsals for the Lent/Easter season will begin on **Thursday, March 12** and continue to meet weekly on **Thursdays evenings from 6:00pm to 7:30pm at St. Thomas Church until March 26.** If you love to sing or just want to give it a try, you are welcome to join us! We are always looking for new voices. If you have any questions, please see Joan Allen or Gary Johnston. Thank you.

Catholic Daughters Selling Easter Eggs

The Catholic Daughters are selling Chocolate Covered Peanut Butter Eggs again this year. Please look for their table after Mass and at our Fish Dinners. Your support of their fundraiser is appreciated.

Mark Your Calendars | 2026 Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Couples celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or more wedding anniversaries are invited to attend the annual Diocesan Anniversary Celebration. This year’s celebrations will be held on Sunday, August 23, 2026, at St. George, Erie—2:00pm and Sunday, August 30, 2026, at St. Leo Magnus, Ridgway—2:00pm. We look forward to celebrating this beautiful celebration with you in August 2026.



St. Thomas Lenten FISH DINNERS

Ash Wednesday, February 18
 Fridays, February 27,
 March 13 & 27

4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

St. Elizabeth Parish Center
 33 W. Pleasant St., Corry



Beer Battered or Crumb-Topped Baked Alaskan Cod, Baked Potato or Fresh Cut Fries or Mac & Cheese, Coleslaw or Applesauce, Italian Bread, Dessert & Beverage
 Kids Meal: Fish Sticks or Beer Battered Fish, choice of sides, dessert & beverage

Adults \$16 Child (6-12) \$7
Dine-in, Takeout or Delivery

For Delivery Call 814-664-9187

Food, Fellowship & Basket Raffles!!

St. Teresa News

Readings for the week of March 1, 2026

Sun.: Genesis 12:1-4a ♦ Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 ♦ 2 Timothy 1:8b-10 ♦ Matthew 17:1-9
 Mon.: Daniel 9:4b-10 ♦ Psalm 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 ♦ Luke 6:36-38
 Tues.: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20 ♦ Psalm 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 ♦ Matthew 23:1-12
 Wed.: Jeremiah 18:18-20 ♦ Psalm 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 ♦ Matthew 20:17-28
 Thur.: Jeremiah 17:5-10 ♦ Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 ♦ Luke 16:19-31
 Fri.: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a ♦ Psalm 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 ♦ Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46
 Sat.: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20 ♦ Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 ♦ Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
 Next Sun.: Exodus 17:3-7 ♦ Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 ♦ Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 ♦ John 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of March 1st burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of deceased loved ones.

St. Teresa Parish Center
 Third Avenue
 Union City, PA



LENTEN FISH FRY

February 20th & 27th
 March 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

4:30 - 7:00pm

Dine in or take out

Adults \$15.00
Children's Meal (12 and under) \$6.00
 Mac & cheese, French fries and applesauce
 ** add \$2.00 for fish sticks

Baked or Fried Fish (Haddock)
 Choice of: baked potato, French fries or mac & cheese.
 Homemade coleslaw or applesauce.
 Dinner roll, homemade dessert and beverage!

For take-outs call
814-438-2000

Calling All Bakers!

We are collecting your wonderful homemade desserts for our Friday Fish Dinners. Your baked goods make our dinners extra special, and guests look forward to the desserts just as much as our delicious fish! Desserts may be dropped off at the Parish Center on **Thursdays from 4:00-7:00 PM**, or **Fridays starting at noon** throughout Lent.



Custodian Position Available at St. Teresa

We are seeking a person for the part-time custodial position at St. Teresa. Duties include cleaning the church and parish center. If interested, please contact the parish office (814-663-3041) or email Missy Silka, Business Manager, at business@stparish.org.

Family Perspective

Transformation is a natural part of family life. When we commit to someone, whether it's a spouse in marriage or a child in parenting, we are pledging our support not just to who they are today, but to the person they are continually becoming.



- Thursdays of Lent—7:00pm at St. Teresa Church (Union City)
- Fridays of Lent—7:30pm at St. Thomas Church (Corry)

22:32 MEN *Strengthen Your Brothers!*

2026 CONFERENCE
SATURDAY, MARCH 7th 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM Event
 At St. Jude Parish, Erie, PA and at local parishes in NW PA and NE Ohio

All Faiths are Welcome!
 Inspiring NATIONAL SPEAKERS including:



FATHER LARRY RICHARDS



FATHER MATHIAS THELEN



BE RENEWED IN CHRIST!



"BUT I HAVE PRAYED FOR YOU THAT YOUR FAITH MAY NOT FAIL, AND WHEN YOU HAVE TURNED BACK, STRENGTHEN YOUR BROTHERS." LUKE 22:32



MATTHEW LEONARD

\$20 Adult Early Registration (before February 1st)
 \$25 Adult Registration (after January 31st)
 \$20 Group of 8 or more
 \$15 Adult - first time attendee ONLY
 High School and College Students - FREE
 Please register beforehand.
 Our conference will be held live at St. Jude Parish in Erie and will also be live-streamed out to parishes in the Erie Diocese and others in surrounding areas. Our website has a list of those parishes.
www.2232Men.com
info@2232Men.com
 for more details and to register.

Satellite Attendance at Hope House in Union City
 Father Tom Suppa will join us in Union City to offer Mass and confession during the conference. Please register to strengthen your Catholic faith. Visit www.2232men.com or call 814-455-7364.

Say Yes!

to the Eleventh Annual
1:38 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

PLACE: ST. JUDE PARISH, 2801 West 6th Street, Erie
 TIME: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
 Registration and Refreshments: 8:00 - 8:30 AM
 Cost: \$25

College and High School students & Religious - FREE!
Conference includes: Two talks, Adoration, Confession, Mass, Basket Raffle & Book/Media Sales

SPEAKERS: Jeff Joaquin with his message of Mercy and Paula Umana with her message of Hope
ATTENDANCE: Live in-person, Live-streamed to a satellite parish or your home



JEFF JOAQUIN



PAULA UMANA

MORE INFO
www.138women.com or 814-455-7364
ALL FAITHS WELCOME!



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: February 21 & 22, 2026

Total Offertory Income \$6,497.00
 Average Budgeted Offertory Income \$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage.....\$(-1,203.00)

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!

Religious Education News

Religious Education Program
 Now that we are in the second half of the Religious Education year (January—May) — ALL Classes will meet at St. Thomas school building from 9:00am—10:30am on Sunday mornings.

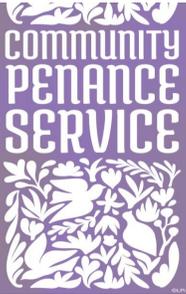


We are grateful for the opportunity to teach our faith to future generations.

Calendar Reminders for Religious Education
 Sunday, Mar. 1—Classes for students & Youth Mass at St. Thomas
 Sunday, Mar. 8—Classes for students / Confession
 Sunday, Mar. 15—No Classes
 Saturday, Mar. 21—First Communion at St. Thomas Church
 Sunday, Mar. 22—Classes for students/First Communion
 Sunday, Mar. 29—Classes for students



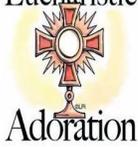
Don't Forget DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME! Please remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour NEXT WEEKEND (Sunday, March 8).



Date: Sunday, March 8, 2026
Time: 1:30pm (until all are finished)
Location: St. Teresa Church

Several priest will be available to hear individual confessions.
Come to experience God's forgiveness, mercy, and healing.

Eucharistic Adoration **Eucharistic Adoration THIS WEEK**
The Lord is kind and merciful.



Our churches will hold their monthly Eucharistic Adoration this week. It will be held on **Thursday, March 5th (8:00am) through Friday, March 6th (8:00am) at Saint Thomas Church.** It will also be held on **Friday, March 6th (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.



In Christ, We Are One



*"Look to Christ... Listen to his offer of love and become his one family: in the one Christ, we are one."
 - Pope Leo XIV*



Please Support the 2026 Catholic Services Appeal!
Thank you to those who returned their pledge envelopes.
Be sure to make your pledge to help our two churches.
Return pledge envelopes NOW in any collection basket.

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!

(Pastor's Column / continued from Page 2)

living as God asks me? What are the significant relationships in my life: spouse, parents, children, neighbors, friends, co-workers, strangers? How am I being loving, or not loving, towards these significant people in my life? And what is my relationship with myself? Am I taking care of the life God has given me in what I eat, drink, and do to myself? How am I taking care of myself, so I can take care of others?

One example of this is the commandment to keep holy the sabbath. For Catholics that means participating in Mass each week. The key word here is "participating." Just sitting or standing during Mass without responding to the prayers or singing the songs is not participating. We might evaluate how well we are keeping holy the sabbath.

The other issue is whether or not there are times when I can be excused from Mass. One very legitimate excuse is when we are sick. God doesn't ask us to act without reason. When we are sick, we need to take care of ourselves, AND we might be wise not to go to church to give our illness to others. It is not that we are skipping Mass, it is a matter of taking care of ourselves and not inflicting harm on others. (This is also the case of someone who is taking care of someone who is sick. You can't leave the person alone, so you stay with them but are not able to attend Mass. This is another reason you might miss Mass on Sunday.)

The same is true in terms of weather. A few weeks ago, the diocese sent out a notice about the severe cold and icy roads. For people with breathing issues, the severe cold made going outside a very serious issue, even a life threatening one. For others, the icy roads were very dangerous to drive on. Again, God doesn't ask us to act without reason. Given my age, my health issues, I might choose to stay home if I believe that going outside is a serious risk, or that driving might be dangerous for me or for others on the road. Again, it is not that we are skipping Mass to go shopping or hunting, or sleeping in. There is a serious reason why we are staying home.

If either of these situations is why you missed Mass, it is not a sin. Thus it does not need to be confessed or forgiven. In either of these situations, a person could possibly watch Mass on TV or the internet as a way to "keep holy the sabbath" in these situations. That is what those televised Masses are for. Remember that our celebration of the Eucharist, Mass, is not a private prayer, but a communal prayer. It is something we do together, and that is why our participation is so important.

- Fr. Tom