



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

August 9, 2026



Donate at
www.eriegives.org

- OR -

Visit our
website
www.stthomastheapostle.church

Again this year—NO FEES !!!

All Online Fees will be covered!

**This means that 100% of your
gift goes directly to the local
nonprofits of your choice.**

Tuesday—August 11, 2026

A great day to help your favorite nonprofits.

Please consider supporting us

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish

St. Teresa of Avila Church

St. Thomas Cemetery

St. Teresa Cemetery

St. Elizabeth Cemetery

Religious Education

St. Thomas Cemetery Endowment Fund

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
Faith Formation Administrator
business@stparish.org

Susan Johnston
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secretary@stparish.org

Carol Huffman
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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

ERIE GIVES – AUGUST 11, 2026: The annual Erie Gives Day will be August 11, 2026. This is a great way to support our parish and to have additional funds be added to our total from the Erie Gives Foundation. St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and its Mission St. Teresa of Avila Church will be participating, as well as our Religious Education Program, St. Thomas Cemetery, St. Teresa Cemetery, St. Elizabeth Cemetery, and St. Thomas Cemetery Endowment Fund. You can access our site at **ErieGives.org** or on our parish website *Parish of Saint Thomas the Apostle and its mission Saint Teresa of Avila Church* (**www.stthomasapostle.church**). Thank you in advance for your generous support of our parish!

Giving on Tuesday, August 11th can be done online or over the phone with a credit card. **To give by phone, call 814-454-0843.**

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY: The feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven falls on Saturday, August 15, this year. As a result, it is not a holy day of obligation this year.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS (CONTINUED): I wrote last week about how this sacrament is called Holy ORDERS (plural) and how there are three grades or levels of this sacrament: deacon, priest, bishop. Maybe to look at each of those individually.

Bishop: The office of the Bishop can be traced back to Jesus' commissioning of the Apostles to go out and preach to all nations. The Bishops are the successors of the Apostles. By the year 110, the Bishop served as head of the local Church as the representative of Jesus. He was the one to guarantee the unity of the Church in his geographic area and to connect his people to the Church throughout the world.

The Bishop is the head of his diocese. He is the principal teacher and preacher. He ensures that the teachings of Catholic faith and morals is in keeping with the universal Church.

All the Bishops of a country come together in a Bishops' conference to set practice and policy for their country. All the Bishops of the world form a "college" or united group by virtue of their being successors to the apostles. This "college" of the world's Bishops are subject to the authority of the Bishop of Rome, the Pope.

Bishops can celebrate the sacraments of Confirmation, Holy Orders, Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick and be the official witness at Marriages.

Priest: In the early church the Bishops ministered to everyone. But as the number of the believers grew, the Bishops ordained men to act in their places (priests), and to care for the members of the Church.

His duties were to preach and administer the sacraments. It was his privilege to lead the people in prayer and at the Eucharist. The same relationship exists today. When the priest preaches, teaches, or offers the sacrifice of the Mass, he does so in the name of the Bishop.

The Priest's ministry falls into three categories: First, he is called to preach by word and deed. Second, he is the leader of worship – he represents Jesus as a sign of his presence among the people and in performing the sacraments for the community. Third, he is to be a leader. The role of the Good Shepherd is entrusted to him.

The Priest can celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, and be the official witness at Marriages. He can celebrate confirmation in special circumstances with the permission of the Bishop.

**Sunday, August 9**

8:00a.m. †Rod, Marilyn & Mike Knowlton and Marty Roehrig by Lana & Punk Messina (St. Thomas, Corry)

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

Monday, August 10

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

Tuesday, August 11

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

Wednesday, August 12

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

Thursday, August 13

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

Friday, August 14

8:00a.m. Communion Service at St. Teresa, Union City

Saturday, August 15—Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

Sunday, August 16

8:00a.m. †August & Mary Wascak by Gil & Barbara Wascak (St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. †Carol Groner by Mini Sypniewski (St. Teresa, Union City)



Deacon: The word deacon means "servant" or "helper." The order of deacons can be found in chapter six of the Acts of the Apostles. Just as the Bishop needed help from the Priests to minister to the people, so also the priest needs the deacons to help minister to the people.

There are two types of Deacons: transitional deacon is the step just before a man is ordained to the priesthood, and the permanent Deacon is a man, who may be single or married, who chooses to be ordained a Deacon but not to become a Priest.

A Deacon can Baptize, distribute the Eucharist at Mass or Communion Services, bring Communion to the sick, and officiate at marriages and funeral services outside the context of the Mass. He leads the people in prayer, reads the Scriptures, preaches, and teaches.

RCIA Classes (Now called OCIA): We are looking to start classes for those who wish to become Catholic, or those who wish to update their understanding of their faith. If you are interested in becoming Catholic, please contact Fr. Tom or Deacon Randy or the parish office.

- 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.*



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Thomas Church for the week of August 9th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Jerry Rushin by Pam Mennen.



Rev. Christopher Singer, Rev. Brandon Feikles,
Rev. James Camello, OSB, Rev. Matthew Kujawinski,
Most Rev. Lawrence Persico, Rev. Joseph Kalinowski,
and also *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*

PERSEVERE IN PRAYER



Help Sell Gate Tickets at This Year's Sparty Fair

The Knights of Columbus are seeking volunteers from our parish to sell gate tickets at the Spartansburg Fair the week of **September 7—12**. If you wish to help with this project, please call the parish office to have your name placed on a list or talk to a member of the Knights. Thank you.

Last Outdoor Picnic Meeting for this Summer

Brother Knights will meet for their last outdoor picnic meeting of the summer on Tuesday, August 11th in Mead Park—Green Top Pavilion, Corry at 6:00pm. Please bring a dish or snack to share and your table service. Hotdogs and drinks will be provided. We will hold our business meeting followed by food and fellowship. We hope you will join us!



To The Heights

Brotherhood
Daily Mass
Adoration
Confession
Meals &
t-shirt
provided

A Catholic Men's 21-Mile
Wilderness Retreat
That Will Test Your Body
and Renew Your Soul

OCTOBER
1-3, 2026
in the
Quehanna
Wilderness

Register Now - Limited Spots!



*This retreat is for men who are 18 years or older and have graduated from High School or equivalent.



Ryan Sayers Fr. Ben Daghir Fr. Luke Daghir



\$100 Registration (Deadline: September 21, 2026)

Questions: totheheightserie@gmail.com

"Question of the Week" - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Question for Children: What does God's voice sound like when you pray and listen to Jesus?

Question for Youth: In today's Gospel, Peter began to walk on the water when he was focused on Jesus. He began to sink when he got distracted by the storm. What is your life like when you are focused on Jesus and your relationship with God? How is it different when you get caught up in other things?

Question for Adults: Tell about your experiences of hearing God speak in "tiny voices" rather than in the winds and earthquakes of life.



ZABAWA
Holy Trinity Parish
East 23rd and Reed Streets - Erie
A Celebration of our Polish Heritage
33rd ANNUAL - FREE ADMISSION
August 21st, 22nd & 23rd, 2026
Fri. 5-10 pm + Sat. 12-10 pm + Sun. 11 am-4 pm

Cemetery Gravestone Cleaning Project

We are 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 are taking orders for those who are interested. Thank you.

Below is a recent example of how the cleaning process will transform the look of a headstone.



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 August 9, 2026

Sun.: 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a ♦ Psalm 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 ♦
Romans 9:1-5 ♦ Matthew 14:22-33
Mon.: 2 Corinthians 9:6-10 ♦ Psalm 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 ♦ John 12:24-26
Tues.: Ezekiel 2:8-3:4 ♦ Psalm 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131 ♦
Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Wed.: Ezekiel 9:1-7; 10:18-22 ♦ Psalm 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 ♦ Matthew 18:15-20
Thur.: Ezekiel 12:1-12 ♦ Psalm 78:56-57, 58-59, 61-62 ♦ Matthew 18:21-19:1
Fri.: Ezekiel 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63 ♦ Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 ♦
Matthew 19:3-12
Sat.: *Vigil*: 1 Chronicles 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2 ♦ Psalm 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14 ♦
1 Corinthians 15:54b-57 ♦ Luke 11:27-28
Day: Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab ♦ Psalm 45:10, 11, 12, 16 ♦
1 Corinthians 15:20-27 ♦ Luke 1:39-56
Next Sun.: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7 ♦ Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 ♦
Romans 11:13-15, 29-32 ♦ Matthew 15:21-28



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of August 9th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of deceased family and friends.

Recent Baptism

With joy, we welcome into the family of God and the Church, **Lane Walter Proctor**, son of Jeffrey & Victoria Proctor who was baptized on July 26, 2026 at St. Teresa Church. *May God pour out His blessings on him, his parents, and godparents.*



Family Perspective

The demands of family can be so overwhelming that walking on water might seem easier. When Jesus felt pressured, He dismissed everyone to be "by Himself and pray." When you feel overwhelmed and stressed, find a quiet place and surrender your feelings to the Lord, using Peter's prayer from today's gospel: "Lord, save me."



Follow Us on Facebook!
St. Thomas the Apostle & its Mission St. Teresa.

2026 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Totals:

Diocesan Goal for our parish is \$64,881

St. Thomas portion is \$38,000 / St. Teresa portion is \$27,000

Stretch Goals: St. Thomas—\$123,00 / St. Teresa—\$94,000

Amount Pledged at **St. Thomas** to date = \$77,230

Paid to date = \$66,495

Amount Pledged at **St. Teresa** to date = \$42,345

Paid to date = \$38,895

Number of Families who made a pledge = 212



Diocese of Erie
2026 Catholic
Services Appeal

Be sure to make your check payable to
'ST. THOMAS CHURCH' when making a CSA payment.



19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Peter said to him in reply,
"Lord, if it is you, command
me to come to you on the
water." He said, "Come."
Peter got out of the boat
and began to walk on the
water toward Jesus.
- Mt 14:28-29

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

PRAYER for a NEW BISHOP

O Almighty God,
Pour forth the Holy Spirit upon the Holy Father
and those who assist him
in the discernment of our new bishop.
May the one chosen have the strength
to be a compassionate leader,
who models humility and joy.
Grant him the wisdom of Solomon,
the courage of the apostles,
and the tenderness of your Son, the Good Shepherd.

We also pray for the Diocese of Erie
that he is called to serve.
may we welcome him with open hearts
and work with him in a spirit of synodality,
called to listen, collaborate, and build unity.

Through the intercession of the
Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church,
St. Joseph, the protector of the Church,
and St. Patrick, the patron of our diocese,
may we journey the path of life
with an unwavering focus
on the hope we have in Christ.

For he lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Imprimatur, October 28, 2025
The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, J.C.L., Bishop of Erie



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

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: August 1 & 2, 2026

Total Offertory Income \$7,683.00
Average Budgeted Offertory Income.....\$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage (\$-17.00)

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!

National Needs Collection.....\$1,495.00

Thank you for your support of this special second collection on July 18 & 19, which supports the Catholic Home Mission and the Black & Indian Home Missions. This collection gave each of us the opportunity to stand in solidarity with poorer diocese in the United States. Thank you for your generosity.

THANK YOU to all of our bulletin sponsors!

We appreciate their support of our parishes and ask our parishioners to please patronize these business.

Visit the Diocese of Erie's website at **www.eriercd.org** for information, news and resources about our Catholic faith and much more.



August 6, 2026

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Soon our diocese will take up the annual Collection for the Church in Latin America. For more than 60 years, this collection has been a practical expression of unity and love for our brothers and sisters in faith throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

This collection supports pastoral, catechetical and family life ministries, seminary studies, and formation programs for religious sisters and brothers.

The Collection for the Church in Latin America also helps the poorest dioceses obtain basic necessities that they otherwise would be unable to afford. Catholics like you who generously contribute to this collection help priests stay on the road with funds given to the diocese to offset fuel and vehicle repair costs. In places such as Mexico, you help bring the Good News to the poor when you participate in the collection.

Please consider generously supporting the Collection for the Church in Latin America on the weekend of August 15th and 16th. Your contribution, and especially your prayers, will help make our Catholic faith a living reality for people throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

For more information on the Church in Latin America and the many projects funded by the collection, please visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.

Be assured of my prayers for you and your family,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie

*** Please use your offertory envelope from you packet for this special collection.**

Religious Education News**New Religious Education Year Starting Soon!**

We hope that all of our families are enjoying their summer break. As the calendar is now August, and we begin to think about returning to school....it is also time to start planning and preparing for another fun and faith-filled year in Religious Education. We will again be holding our Religious Education Classes for half the year at St. Teresa in Union City and half the year at St. Thomas in Corry. We are so grateful to all of the volunteer catechists and all of the students and families who help to make our program a success in teaching and sharing the Catholic faith with the next generations. Please be sure to look in upcoming bulletins for the registration information. We hope you enjoy the rest of the summer and we look to seeing in September for Religious Education!

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Diocesan Requirements for working with children: The Diocese of Erie takes child safety seriously. Working with the Bishop, the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth ensures that policies and procedures are in place to protect children. All clergy, employees and volunteers who work with children must complete state mandated criminal record checks. They must also follow screening guidelines and complete abuse prevention training. These steps help ensure that everyone who has access to children in our schools and parishes is properly vetted and trained. Parents: stay vigilant! Make sure anyone who interacts with your child has completed the application process and obtained the required clearances and training. For details on what's required for those working with children and youth in our parishes, schools, and agencies, visit: www.eriercd.org/childprotection/.

Blessed the man who is gracious and lends to those in need.

Back-to-School Shopping? Don't Forget RaiseRight!

As you head out for back-to-school shopping, don't forget that you can support St. Thomas simply by purchasing gift cards through **RaiseRight!** Whether you're shopping in-store or online, you can buy gift cards for many of your favorite retailers right from the RaiseRight app. You can also use the app to shop online through participating retailers and earn rebates for our parish.

If you haven't already, **download the RaiseRight app today** and start earning while you shop. It's an easy way to support St. Thomas!

Just scan the QR code for more information, visit the website www.raiseright.com

(enrollment code: **JWFHT6MPCX7L**), or download the app and see how easy it is to give back! Please contact Missy Silka at the parish office if you have questions.

**Congratulations to Our Anniversary Couples**

At Masses this weekend (August 8 & 9), our parish recognized those couples from St. Thomas and St. Teresa who are celebrating milestone (25th, 40th, 50th, 60th) wedding anniversaries this year.

*Congratulations to all couples who are celebrating a milestone wedding anniversary this year!
May God continue to bless your marriage.*



ANNIVERSARY MASS