



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

April 20, 2025



EASTER SUNDAY

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb.
- Lk 24:2

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

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

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

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

Easter 2025 Message from the Pastor

Today, we celebrate the moment when Jesus was raised from the dead and appeared to his followers. What we will celebrate over the next 50 days will be the implications of that Resurrection. For the first Christians, this was a time in which they celebrated the fact that Jesus had risen and appeared to his closest followers, but also a time when they began to ponder what this resurrection would mean for them as individuals and as a Church.

In the resurrection stories that we find in the Gospels, Mary Magdalene initially does not recognize Jesus, she thinks he is the gardener. Two other disciples on the road to Emmaus do not recognize Jesus in the stranger that walks with them until the stranger breaks bread with them. The eleven disciples think Jesus is a ghost in one of his first appearances. Even later at the Sea of Galilee, it takes time for Peter and John to recognize that "It is the Lord!" This growing understanding and comprehension of who Jesus is concludes with the story of Thomas who refuses to believe, but when he encounters the risen Jesus personally, he makes the great confession of faith: "My Lord and My God."

The first believers gradually came to understand that in the resurrection of Jesus, God would act in a way that went beyond all their expectations.

- Their view of history changed. The first believers had a notion that God would come at the end of time and begin the Kingdom of Heaven. Now with the resurrection of Jesus they saw that the Kingdom was NOW happening in their lives. The resurrection didn't mark the end of the world as they knew it, but somehow God was working in and through the everyday moments of their lives. God was working within time, not waiting until the end of time to begin the Kingdom.

- Their view of resurrection changed. The kind of resurrection they were hoping for was the resuscitation of a corpse, much like Lazarus. One that did not involve the decomposition of the corpse of the one who was crucified. The Risen Jesus has a transformed body, in which he appears to his friends, but the tomb is empty. The Risen Body of Jesus is different than his human body. (He could walk through locked doors, be in two different places miles apart in a few seconds, and people who knew him best didn't recognize him.)

- Their understanding of how the Risen Jesus was present to his followers changed. Jesus appeared to his followers on a number of occasions, but after the Ascension he no longer appeared to them. And yet the first community of Christians believed that the Risen Jesus was "present" to them in a new way – in the community they shared, in Baptism, in the Breaking of the Bread (Eucharist) and many other ways. His physical presence was not with them, but his Spirit certainly lived in their midst.

- Their understanding of their responsibilities and their prospects changed. The resurrection of Jesus would begin to change the lives of the early Christians. Resurrection became the hope for the future. This hope became embodied in those believers who began to proclaim the Good News of Jesus to people in their own communities and then in distant lands. This hope became so strong that some people were willing to die for it. They became the first martyrs for our faith.

Continued ➡ ➡ ➡ ➡

**Sunday, April 20— *Resurrection of the Lord /Easter Sunday***

8:00a.m. ✠ Deceased and Living Parishioners and those listed on the Easter Flower Memorials (St. Thomas, Corry)

10:00a.m. ✠ Deceased and Living Parishioners and those listed on the Easter Flower Memorials (St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, April 21

8:00a.m. ✠ Diana Hanlin Strefeler by her daughter, Becky Boleratz (St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, April 22

8:00a.m. ✠ Shirley Wendel by Punk & Lana Messina (St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, April 23

8:00a.m. ✠ Barbara Krol by Bev & Ed Weaver (St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, April 24

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

Friday, April 25

8:00a.m. ✠ Anne Zakovitch by Ilene Zakovitch (St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, April 26

4:30p.m. For the Peoples of Sts. Thomas & Teresa (St. Teresa, Union City)

Sunday, April 27— *Divine Mercy Sunday / 2nd Sunday of Easter*

8:00a.m. ✠ Cragg & Sullivan Families by the Craggs (St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. ✠ Steve & Dorothy Mongera by Cheryl & Steve Mongera (St. Teresa, Union City)

- Their understanding of worship and its relationship to time changed. Most of these early Christians were Jewish, and thus their notion of the Sabbath was Saturday. However, with the Resurrection of Jesus on the First Day of the Week, Sunday, the early Christians began to worship God on the day when Jesus was raised from the dead. This certainly points out to us that the event of the Resurrection of Jesus was life changing for the early Christians. Even to the point of changing their beliefs concerning when to worship God.

Christ, risen, changes everything. Creation, promise and prophecy, time and expectation, vocation and worship, now come into clearer focus. The unity of God's revelation of himself to the people of Israel and his revelation in his Son is confirmed. The Church is born. Indeed, the resurrection of Jesus is the event that transformed the lives of the followers of Jesus and set their community on a mission that would bring the Gospel to all people, eventually to us. And now the Resurrection continues in our day. It is we who are now entrusted with the mission of spreading the Gospel to others. May we allow the transformational power of the resurrection to indeed change our lives, in order that the Good News of Jesus Christ risen from the dead might continue to be made known to all people.

Happy Easter!

– Fr. Tom

St. Thomas News

Thank you for donating to this year's
Easter Flower Fund.

The beautiful flowers in the church enhanced
our liturgies and remind us of the
Risen Christ's splendor.

Please see today's insert for the listing of memorial donations.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week
of April 20th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of the
Frank Karkoski by Family.



PRAYER LINE... call: Gerrie (814-665-6944),
Pam (814-664-7459), or Diane (814-663-3753).
*Since prayer is an important ministry of trust,
know that all requests are kept confidential.*

"Question of the Week" - Easter Sunday

Question for Children: What is good and new in your life?

Question for Youth: Resurrection reminds us that what looks
bad can lead to something good. What has resurrected, or gone
from bad to good, in your life over the past year?

Question for Adults: In what way have you risen from
"deadness" in your life?

Seeking Donations for Garden Flowers at St. Thomas Church

It's that time of year to get started working on the
gardens around St. Thomas Church. Donations are
being accepted toward this project. Please place your
donation in an envelope marked "St. Thomas Garden
Flowers" and put it in the collection basket at Mass or
send it to the parish office. We hope to start planting
once garden beds are cleaned up. Annuals and perennials will be
purchased for around the church grounds. Thank you for your
generosity.



Help Needed with the Flower Gardens at St. Thomas

We will be spreading mulch around the church garden beds on
Saturday, April 26th (with a rain date of Saturday, May 10th) and are
in need of volunteers. A light lunch and refreshments will be
provided. Volunteers should plan to bring a rake/shovel or other
helpful tools. If you are able to help, please call the Parish Office or
reach out to Lois Woodcock. Thank you.



Catholic Daughters Meeting—THIS WEEK

Members of the Catholic Daughters are reminded of their meeting
this **Thursday, April 24 at 6:00pm** in the St. Elizabeth Parish Center.
In the spring/summer—meetings will begin at 6:00pm. Join us!

Attention Members of St. Thomas Altar Rosary

Ladies of the Altar Rosary will meet this week on **Thursday, April 24
at 6:00pm** in the multipurpose room at St. Thomas. Our meeting
dates changed for April and May. Hope to see you there.

AVAILABLE NOW! PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

**Build your business and help us grow a vibrant
faith community!**

Tim Weir from LPI, our bulletin
printer, will be securing new ads
for our church in the coming
weeks. As a valuable member of
the business community, we invite
you to expand your reach and
grow your business with a print ad
in our parish bulletin and/or a
digital ad featured on
ParishesOnline.com.

**Please call me. I look forward to
making your business visible to
this parish community!**



Tim Weir
Cell Phone :716-602-4588
TWeir@4lpi.com



Bless Our Home



ST. ELIZABETH AND ST. THOMAS CEMETERIES FUNDRAISER

Come paint with Debbie Bird

May 8, 2025, 6pm – 9pm at St. Elizabeth Center

*Cost \$40.00 (in advance payment is encouraged but not
required) call parish office at 814-663-3041 or send email
to cemetery@stparish.org to reserve your spot. The class
has limited seating.*

*There will be raffle baskets, Light food, refreshments and
drinks. Grab a friend and support a great cause while
creating a beautiful art piece.*



St. Teresa News

Thank you for donating to this year's
Easter Flower Fund.

The beautiful flowers in the church enhanced our
liturgies and remind us of the
Risen Christ's splendor.

Please see today's insert for the listing of memorial donations.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of
April 20th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of the
Jerry Adams by Diana Adams and family.

*Marriage
& Banns*

Meghan Mongera and
Craig Blouvet

St. Teresa Reverse Raffle

Join us on Saturday, April 26, 2025 in the Parish Center for our
Reverse Raffle with a top prize of \$5,000. Doors open at
5:00pm. Prime Rib Dinner is at 7:00pm, and side boards begin
selling at 5:30pm. Only 200 tickets will be sold. Tickets are \$55
each, which includes dinner and drinks, plus a chance at the \$5,000
prize. **Volunteers needed to help.** If you can help, please call Kim
Yaple at 814-397-1268.

Baked Goods Needed for the Reverse Raffle

Attention Bakers—we need your help with dessert items for the
Reverse Raffle. Baked goods can be dropped off at the parish center
on Saturday, April 26th from 11:00am to 1:00pm and again from
2:00pm-5:00pm. Thank you!!!



Rev. Jeffery Noble, Rev. Mark O'Hern, Rev. Joseph
Dougherty, Rev. Raymond Hahn, Rev. James Power,
Rev. Joseph Staszewski, also please *Pray for the*
Pastoral Planning in our diocese.

A Family Perspective

Millions of Christians around the world celebrate the Resurrection
today. It all began simply on the first Easter with one person telling
another: "Mary told Peter" and "they believed." Faith is passed
from one person to another; it is caught, not taught, and parents
are the most effective at passing faith to their children.

Help Celebrate a Parishioner's 90th Birthday

Mary Thomas from St. Teresa Church is celebrating her 90th
Birthday and wishes to invite friends from the parish to join
in the celebration on Saturday, April 26th from 1:00pm—
4:00pm at the American Legion in Union City.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES

BINGO

FRIDAY, APRIL 25th

JPT EVENT CENTER - 2319 W. 38th STREET
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 - BINGO STARTS AT 7:00

Tickets - \$30 in advance • \$35 at the door

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

PURSES, ELECTRONICS & CASH PRIZES

INSTANTS & TIPS

BASKET RAFFLE

50/50

BYOF & BYOB

Questions? Call 814-824-1260, or email tespin@ccincerie.org

Today is Easter. Earth Day is April 22.

What might they have in common? As Christians
celebrate the resurrection of Christ, all creation
needs to resurrect hope for the health of Planet
Earth. Yes, pray; but also choose one action this
week to protect Mother Earth together.



2025 Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebrations

Mark Your Calendars for the 2025 Wedding Anniversary
Celebration with Bishop Persico. Couples celebrating
25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or more wedding anniversaries are
invited to attend the annual Diocesan Anniversary
Celebration. This years celebrations are scheduled for:



- Sunday, August 3, 2025 at Our Lady of Peace, Erie (2:00pm)
- Sunday, August 24, 2025 at St. Tobias, Brockway (3:00pm)

Reservations will open Sunday, April 27th. More information will be
coming shortly. We look forward to celebrating this beautiful
sacrament with you in August 2025.

**Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining,
have mercy, victor King, every reigning!
Amen. Alleluia.**

Readings for the Week of April 20, 2025

Sun./Easter: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 ♦ Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24) ♦
Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 ♦ John 20:1-9 or
Luke 24:1-12

Mon.: Acts 2:14, 22-33 ♦ Psalm 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 ♦
Matthew 28:8-15

Tues.: Acts 2:36-41 ♦ Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22 ♦ John 20:11-18

Wed.: Acts 3:1-10 ♦ Psalm 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 ♦ Luke 24:13-35

Thu.: Acts 3:11-26 ♦ Psalms 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 ♦ Luke 24:35-48

Fri.: Acts 4:1-12 ♦ Psalm 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a ♦ John 21:1-14

Sat.: Acts 4:13-21 ♦ Psalm 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21 Mark 16:9-15

Next Sun./Divine Mercy: Acts 5:12-16 ♦ Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 (1) ♦
Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19 ♦ John 20:19-31

Help Wanted at St. Teresa Cemetery

We are seeking a **Cemetery Manager** for St Teresa Cemetery to
oversee the daily operations and 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.

We are also seeking **seasonal summer help** at St. Teresa Cemetery to
help maintain the grounds such as lawn mowing, weed eating, laying
mulch, trim bushes and shrubs, etc.

If interested, please contact the Parish Office (814-663-3041) or email
Missy Silka, Business Manager at business@stparish.org.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: April 12 & 13, 2025

Total Offertory Income \$6,061.00
 Average Budgeted Offertory Income.....\$7,700.00
Offertory Shortfall..... \$(-1,639.00)

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!

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 = \$60,340

Paid to date = \$38,780

Amount Pledged at **St. Teresa** to date = \$31,260

Paid to date = \$23,130

Total Number of Families who made a pledge = 189

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.

**Faith Formation & Religious Ed. News****Calendar Reminders for Religious Education**

April 20—No Classes today / Happy Easter
 April 27—Classes for all students at St. Thomas
 May 4—Final Classes for all students at St. Thomas

**First Holy Communion at Our Parish**

Please keep the following students from our parish in prayer as they receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion either on Sunday, April 27 at St. Teresa or Saturday, May 3 at St. Thomas:

Ellie Halfast, Caroline Moon, Connor Swank and Henry Weis

Pray for Our Confirmation Candidates

Please keep the following students from our parish in prayer as they continue to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation scheduled for Tuesday, May 6 at St. Francis Xavier Church in McKean:



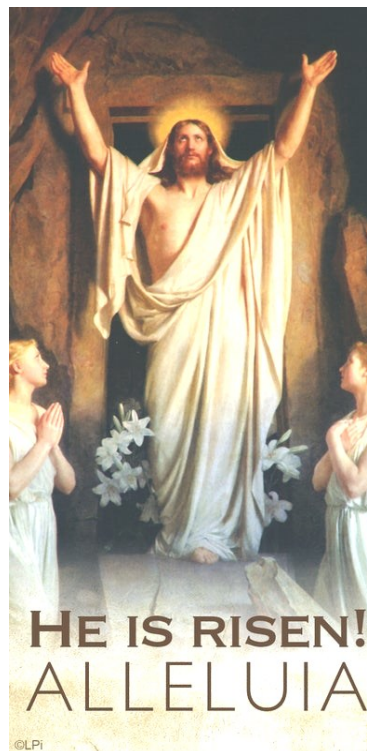
Eric Adams, Jacob Bridgam, Cole Halfast, Joe Kondrlik,

Lucas Silka, Dallas Triscuit, Mark VanCise, and Sydney Weis.

May they grow in their faith and be strengthened by the Spirit as they continue their journey towards reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Child Abuse Prevention Month: Be Vigilant: It is vitally important that we are constantly vigilant concerning the behaviors of those who interact with children and communicating our concerns to the appropriate parties. Each one of us can play an important role in strengthening this culture of prevention. For example, we can better prevent abuse by ensuring that the signs of abuse are identified and reported. Noticing these warning signs, taking them seriously, and reporting them could prevent abuse in the future. When we witness inappropriate behavior or something that just doesn't seem quite right, we must report our concerns through the appropriate channels. In the Diocese of Erie for particular questions, you may call the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth at 814-824-1195.



**HE IS RISEN!
ALLELUIA**

©LPI

**GO OUT
AND
SPREAD
THE
GOOD
NEWS
CHRIST
IS RISEN!**

©LPI

**BLESSED
Easter
TO ALL!**



*If then you are
raised with Christ,
seek what is above.*

Colossians 3:2

Jesus, I rejoice in your Resurrection. Easter joy comes through faith and service...so set your heart on "what is above" today. Then hear Jesus say, "Come and share in my joy!"