



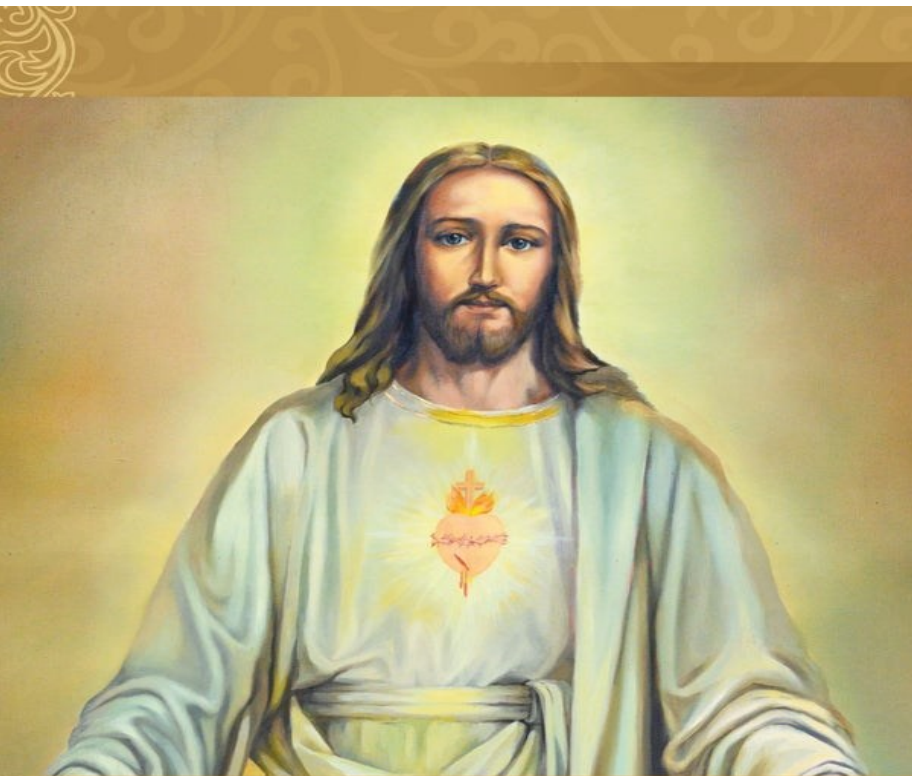
Saint Thomas the Apostle Church
203 W. Washington Street
Corry, PA 16407

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

May 3, 2026



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me." John 14:1

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
Faith Formation Administrator*
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

THANK YOU: I want to thank Kim and Larry Yaple, Herb Combs and all those who volunteered to help them with this year's Reverse Raffle. This is always a fun event with so many things going on at once. The decorations, the dinner, the desserts, the various raffles, and the actual reverse raffle were all so well coordinated. Even if you didn't win, you had a great time. Thanks to all those who participated in the raffle. Your generosity ultimately helps St. Teresa to continue to move forward. Keep your eyes open for next year's date and another night of great fun.

SACRAMENTS: Last week, I began to reflect on the Introductory Rite of our celebration of the Eucharist. I tried to show how this rite takes us from our fast paced lives into a time of prayer in the presence of our loving and merciful God. This Introductory Rite prepares us to hear God speak to us in the next part of our Eucharist, the Liturgy of the Word.

The Liturgy of the Word is a series of readings: usually one from the Old Testament, one from the New Testament and one from the Gospels. (During the Easter season, the Old Testament Reading, the first reading, is taken from the New Testament as well – typically from the Acts of the Apostles). These readings are taken from the Bible which we believe is God's Word. God's Word, not in a literal sense, but in a contextual sense. (That is a much more complicated understanding of Scripture which I won't go into here). This is one moment when God tries to speak to us. One way of preparing ourselves each week to celebrate the Eucharist is to read the readings before Mass or before we come here. These readings are found in our parish bulletin each week. Being familiar with the readings beforehand, allows us to listen to them in such a way that we hear what God is trying to say to us. And that may be a slightly different message for each person, depending on where we are at in their spiritual lives and in their everyday lives.

In between the first and the second reading there is an Old Testament Psalm or Song that is sung. We sing the refrain of that song and the choir or cantor sings the verses. (When there is no music, the lector reads the verses and we recite the refrain). The repetition of that refrain reminds us of some aspect of God's care for us. Sometimes it can be one of those songs that sticks in our heads all week reminding us of how God is still with us.

The Gospel that is chosen for this day is one that matches the theme of the first reading. The second reading typically is not connected to the first reading or the Gospel, but is a continuous reading of the New Testament letter we are listening to. The Gospel is chosen from one of the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John, and tells a story from the life of Jesus.

The priest or deacon will try to reflect on one aspect of the readings in the homily, but that might not be where God is speaking to you. So we need to listen closely to the readings in order to hear what God is speaking to us.

Then we all profess our faith through the recitation of the Creed. The Creed is a statement of the major beliefs of our faith, not all of them, but the major ones. It is a moment where we renew our commitment to not only profess this faith, but also to live it in our daily lives.

The Liturgy of the Word concludes with the Universal Prayers or the General Intercessions. Notice the words used here: Universal and General. These prayers are to be universal or general in scope, not specific prayers for one person's needs or another. For example, we might pray for all those who are sick – that will include every person who is sick, so we don't have to go through a long list of

**Sunday, May 3**

8:00a.m. ☩Pete Sander by Theresa & Bob Marr
(St. Thomas, Corry)

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

Monday, May 4

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

Tuesday, May 5

8:00a.m. Communion Service at St. Thomas, Corry

Wednesday, May 6

8:00a.m. Communion Service at St. Thomas, Corry

Thursday, May 7

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

Friday, May 8

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

Saturday, May 9

4:30p.m. ☩All Deceased Mothers
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Sunday, May 10—*Mother's Day*

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

11:00a.m. ☩All Deceased Mothers
(St. Teresa, Union City)

names and risk leaving out people because we don't know they are sick. These prayers are typically for the church, leaders of government, the sick, the dead, peace, justice, etc.. We all respond to these prayers with a phrase like, "Lord, hear our prayer."

This first part of the Eucharist, the Liturgy of the Word, is a time of prayer, of conversing with God. We mention our needs at the beginning and then we listen to God speak to us in the readings of Scripture, and then we offer our needs to God in the General Intercessions. The first half of the Mass is a dialogue between us and God. We speak our needs to God and God speaks to us in return. God is really present to us in listening to our prayers and needs, and we need to be attentive and listening to what God is saying to us. That dialogue is the heart of our prayer, and hopefully, continues to be part of your dialogue with God throughout the week.

- 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 **May 3rd** burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of **Margaret Porter**.



Rev. Brandon Feikles, Rev. William Sutherland, Rev. Jeffrey Lucas, Rev. William Barron, Rev. Paul Siebert, Very Rev. Marc Stockton, and also please *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*



Our prayers & sympathy to the family and friends of **Margaret Porter** who passed away from St. Thomas Church. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.




MAY 2026

Mental Health Awareness Month

Our faith calls us to care for the whole person – mind, body and spirit. During Mental Health Awareness Month, the Diocese of Erie, in collaboration with Catholic Charities, invites the faithful to grow in awareness and walk alongside those experiencing challenges.

Visit our website to access resources, prayers and tools to support yourself, your loved ones and your parish community. The Church walks with you.



Learn more at www.eriecd.org/mental-health.html



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.

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 soon.



“Question of the Week” - 5th Sunday of Easter

Question for Children: What are some ways that you can act like Jesus would if he were in your situation?

Question for Youth: Jesus is “the way, the truth, the life” and he asks us to do as he does. How do you try to follow Jesus’ way?

Question for Adults: How are the promises of this Gospel passage made real in your own life? How do you experience yourself doing greater works than even Jesus did?

Garden Beds and 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 soon. Annuals and perennials will be purchased for around the church grounds. Thank you for your generosity.



Seeking Volunteers to Spread Mulch at St. Thomas

Please meet in the church parking lot on **Saturday, May 9 at 9:00am** to help lay mulch around the church grounds. Volunteers should bring their own tools (rake, shovel, gloves, etc.). Our local Knights of Columbus will be helping. In case of rain, the date will be moved to May 16.

Has Your Child Drifted Away from the Church?

Sacred Heart Parish, 816 W. 26th St., Erie, invites you to join the “Millions of Monicas,” a prayer movement for mothers whose children have drifted from the Catholic faith. Inspired by Saint Monica and the counsel to “tell God about your child,” women gather to pray in a simple yet powerful way. The first meeting will be held **Thursday, May 7, at 6:00pm**. Women from all parishes are welcome. Learn more about this prayer movement at the national website: millionsofmonicas.com.





LORD,
LET YOUR
mercy
BE ON US.
WE PLACE
OUR *trust*
IN YOU.

PSALM 33

St. Teresa News

Readings for the week of May 3, 2026

Sun.: Acts 6:1-7 ♦ Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 ♦ 1 Peter 2:4-9 ♦ John 14:1-12
 Mon.: Acts 14:5-18 ♦ Psalm 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 ♦ John 14:21-26
 Tues.: Acts 14:19-28 ♦ Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 ♦ John 14:27-31a
 Wed.: Acts 15:1-6 ♦ Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 ♦ John 15:1-8
 Thur.: Acts 15:7-21 ♦ Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 ♦ John 15:9-11
 Fri.: Acts 15:22-31 ♦ Psalm 57:8-9, 10 and 12 ♦ John 15:12-17
 Sat.: Acts 16:1-10 ♦ Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 5 ♦ John 15:18-21
 Next Sun.: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 ♦ Psalm 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16 and 20 ♦
 1 Peter 3:15-18 ♦ John 14:15-21

Quo Vadis Days 2026

Join Us For Our Summer Priesthood Discernment Camp!
 June 28 - July 1, 2026 at St. Mark Seminary



For Catholic Young Men (Those Finishing 8th Grade to 2026 High School Graduates) Seeking to Do God's Will

For More Information:

Fr. Scott Jabo
 Vocation Director
 814-824-1198
 SWJabo@eriercd.org



Cost: \$50
 To Register: WWW.erievocations.org
 Deadline to Register: June 22, 2026



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of May 3rd burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Jerry Adams, Sr. by Diane Adams and family.

Family Perspective

Jesus tells us in the gospel, "Where I am going, you know the way." This means that God is within each of us, in our relationships, and in our homes. The vocation of the Christian family is to live as though their lives are a roadmap to heaven. Guide each other, encourage each other, and love each other, following the way of Christ.



Our prayers & sympathy to the family and friends of **Eileen Anthony** who passed away from St. Teresa Church. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

St. Teresa Reverse Raffle

A big 'THANK YOU' to Kim & Larry Yaple, chairpersons, and their team of volunteers and all those who helped make our Reverse Raffle held on Saturday, April 25th a success again this year. We appreciate everyone's efforts—to those who organized, worked, donated desserts and/or other items, and attended. A reporting about the Reverse Raffle will be in an upcoming bulletin. We could not have done it without everyone's help and support!

Meeting Reminder to Members of the Rosary Altar Society

The St. Teresa Rosary Altar Society will have a meeting on Monday, May 4th at 4:00pm in the St. Teresa Parish Center. We encourage all members to attend. *Hope to see you there!*

St. Teresa Church



Saturday, May 9, 2026

Doors open at 4:30 - Bingo starts at 6:00

Union City Fire Hall
 50 2nd Avenue • Union City, PA

Admission \$30.00

- BYOB
- Food Truck On Site
- Basket Raffle
- Chinese Auction
- Lottery Tree
- 50-50 and more...

For reservations contact Dick or Elaine Hasbrouck
814-450-2766

No one under 18 admitted • St. Teresa Church Lic.#SGC257619

Seeking Raffle Items for Our Cash Bingo Fundraiser

We are in need of new Chinese auction gifts and/or gift cards, or cash donations (to purchase items) for our raffle at the Cash Bingo on May 9th. Donations can be dropped off at St. Teresa Church or placed in the locked mailbox between the church and rectory. For other arrangements, please contact Elaine Hasbrouck. Thank you.

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



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: April 25 & 26, 2026

Total Offertory Income \$6,174.00
 Average Budgeted Offertory Income.....\$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage\$(-1,526.00)

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!

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



Follow Us on Facebook!

Be sure to check out and follow our Facebook page: **St. Thomas the Apostle & its Mission St. Teresa**
 It's a great way to stay connected with the parish!

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



I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. (John 14:6)

Special Second Collection taken up TODAY

GOOD SHEPHERD COLLECTION FOR RETIRED PRIESTS MAY 3, 2026



Our Mission

Help our retired priests today and for the future.

YOUR GIFT HELPS WITH

Long-term care and assisted living needs.
 Housing and basic living expenses.
 Medical and healthcare expenses not covered by insurance...and more!



Please give generously!

ErieRCD.org/Good-Shepherd-Collection-materials.html



Diocese of Erie
 ROMAN CATHOLIC

Religious Education News

Religious Education Program

During the second half of the Religious Education year (January—May) — ALL Classes meet at the 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, May 3—Last Class for 2025/2026 Rel. Ed. Year
 Friday, May 15—Confirmation Mass at St. Francis Xavier Church in McKean with Bishop Persico

Final Class for the 2025-2026 Religious Education Year

Students will meet TODAY, Sunday, May 3rd, for the last class of this year's Religious Education Program. We want to thank everyone for a great year!

THANK YOU to our wonderful Catechists for your time, dedication, and love for our students. Your willingness to share your faith and guide our children is a true gift to our parish. We are so grateful for all you do!

THANK YOU to all our Religious Education Families for your support, commitment, and dedication to growing in faith together. Your involvement and encouragement mean so much and make our program truly special. We are so grateful for each of you!



Pray for Our Confirmation Candidates

Ninth grade students from our parish continue to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation which will be celebrated on Friday evening, May 15 at St. Francis Xavier Church in McKean: **Hunter Donoghue, Emma Geer, Luca Proy, Chase Whitmeyer, and Emily Wilson.**

May the be blessed as they receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Turn Your Everyday Shopping into Support for Our Parish!

We're excited to introduce online gift cards through **RaiseRight!** Simply purchase gift cards for stores you already shop at, and a percentage of each purchase goes directly back to support our church.

It's an easy way to give back while you shop for groceries, gas, dining, and more!

Interested? 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!

We'll be sharing more information (and a quick demo!) soon — so stay tuned! In the meantime, questions? No problem! Give Missy a call at the parish office. We hope you will help support us!



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 at St. George, Erie—2:00pm
- Sunday, August 30 at St. Leo Magnus, Ridgway—2:00pm

Celebrations include Mass with Bishop Persico followed by a light reception. To register for either event or to receive a certificate by mail, complete the online registration at <https://www.eriebcd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html>, contact the parish office, or contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at 814-824-1210. Registrations are being accepted until August 13 for the Erie celebration and August 20 for Ridgway celebration or until September 13 to be mailed.

