



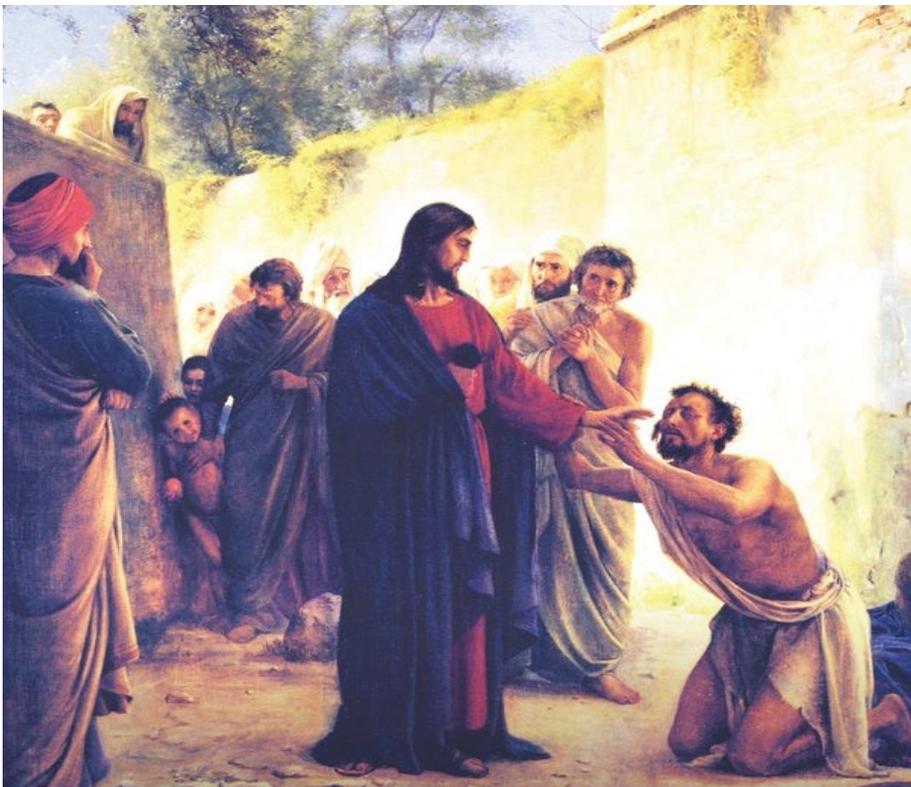
Saint Thomas the Apostle Church
203 W. Washington Street
Corry, PA 16407

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 15, 2026



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out,
he found him and said, "Do you believe in the
Son of Man?" - Jn 9:35

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

HOLY WEEK SIGN UPS AND DECORATING: Sign up sheets are available at both churches for volunteers to have their feet washed on Holy Thursday and for adoration after the Mass of the Lord's Supper until 10:00pm (Holy Thursday will be at St. Teresa).

We will be decorating both churches on Good Friday. At St. Thomas we will decorate after the Good Friday Service around 4:15pm. We will decorate at St. Teresa at 7:00pm on Good Friday. Everyone is invited to help.

SUGGESTION: I know there are people who have difficulty walking and that makes it difficult to come up for communion in the communion procession lines. In other parishes where I have been we kept the very front rows open for people who had difficulty coming forward for communion and the priest, deacon, or eucharistic minister would go there first to give them communion (and those with them) and then proceed to the regular communion stations. It might be a safer way to make sure everyone gets communion who would like to receive it.

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL: We are in the process of taking pledges for our Catholic Services Appeal. So far, we have received **136 pledges** for **\$83,450**. Pledge envelopes are available in the pews.

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.

PARISH COUNCIL: I am still looking for people to be part of Parish Council from both Churches. I am looking for people who would be willing to work with me to move our Parish forward. I am looking for people who are willing to set some vision and goals for the parish. I am also looking for a sub committee of Parish Council that would consist of people who would be willing to help implement that vision and the specific projects connected to it. If you think you might be interested in either of these ministries, please contact me and we can discuss how you might be a part of Parish Council or the sub committee of Council.

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

**Sunday, March 15**

8:00a.m. †Janet Mitchell by Don Mitchell
(St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. †Steven Paul Mongera by Steve & Cheryl Mongera
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, March 16

8:00a.m. †Barb Krol by Joe & Sheila Ledford and family
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, March 17

8:00a.m. †Pete Sander by Marie & Dave Mitchell
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, March 18

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

Thursday, March 19

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

Friday, March 20

8:00a.m. †Ed Weaver, Sr. by Dave & Vickie Stull
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Saturday, March 21

4:30p.m. †Cragg & Sullivan Families by Family
(St. Thomas, Corry)

Sunday, March 22

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

11:00a.m. †Diana Hanlin Strefeler by her daughter,
Becky Boleratz (St. Teresa, Union City)

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: An interesting way to look at the Sacrament of Reconciliation is found when we think about the Eucharist we celebrate each week. The Eucharist we celebrate each week is where we gather as a people to remember the mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus and how that mystery unites us together as one family around a common table or altar. The Eucharist is something we do together to give praise and thanks to God. We are united in our belief and in our worship of God. The mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus makes us one body, the Body of Christ. The Eucharist is our way of being united as a community of faith, united as one body in Christ. The Eucharist is our community as it should be, our community at its best.

If we see our sin as something that breaks community, breaks relationships, divides people, alienates people, then we see the need for the Sacrament of Reconciliation as a way to heal the brokenness and heal the divisions that our sin has caused. In order for us to be the Body of Christ we need to be healed and reconciled with one another in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

- Fr. Tom

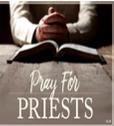
St. Thomas News



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 March 15th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Pete Sander by Theresa & Bob Marr.



Rev. Thomas Aleksa, Most Rev. Lawrence Persico, Rev. Daniel Hoffman, Rev. Howard King, Rev. Benjamin Dagher, and also please *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*

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.

St. Patrick

Pray for us!



Christ with me,
 Christ before me,
 Christ behind me,
 Christ in me.



St. Patrick's Breastplate

**May your troubles be less and your blessings be more.
 And nothing but happiness come through your door.**



Knights of Columbus Food Drive Collection

The Knights of Columbus, Council #425 is currently holding a food drive to benefit the Corry Food Pantry. Parishioners are asked to please donate non-perishable food items. Place donations in the marked bins at the entrances of St. Thomas Church. Thank you!



DeColores Cursillistas!

Cursillo 'veterans' - in anticipation of the upcoming Men's Cursillo #257 (March 20-22) and Women's Cursillo #266 (April 17-19), a Palanca gathering will be held at **St. Thomas in the multipurpose room at 6:00pm on Monday, March 16.** Please make every effort to attend. *DeColores!*



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 work with students. For more information, contact Kristen Behm at kristen.b.lifecare@gmail.com or call 814-663-9318.



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" - Fourth Sunday of Lent

Question for Children: What are the things that Jesus wants you to do as his friend?

Question for Youth: Jesus helped a blind man see—and he helps each of us see the world differently. How do you see differently because you believe?

Question for Adults: Share how you, as a child of the light, in the power of Christ, produce goodness, justice, and truth for the world. What specific actions do you take to do this?

PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

St. Thomas Altar Rosary Society Meeting

Ladies of the Altar Rosary will meet on Wed., March 18 at 6:00pm in the multipurpose room at St. Thomas. All members are encouraged to attend our first meeting of 2026. Join us.



Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord."
 - Proverbs 19:17



Our Lenten Journey
 Week four: giving

Seeking Volunteers from Our Parish

We are asking parishioners to sign up for the liturgies of Holy Week—as ministers at Mass, to have your foot washed, or to commit to an adoration time. Please see sign up sheets in both churches. Thank you.

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 15, 2026

Sun.: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a ♦ Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 ♦
 Ephesians 5:8-14 ♦ John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
 Mon.: Isaiah 65:17-21 ♦ Psalm 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b ♦ John 4:43-54
 Tues.: Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12 ♦ Psalm 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 ♦ John 5:1-16
 Wed.: Isaiah 49:8-15 ♦ Psalm 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 ♦ John 5:17-30
 Thur.: 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 ♦ Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 ♦
 Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22 ♦ Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Luke 2:41-51a
 Fri.: Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22 ♦ Psalm 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23 ♦
 John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
 Sat.: Jeremiah 11:18-20 ♦ Psalm 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 ♦ John 7:40-53
 Next Sun.: Ezekiel 37:12-14 ♦ Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 ♦ Romans 8:8-11 ♦
 John 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart."
 (1 Samuel 16:7)

Lenten Reflection Worship Music Concert in Warren

TODAY—Sunday, March 15, St. Joseph Parish, 600 Pennsylvania Ave W., Warren, will host an afternoon of Lenten Worship Music by Anna Lehnortt, Joseph Thompson and Nathaniel Licht, of Titusville. Music begins at 3:30pm. The concert is free but a good will offering will be taken. We hope you join us.

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**.



The **SANCTUARY CANDLE** at St. Teresa Church for the week of **March 15th** burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of **Bob Adams by Melody Adams and family**.

Family Perspective

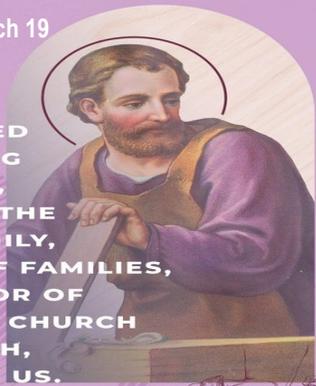
Failure to forgive blinds us to the goodness in others. Lent offers a chance to cleanse our blind spots in the pool of forgiveness. As Jesus says in today's gospel: "Go, wash, and see."

Catholic Charities of Erie Bingo Night

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie will host a Bingo Night on **Friday, April 10**, at the JPTF Events Center, 2319 W. 38th St., Erie. Doors open at 5:30pm, with bingo beginning at 7:00pm. Event features designer purses, electronics and cash prizes, with proceeds benefiting Catholic Charities. Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door. Guests are welcome to bring their own beverages and snacks. For information, contact Crystal Dunkerton at 814-824-1260/cdunkerton@ccincerie.org.

Feast of St. Joseph—March 19

“
 RENOWNED
 OFFSPRING
 OF DAVID,
 HEAD OF THE
 HOLY FAMILY,
 PILLAR OF FAMILIES,
 PROTECTOR OF
 THE HOLY CHURCH
 ST. JOSEPH,
 PRAY FOR US.”



FOSTER-FATHER

- ST. JOSEPH

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



2026

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 Umama with her message of Hope

ATTENDANCE: Live in-person, Live-streamed to a satellite parish or your home



JEFF JOAQUIN



PAULA UMAMA

MORE INFO

www.138women.com or 814-455-7364

ALL FAITHS WELCOME!



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: March 7 & 8, 2026

Total Offertory Income \$7,292.00
 Average Budgeted Offertory Income \$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage.....\$(-408.00)

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.



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

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.



FATHER PETE'S MARIA HOUSE PROJECT

BINGO BASH

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026

DOORS OPEN AT 1 PM
BINGO STARTS AT 2 PM

JPTF Events Center
 2319 W. 38th St. Erie, PA 16506

\$30 Online Pre-Sale
\$35 at the door
 (Includes all regular games and Jackpot)

Basket Raffle, 50/50, Instants, & More!
BYO Drinks and Food
WWW.MARIAHOUSEPROJECT.ORG

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. 15—No Classes
- Saturday, Mar. 21—First Communion at St. Thomas Church
- Sunday, Mar. 22—No Classes / First Communion at St. Teresa
- Sunday, Mar. 29—Classes for students
- Sunday, April 5—No Classes / Happy Easter—*Jesus is Risen!*

Praying for Students Receiving Sacraments from Our Parish

Please continue to pray for the young people of our parish who are preparing or have celebrated sacraments this year. *May they grow in faith and be strengthened by the graces received in the sacraments as they continue on their faith journey.*



Second Graders & the Sacrament of Reconciliation

We wish to congratulate the following students who completed preparation to receive God's pardon and peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation: **Andy Rodriguez and Nora Williams.**



First Holy Communion at Our Parish

We celebrate with our parish third grade students and their families as they receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion either on Saturday, March 21 at St. Thomas or Sunday, March 22 at St. Teresa: **Maelyn Moss, Anthony Proy, Emmalyn Sill, Alex Soety, and Phillip Williams.**



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.**

PRAY FAST GIVE

The Light is On

Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Blessed Sacrament | St. George |
| Holy Cross, Fairview | St. John the Baptist |
| Our Lady of Peace | St. Joseph/Bread of Life |
| Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro | Community |
| St. Boniface | St. Jude the Apostle |
| St. Francis Xavier, McKean | St. Julia |
| | St. Peter Cathedral |



Wednesday, March 25, 2026
 5:00-7:00 p.m.