



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

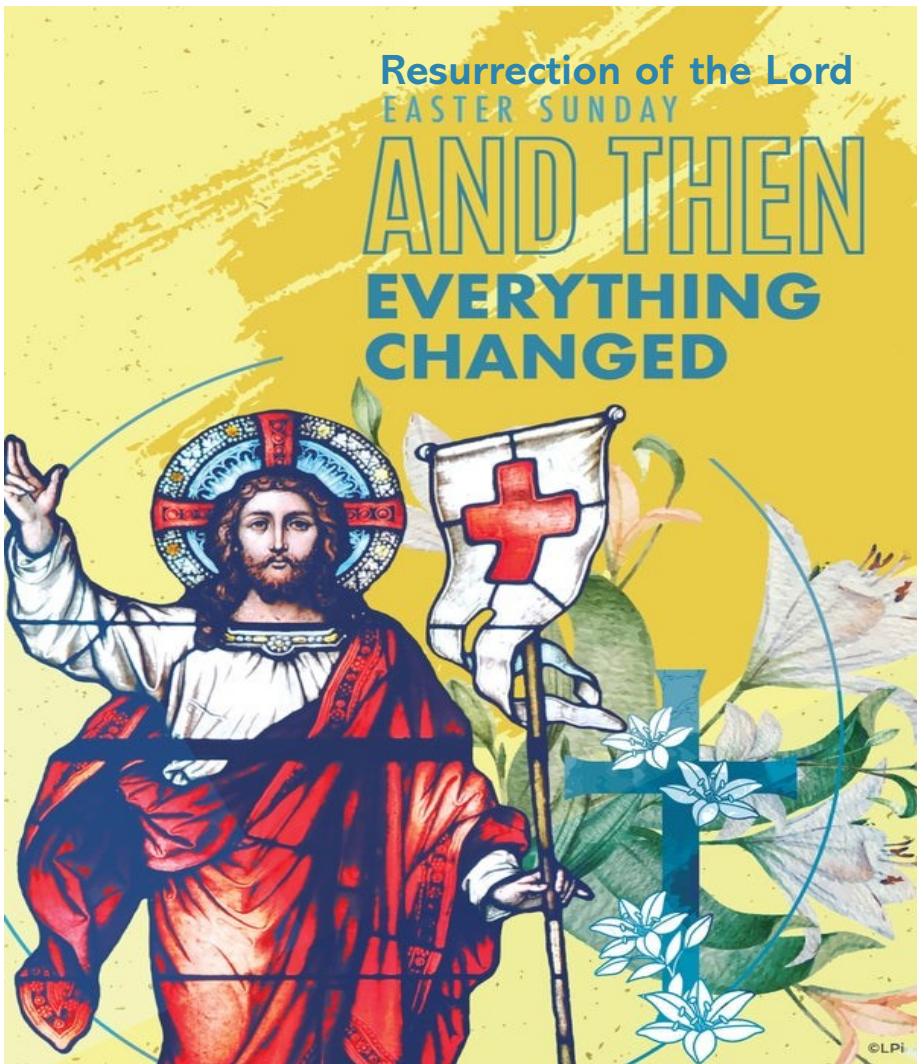
THE PARISH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE AND ITS MISSION ST. TERESA OF AVILA



Saint Teresa of Avila Church
9 Third Avenue
Union City, PA 16438



April 5, 2026



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

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.

Message from the Pastor

EASTER MESSAGE: Easter Sunday, the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA gives us an interesting reflection for this Easter Sunday in her book, “The Word For Every Season.” Sister Dianne begins by stating how skeptics want proof for everything and many people demand that proof from people who claim to have any kind of religious belief. Everything today has to be proven. How do we prove that Jesus rose from the dead? The readings for today provide us with three places to look for proof. Sister Dianne states, “the first evidence is the fact that the tomb was empty. But this is questionable evidence, because the empty tomb simply means that the body of Jesus was gone, not that he was risen. The second evidence is the resurrection appearances of Jesus. This is also rather weak evidence, because the authenticity of mystical experiences is very difficult to prove. Though it is questionable as proof, at least an empty tomb is concrete. While it may be even weaker evidence, a personal experience is real to the one experiencing it, but only to that one.

The third place to look for evidence of the resurrection is the least concrete, but probably the most reliable. It is found in the quality of the lives of those who live out their faith in the resurrection of Jesus. We see this clearly in the transformation of Peter, who went from misunderstanding the scriptures to interpreting them through the lens of the resurrection. We see it also in Paul, who had set out to put Christians to death, only to become the champion of ‘dying and rising with Christ.’

We see what happened in the lives of countless women and men today who are examples of extraordinary integrity in the midst of deceit, examples of dedicated service in a world of selfishness, of patience and understanding in the face of violence, and of forgiveness and reconciliation where there has been personal violation. Such lives are evidence that Jesus has risen from the dead and is alive in the world today.

Today is a day to remember those who have given us the example of lives lived out in such a way that they give real and credible evidence to the resurrection of Jesus. We need to be grateful for their example and pray for the strength to follow that example in our own lives. In a world of selfishness, violence, deceit and violation, how are we giving witness to the reality of service, patience, understanding, integrity, forgiveness and reconciliation? May our witness to those values be what brings the new life of hope to all those we encounter this day and every day. May our living out of those values be what gives credible evidence for others to believe in the resurrection of Jesus.

SACRAMENTS: I have been reflecting on various sacraments, baptism and reconciliation so far, and would like to continue with some reflections on the Eucharist. Allow me to begin with some reflections on the various parts of the Mass.

First of all, we have made a number of changes in our celebration of the Eucharist (Mass), but not matter what changes we make in words and postures, we never change the essential elements of the Eucharist. The Eucharist we celebrate now, and the Eucharist we celebrate a year from now will still be one in which we memorialize the events of the Last Supper (Jesus changing bread and wine into his own body and blood), Good Friday (Jesus dying on the cross to forgive our sins and save us) and Easter Sunday (Jesus rising from the dead to give us the possibility of eternal life). That will never change! We might change some words or gestures, but the heart of the Eucharist and the heart of our faith will never change.

**Sunday, April 5—Resurrection of the Lord / Easter Sunday**

8:00a.m. ☩ Deceased Parishioners and Loved Ones
(St. Thomas, Corry)

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

Monday, April 6

8:00a.m. ☩ Amy Outram by Judy Flynn
(St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, April 7

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

Wednesday, April 8

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

Thursday, April 9

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

Friday, April 10

8:00a.m. ☩ Ronald Tomcho by Shinko and Fifer Families
(St. Teresa, Union City)

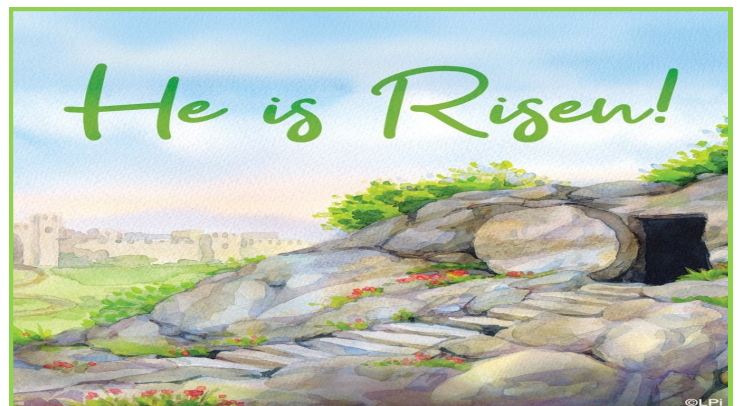
Saturday, April 11

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

Sunday, April 12—Divine Mercy Sunday / 2nd Sunday of Easter

8:00a.m. ☩ Louis & Charlotte Sproveri by Chris & Denny
Anderson (St. Thomas, Corry)

11:00a.m. ☩ Harold O’Connor by Steve & Cheryl Mongera
(St. Teresa, Union City)



With that said, what is it that we come here to do in our celebration of the Eucharist? Is it a spectator sport where we simply sit and watch? Is it a social event where we spend an hour conversing with our friends and neighbors? Is it a job where we put in our time in order to get some reward or payment? What is it that we come here to do?

First and foremost, we come here to pray. Prayer is what we gather together to do in our celebration of the Eucharist. And that means we do something very specific and very sacred – it is not entertainment, it is not just social (although there is a communal dimension to it), it is not just an obligation. (Next week I will expand on this notion of communal prayer).

- 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.

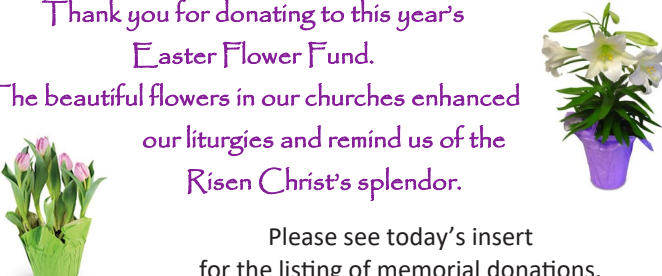


The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of April 5th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of recently deceased members of the parish.



Rev. Michael Scanga, Rev. Mark Nowak, Rev. Cory Pius, Rev. Christopher Beran, Rev. Walter Packard, Rev. Msgr. John Herbein, and also please *Pray for All Priests and Deacons in our diocese.*

Thank you for donating to this year's Easter Flower Fund. The beautiful flowers in our churches enhanced our liturgies and remind us of the Risen Christ's splendor.



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



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.




Follow Us on Facebook!
Be sure to check out and follow our updated, combined Facebook page: **St. Thomas the Apostle & its Mission St. Teresa**
It's a great way to stay connected with parish news, events, and announcements!



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!"

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" - Easter Sunday


Question for Children: When have you seen someone do a good deed for someone else?

Question for Youth: Jesus' closest friends had trouble believing that the tomb was empty. Resurrection is surprising. What does Jesus' resurrection mean in your life?

Question for Adults: Name one way or time when you experience the presence of the Risen Christ? Is it at meals? With those whom you love? At other times?

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.



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 = \$69,090
Paid to date = \$42,085
Amount Pledged at **St. Teresa** to date = \$33,475
Paid to date = \$27,300
Number of Families who made a pledge = 163




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

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 interested contact Kristen Behm, kristen.b.lifecare@gmail.com or call 814-663-9318. See the flyer at the main entrance to the church.

Cursillo Retreat for 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. See www.ericursillo.org for more information. **Women's Cursillo #266 is April 17-19, at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Harborcreek.**



DeColores Cursillistas!

In anticipation of the upcoming 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, April 13.** Please join us. *DeColores!*

St. Teresa News

Readings for the week of April 5, 2026

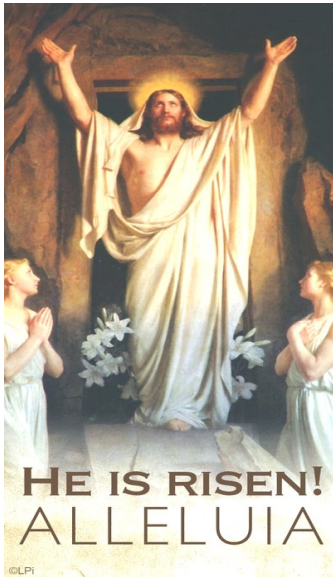
Sun. / Easter: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 ♦ Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 ♦
 Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 ♦ John 20:1-9 or
 Matthew 28:1-10 or Luke 24:13-35
 Mon.: Acts 2:14, 22-33 ♦ Psalm 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 ♦ Mattew 28:8-15
 Tues.: Acts 2:36-41 ♦ Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22 ♦ John 20:11-18
 Wed.: Acts 3:1-10 ♦ Psalm 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 ♦ Luke 24:13-35
 Thur.: Acts 3:11-26 ♦ Psalm 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 2:42-47 ♦ Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 ♦
 1 Peter 1:3-9 ♦ John 20:19-31



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of April 5th burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Jerry Adams, Jr. by Diana Adams and family.

Family Perspective

Today's gospel recounts how several people arrived to find the tomb where Jesus was buried now empty. What does an empty tomb signify for your family? Is it a symbol of failure, loss, and defeat, or one of victory, life, and resurrection? Scripture tells us that Jesus "had to rise from the dead." Likewise, families must rise above disappointments and embody the spirit of Easter all year long.



HE IS RISEN!
 ALLELUIA

GO OUT
 AND
 SPREAD
 THE
 GOOD
 NEWS
 CHRIST
 IS RISEN!

**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 Revrend Lawrence T. Persico, J.C.L., Bishop of Erie



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 Umara with her message of Hope

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



JEFF JOAQUIN



PAULA UMARA

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



Divine Mercy Encounter (DME) Retreat for Teen and Young Adults

Do you want a chance to deepen your faith, come to DME Retreat April 24th through the 26th. Get a chance to grow in your faith and grow closer to Jesus. Go to www.divinemercyencounter.com for information and registration. *Jesus is waiting for you!*

DME is a three day retreat program with each day having a different focus. The weekend includes talks, exposure to different types of prayer, Mass, community, and much more. DME is open to all but typically is geared for high school & college students or young adults.

SEEK

"Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said."

MATTHEW 28:5B-6

HELP

WANTED

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.

Financial Stewardship Report from Palm Sunday (March 28/29)

The Financial Stewardship Report for this past weekend of March 28 & 29 will be published in an upcoming bulletin. Today's bulletin had to be submitted to our publisher early due to the Easter holiday. Thank you to all who regularly use your church offertory envelopes and/or give to the parish collection. We appreciate it and are grateful for your support.

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.

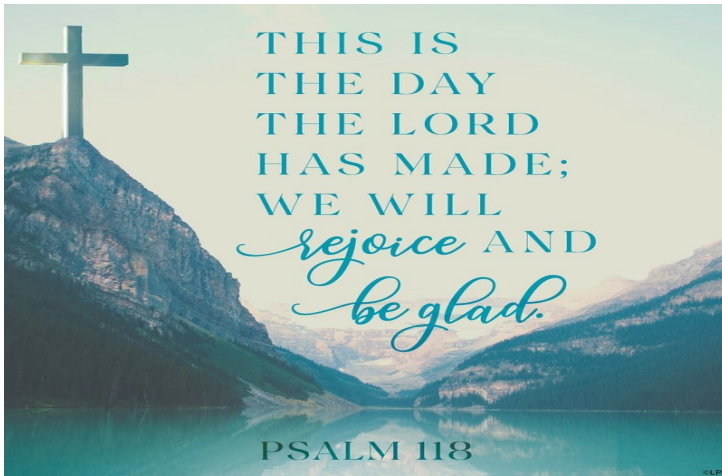


Please know that you can now give all your donations online by visiting our parish website at www.StThomastheApostle.Church and click 'Donate Online'.

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.



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

**Diocese of Erie
2026 Catholic Services Appeal**

**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.

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, April 5—No Classes / **Happy Easter—Jesus is Risen!**
- Sunday, April 12—Classes for students
- Sunday, April 19—Classes for students
- Sunday, April 26—Classes for students
- Sunday, May 3—Last Class for 2025/2026 Rel. Ed. Year



First Holy Communion at Our Parish

We celebrate with our parish third grade students and their families as they received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion either on Saturday, March 21 at St. Thomas or Sunday, March 22 at St. Teresa. *May they continue to grow in their faith and have a love for Jesus in the Eucharist.*



Anthony Proy and Alex Soety



Maelyn Moss, Philip Williams, and Emmalyn Sill

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. We look forward to sharing this beautiful celebration with you in August 2026. More details and registration forthcoming.



Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Pledge to Heal: During National Child Abuse Prevention Month, The Diocese of Erie affirms our continued commitment to report allegations of sexual misconduct to law enforcement and to support survivor-victims in their healing journey. The diocese provides counseling assistance for those who have been abused by a member of the clergy. For more information on counseling available to survivor-victims, please contact Dr. Gerard Tobin, our Victim Assistance Coordinator at 814-451-1521. *The diocese encourages anyone who has experienced abuse or misconduct by a member of the clergy or any employee or volunteer of the church to contact their local law enforcement. To report abuse to the independent investigators retained by the diocese, email ErieRCD@KLGates.com. To report abuse directly to the diocese, call 814-451-1543.*