

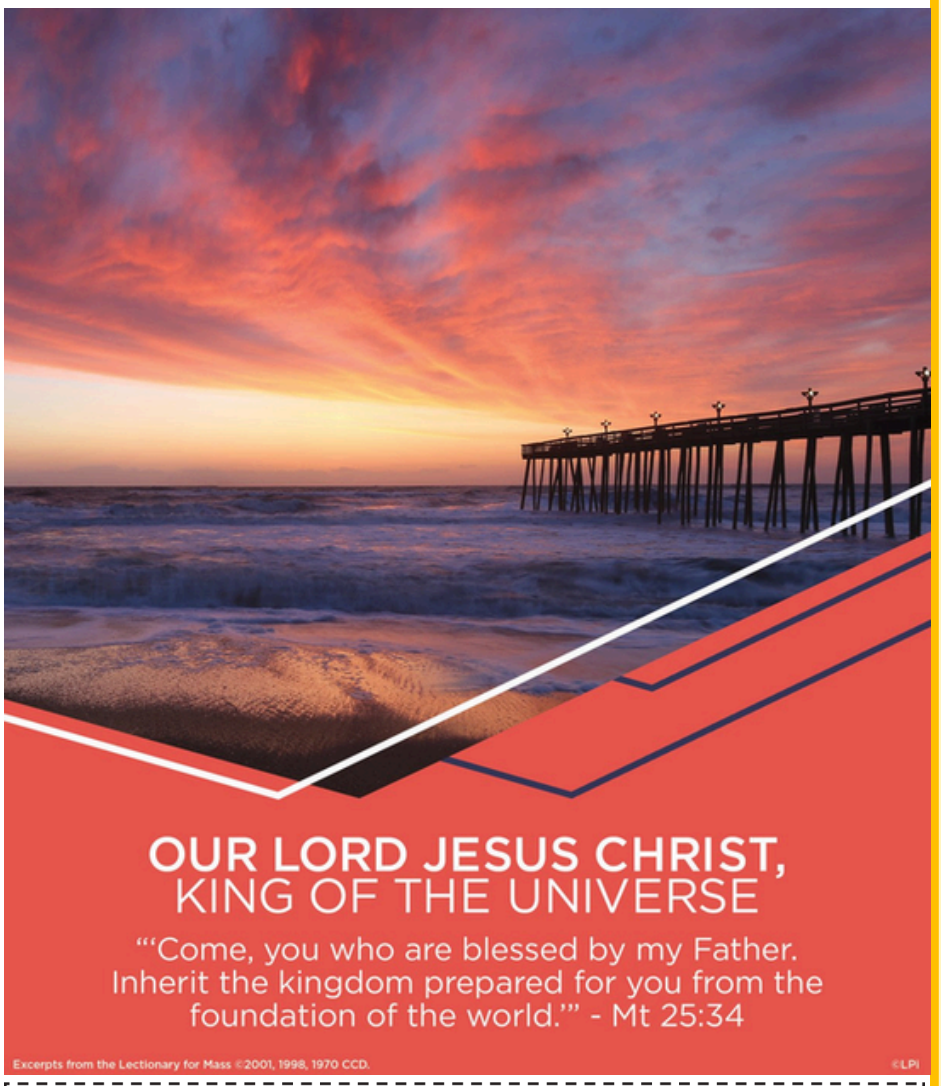
THE PARISH OF
ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
AND ITS MISSION
ST. TERESA OF AVILA



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

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

November 22, 2026



NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY & ZIP _____

PHONE _____

☐ St. Thomas the Apostle ☐ St. Teresa of Avila

Please drop into the Offertory Basket or mail to the 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

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

THE IGNATIAN EXAMEN: Fr. George Aschenbrenner developed this Ignatian Examen into a six-step form of prayer that helps us to see how God is speaking to us through our everyday lives. Here are those six steps rather briefly:

1. *Pray for the light*: We begin by praying for God to help us see how the Holy Spirit is working in our lives. We pray that the Holy Spirit will illuminate or make clear to us what God wants us to see. "Lord, help me understand what you want me to know in the confusion of my life, in the busyness of my life."

2. *Review the Day in Thanksgiving*: Note how different this is from just looking for your sins. What do I need to be thankful for in the things that have been given to me in the past 24 hours: gifts, work, relationships, food, challenges. Walk through your day with God thanking God for what has been given to you.

3. *Review the feelings that surface as you walk through your day*: Those feelings can be positive and negative and can help us see what is happening in our lives. Allow those feelings to surface: delight, boredom, fear, anticipation, resentment, anger, peace, impatience, desire, hope, regret, shame, uncertainty, compassion, disgust, gratitude, pride, rage, doubt, confidence, admiration – whatever was there.

4. *Choose one of those feelings (positive or negative) and pray from it*: Which feeling caught your attention, or which feeling is strongest, and form a prayer of praise, petition, contrition, cry for help or healing, whatever. This feeling is a sign that something important is going on and to pay attention to what God is telling you through it.

5. *Look toward tomorrow*: Call to mind what you need to do tomorrow and notice the feelings that surface as you walk through your day: fear, delight, temptation to procrastinate, eager planning, weakness? Turn that feeling or feelings into prayer for what you need in the day ahead.

I GIVE CATHOLIC - EARLY GIVING: The early giving phase of "I Give Catholic" has begun. There are envelopes in the pews and at the entrances. You can also use your own envelope, just clearly mark what your gift is for. On our parish website is a link to the online giving site and the various projects that we are funding with this money. Two of the big projects that we are funding are the boilers at St. Thomas and the roof at St. Teresa Parish Center. Thanks to all those who have been so generous in contributing to these two big projects.

UPCOMING EVENTS

THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS AT ST. TERESA: We will be collecting food for 30 Thanksgiving Food Baskets to support families in Union City. See the details of what is needed in the bulletin. Boxes are at the Church entrances to place your donations.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE BY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN CORRY: The Knights of Columbus are collecting non-perishable food items to help support the Food Pantry in Corry for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Boxes are at the Church entrances to place your donations.

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS: Mass will be on **Thursday, November 26, at 9:00am at St. Teresa**. All are welcome to attend.



Sunday, November 22
8:00a.m. ✝ Cragg and Sullivan Families by family (St. Thomas, Corry)
11:00a.m. People of the Parish (St. Teresa, Union City)

Monday, November 23
8:00a.m. ✝ Amy Basso by Matt & Peppy Pollock (St. Teresa, Union City)

Tuesday, November 24
8:00a.m. ✝ Steve Mennen by Dave & Patti Brown (St. Thomas, Corry)

Wednesday, November 25
8:00a.m. ✝ Carol Groner by Joe & Janet Jawdy (St. Thomas, Corry)

Thursday, November 26 - *Thanksgiving Day*
9:00a.m. ✝ Andy Bengel by Laura Bengel and family (St. Teresa, Union City)

Friday, November 27
No Mass or Services today at both St. Thomas & St. Teresa.

Saturday, November 28
4:30p.m. People of the Parish (St. Thomas, Corry)

Sunday, November 29 - *First Sunday of Advent*
8:00a.m. ✝ Louis & Charlotte Sproveri by Chris & Denny Anderson (St. Thomas, Corry)
11:00a.m. ✝ Eileen Anthony by David & Mary Louise Capan (St. Teresa, Union City)

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE: Our Advent Penance Service will be **Sunday, December 6, at 1:30pm at St. Teresa Church**. There will be four priests available to hear confession during the Penance Service.

I GIVE CATHOLIC: The annual I Give Catholic online giving campaign will be held on **December 1**. Advanced Giving envelopes will be available as well. Watch the bulletin and the website for more information.

HOLY DAY MASSES FOR THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY: Masses will be **Tuesday, December 8, at 8:00am at St. Thomas in Corry and at 7:00pm at St. Teresa in Union City.**

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS AT BOTH CHURCHES: We will decorate for Christmas at **St. Teresa on Sunday, December 20, after the 11:00 Mass**, and at **St. Thomas on Monday, December 21, at 9:30am**. All are welcome to come and help.

CHRISTMAS MASSES: **Thursday, December 24, Mass will be at 4:30pm at St. Thomas and at 7:00pm at St. Teresa**. On **December 25, Mass will be at 10:00 at St. Thomas in Corry**.

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES: **Mass on New Year's Eve will be at 6:00PM at St. Teresa (Thursday, Dec. 31)** and **Mass on New Year's Day will be at 9:00AM at St. Thomas (Friday, Jan. 1**).

- 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.

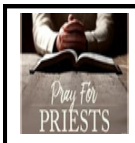
Persevere in Prayer

"Question of the Week" - Solemnity of Christ the King

Question for Children: Who are the people most in need of help who live around you, and how can you help them?

Question for Youth: What can you do (alone, with friends, or with your family) to help those who are without food, shelter, or have other needs? When have you seen Jesus in the poor?

Question for Adults: As you grapple with this very strong, direct and demanding Gospel passage, name the people for whom you have cared personally – or if there are none, those for whom you will offer care in the coming weeks.



Rev. Msgr. Joseph Riccardo, Rev. Msgr. David Rubino, Rev. Marc Solomon, Rev. T. Shane Mathew, Rev. John Beal, Very Rev. Scott Jabo, VF, and also Pray for All Priests and Deacons of our diocese.

Pastry Sale by St. Thomas Altar Rosary Society



The ladies of the Altar Rosary will again sell pastries at Masses this weekend Nov. 21/22. Costs is $18 for Kolachi (Walnut and Apricot) and $13 for Baklava. Monies raised by the Altar Rosary are used for purchases to enhance the altar and our church. Your support is always appreciated. Thank you.

Knights of Columbus Food Drive Collection



Please bring in non-perishable food items and place them in the baskets/bins by the doors at St. Thomas Church. Your donation goes to support the Corry Food Pantry. Thanks!

Give the Gift of a Strong Marriage

Planning a wedding in 2027? Celebrate the season of love and hope by giving yourselves—or a couple you cherish—the gift of Engagement Encounter. The next retreat weekend is scheduled for **February 5-7, 2027 at St. Mark Catholic Center, Erie**.
This weekend retreat fulfills diocesan marriage prep requirements and welcomes Catholic and interfaith couples.
Call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 or email: familylife@erieRCD.org.
Make this Christmas truly meaningful—invest in a love that lasts.



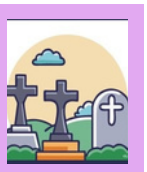


Saturday Morning Rosary: All are invited to join us on Saturday mornings at Saint Thomas Church at 9:00am as we pray The Rosary together in community.



The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Thomas Church for the week of November 22nd burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Carol Groner by George Groner.

Cemetery Gravestone Cleaning Project



We offer gravestone cleaning on a limited scale at ST. THOMAS & ST. ELIZABETH CEMETERIES ONLY. Think about this is a gift for your loved one or a family member. The process will help remove dirt, lichen, and lighten up some discolorations/stains on gravestones.
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.

Winterizing Our Cemeteries

Parishioners are reminded to remove all potted urns/plants (live or artificial) and other items from graves at our cemeteries for the winter. These items should be removed now before snow arrives. You are permitted holiday wreaths and/or seasonal decorations on graves for the Christmas holiday. Thank you for helping maintain the beauty and peacefullness of our parish cemeteries.

The Lord sits as King for ever,
The Lord will bless his people with peace.
Psalm 29 (28):10-11



Join Us for Choir Practice at St. Thomas

We will meet for choir rehearsals to prepare for the Advent and Christmas season on **Mondays from 6:00pm-7:30pm in St. Thomas Church**, now until Dec. 21. All who like to sing are invited to join us. Questions: contact Gary or Joan.

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 Lawence T. Persico, J.C.L., Bishop of Erie

St. Teresa News

Family Perspective

Jesus assures us that whatever we do for others, we do for him. What have you done for someone, in your family or beyond, that Jesus would recognize as an act of love offered to him?

Readings for the week of November 22, 2026

Sun.: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17 | Psalm 23:1-2a, 2b-3, 5, 6 | 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28 | Matthew 25:31-46
Mon.: Revelation 14:1-3, 4b-5 | Psalm 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 | Luke 21:1-4
Tues.: Revelation 14:14-19 | Psalm 96:10, 11-12, 13 | Luke 21:5-11
Wed.: Revelation 15:1-4 | Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 7-8, 9 | Luke 21:12-19
Thur.: Revelation 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a | Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 | Luke 21:20-28
Fri.: Revelation 20:1-4, 11-21:2 | Psalm 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a | Luke 21:29-33
Sat.: Revelation 22:1-7 | Psalm 95:1-2, 3-5, 6-7ab | Luke 21:34-36
Next Sun.: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 | Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 | 1 Corinthians1:3-9 | Mark 13:33-37

Thank You from the St. Teresa Rosary Altar Society

A BIG thank you to all who donated to Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Box. We filled 24 boxes and had enough cash donations to cover the shipping. We will be starting earlier next year with the goal of filling at least 50 boxes or more. Thank you to all who helped to make Christmas brighter for a child. We are grateful for your generosity.

Tour Erie's Only Monastery at Mount Saint Benedict!

Come for a guided monastery tour at 4:00pm on Saturday, Dec. 12. You may also stay for supper with the sisters in the monastery dining room, and the 7:00pm Advent Vigil in the chapel. Reservations are needed for the tour and dinner, call Michelle at 814-899-0614 extension 2507. The monastery address is 6101 East Lake Road in Erie. The monastery gift shop, *Chapter 57*, will also be open that day. Discover meaningful handmade gifts, shop peacefully, and support the outreach of the Benedictine Sisters at *Chapter 57 Gift Shop*.

THY KINGDOM COME!





The SANCTUARY CANDLE at St. Teresa Church for the week of November 22nd burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Bob Adams by Melody Adams and family.

The Season of Advent Begins Next Weekend

Advent is a season filled with anticipation. As we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas. It is also a season of waiting and hoping for His return at the end of time. This advent, look for ways that Jesus will come into your life every day, because even as we wait He is still present to us.

Starting Your Holiday Shopping? Don't Forget RaiseRight!

Would you like to support our parish as you shop? You can 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 any questions.

WELCOME

If you are new to our parish, we extend a warm welcome and hope you will find 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 returing it in the Offertory Colleciton or to 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.

SACRAMNET 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 celebrated 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 notify the Parish of changes to your mailing address, phone numbers, or email. Thank you.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: Nov. 14 & 15, 2026

Total Offertory Income $7,045.00
Average Budgeted Offertory Income.....$7,700.00
Offertory Shortage.....$(-655.00)

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 the specific cemetery: St. Thomas Cemetery, St. Elizabeth Cemetery, or St. Teresa Cemetery. Thank you.

DONATE ONLINE

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

You may also give by simply scanning the QR Code here:
THANK YOU for supporting our parish.

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 and ask that you patronize their businesses.

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 - $123,000 | St. Teresa - $94,000

Diocese of Erie 2026 Catholic Services Appeal

Amount Pledged at St. Thomas to date = $78,952
Paid to date = $75,907

Amount Pledged at St. Teresa to date = $42,980
Paid to date = $41,586

Number of Families who made a pledge is 216

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



Thanksgiving Day Mass
All are invited to join us in giving thanks to God for His many blessings at 9:00am Mass on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26th, at St. Teresa Church, Union City. *We hope you will join us.*

Parish Office Closed on Thanksgiving
Please be reminded the our parish office will be closed on Thursday this week for the holiday.

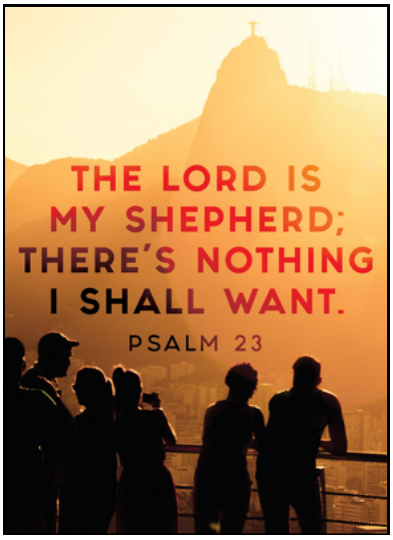
Early Bulletin Deadlines
The holidays are fast approaching and with it comes early bulletin deadlines. They are as follows:
For the Nov. 29 Bulletin - articles due by Nov. 18
For the Dec. 6 Bulletin - articles due by Nov. 28
For the Dec. 13 Bulletin - articles due by Dec. 3
For the Dec. 20 Bulletin - articles due by Dec. 10
For the Dec. 27 Bulletin - articles due by Dec. 16
Please be sure to have any items for the bulletin to the parish office well in advance to ensure publication. You may email the information to: *secretary@stparish.org* or drop it off in the parish office. Thank you.

Faith Formation & Religious Education News

We are excited to share the teaching of the Catholic faith in our Religious Education Program

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Class Schedule
Classes meet from 9:30am - 10:45am at St. Teresa Parish Center in Union City for ALL students (Sept. - Dec.).
November 22 - Class / Safe Environment Training
November 29 - NO Class / Thanksgiving break
December 6 - Class / Advent Student Confessions
December 13 - Class
December 20 - Class / Advent Group Activity
December 27 - NO Class / Christmas break



Local Needs Collection
Thank you to all who generously donated to the Local Needs Collection taken up last weekend. If you were not prepared to give and wish to do so, please use the envelope in your offertory packet or mark another envelope "Local Needs Collection" and place it in the basket at Mass. Be reminded that 100% of your gift stays in the Diocese of Erie to bring hope to our neighbors in need. Thank you again for giving.

Parish Calendars: 2027 Calendars are available in our churches near the entrances. We are grateful to the local funeral homes who sponsored our calendars so they can be enjoyed by parishioners. Please take only one per family, for now, until everyone who would like one has a chance to get one. Thank you.

Please support St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Teresa of Avila - THANK YOU!

#iGIVECATHOLIC ON GIVING TUESDAY

December 1, 2026

erie.igivecatholic.org

Advanced Giving Dates: November 16 - 30

Please consider a gift to #iGiveCatholic: You can support St. Thomas and St. Teresa with an offline gift of check or cash by placing your gift in the #iGiveCatholic envelope found in the pews at both our churches. Please be sure to designate which project/church you wish your gift to be applied.

St. Thomas - funds to help offset the cost of new boilers
St. Teresa - funds to pay for the new parish center roof

You may give online at: **erie.igivecatholic.org** (search for St. Thomas)

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish!