



St. Thomas the Apostle
203 W. Washington St.
Corry, PA 16407

Saint Thomas & Teresa Parishes

Partnered Parish Office
203 W. Washington St.
Corry, PA 16407

Phone: (814) 663-3041
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St. Teresa of Avila
9 Third Ave.
Union City, PA 16438

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2023 – 2024 Faith Formation year! Classes for our Faith Formation program will be starting Sunday September 17, 2023. Please see the 23-24 schedule for Pre-K thru 8th grade. The schedule for Confirmation will be handed out at the parent meeting.

This year we will be implementing two new and exciting programs – EDGE for middle school and PURPOSE for Confirmation! EDGE and PURPOSE are Catholic youth ministry programs. These programs provide a safe fun place for youth to build a solid Catholic community, to get answers to their questions about faith, and, most importantly, to experience Jesus in a profound and personal way.

Here are a few items to note for this upcoming year:

- Enclosed is registration paperwork for all grades, please fill it out & return it to the Parish Office
 - 203 W Washington St, Corry, PA 16407
- This year class times on Sunday will be the following:
 - St Thomas grades pre-K through 8th – 9:00 am until 10:30 am
 - **Confirmation grades 9th & 10th - Wednesday nights 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm**
 - St Teresa grades per-K through 10th – 11:00 am until 12:30 pm.
- Confirmation this year will include **9th and 10th** grade
- Parent meetings:
 - Grades 9 & 10 to discuss Confirmation and the PURPOSE program:
 - St Thomas – Saturday 9-9 after 4:30pm Mass in the multipurpose room
 - St Teresa – Sunday 9-10 after 6:00 pm in the parish center
 - Grades 6-8 to discuss the EDGE program:
 - St Thomas – Sunday 9-10 after 8:00 am Mass in the multipurpose room
 - St Teresa – Sunday 9-10 after 10:00 am Mass in the Parish Center

This school year, both Sts Thomas & Teresa programs will be implementing a small monetary charge of \$25 per student. This fee is to help offset the cost of books, materials, and support for our new EDGE/PUPROSE programs. If this fee is a hardship for your family, please reach out to Fr Tom or myself.

I am very excited for this year's program and welcoming all our families back (and any new families). Please keep our students and catechists in prayers as we navigate this new school year. Please feel free to reach out to myself or the parish office with any concerns or questions.

God Bless,

Melissa Silka
Director of Faith Formation

2023-2024

Religious Education Registration Form

St. Teresa_____

St. Thomas_____

Are you a member of the parish?_____

Family Information

Family Last Name_____email_____

Address_____City, State, Zip_____

Home Phone _____Cell Phone_____

Preferred phone number to call? Home or Cell

Parent Information

Full Name (Include Maiden)	Religion	Church	Bapt.	Rec.	Euch.	Con f.
Mom						
Dad						
Step-Parent						
Step-Parent						

Child/(ren) Live with? Both Parents **Mother** **Father**

Is custody by Court Order?_____

Child/ren not live with both parents, does the non-custodial parent have permission to pick up the child?_____

Should the non-custodial parent be kept informed of all activities of the Religious Education Program?____ If yes, please provide address, email and phone number.

FOR STAFF USE ONLY

Registration Fee Paid: YES // NO Cash_____ Check_____ /CK #_____ Date:_____

Student Information:

Child 1

Child 2

Child 3

Child 4

Last Name				
First Name				
Middle Name				
Birthday				
City of Birth				
School/Grade				
Medications:				
Allergies:				
Learning Needs:				
Physical Adaptations:				
Date of Bapt.				
Parish of Bapt.				
Date of Rec.				
Parish of Rec.				
Date of Eucharist				
Parish of Eucharist				
Other Info?				

****If child was not baptized at St. Teresa, Our Lady of Fatima or St. Thomas Parishes, please provide a copy of the Baptismal Certificate.**

Please List 2 emergency contacts:

Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

Sts. Thomas & Teresa Parishes

Religious Ed Schedule for Pre-K through 8th Grade

2023 - 2024 School year

Year	Date	Class / Event
2023	Sept 10	Parent Meeting for EDGE (Grades 6-8) St Thomas - 9:00 am / St Teresa - 11:00 am
	Sept 17	1st / Catechist Blessing at Mass
	Sept 24	2nd
	Oct 1	3rd
	Oct 8	No Class
	Oct 15	4th
	Oct 22	5th class - Fall Youth event
	Oct 29	6th
	Nov 5	7th - Youth Mass
	Nov 12	8th / Combined EDGE night at St Thomas 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
	Nov 19	9th - Advent group activity
	Nov 26	No Class - Happy Thanksgiving
	Dec 3	10th - Student confessions
	Dec 10	11th
	Dec 17	12th
	Dec 24	No Class - Merry Christmas
	Dec 31	No Class - Happy New Year
2024	Jan 7	13th
	Jan 14	No Class
	Jan 21	14th
	Jan 28	15th
	Feb 4	16th - Spring Social Event
	Feb 11	17th - Lent group activity - student confessions
	Feb 18	No Class
	Feb 25	18th class
	Feb 29 Thursday	Confirmation - St Francis 7:00 pm
	Mar 3	19th
	Mar 10	20th class / Combined EDGE night at St Teresa 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
	Mar 17	21st class
	Mar 24	22nd class
	Mar 31	No Class
	Apr 7	No class
	Apr 14	23rd class
	Apr 21	24th class - Youth Mass
	April 27 Saturday	First Communion Retreat
	Apr 28	25th class
	May 4 Saturday	First Communion @ St Thomas
	May 5	26th class - LAST CLASS & First Communion @ St Teresa

***First Reconciliation Retreat and Sacrament date TBD

**Sts. Thomas & Teresa Partnered Parishes Faith Formation Program
Parent Participation Form**

*“The role of parents in education is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute.
The right and the duty of parents to educate their children are primordial and inalienable.
(Catechism of the Catholic Church 2221)*

We recognize that parents are the primary educators of their children, and “receive the responsibility and privilege of evangelizing their children” (CCC 2225). Therefore, we ask that you participate in your child’s faith formation in one of more of the following volunteer opportunities. Please complete the following and return with the registration form.

Check all the boxes for which you want to participate. Please choose at least one.

- Catechist** – Responsible for teaching lessons every Sunday, is familiar with teaching from a textbook, leads prayer, models the Catholic Christian life.
- Assistant Catechist** – Helps the Catechist every Sunday with lessons, activities, snacks, classroom management, etc.
- Substitute Catechist** – On call to substitute teach when a Catechist is not available; please mark grades willing to sub for:
 - Grades K-1
 - Grades 2-3
 - Grades 4-5
 - Grades 6-8
 - Grades 9-11
- Retreat Team** – Assists in planning and executing retreats for various grades. May include set up/tear down, food pick up, on site for duration of retreat
- Chaperone** – Will be asked to attend various events when more adult chaperones are needed. At least one adult chaperone for every 10 children above fourth grade, and one adult for every 5 children in fourth grade and younger.
- Religious Ed Office Assistant** – Available in the main office during religious education classes to assist in finding supplies, using the copy machine, lets people in to the building while the doors are locked and signs them in.
- Prayer Warrior** – Dedicates a time to pray specifically for the religious education program and our mission of making disciples.
- Childcare Provider** – Babysit for young children during various adult faith formation events.
- Children’s Liturgy** – Lead the younger children of the parish at their level during the Mass.

Diocese of Erie
Sts Thomas & Teresa Partnered Parishes
203 W Washington St, Corry PA 16407

Parent/Guardian Media Recording Release for Children and Dependents
Effective Dates September 2022 through August 2023

I, Parent/Legal Guardian of (*child's name*) _____ hereby authorize the Faith Formation Team/ Religious Education Staff to photograph, videotape and/or interview the named youth and agree that they may use or permit other persons to use the negatives, prints, video or interview prepared for such purposes and in such manner as may be deemed appropriate and necessary.

X this box if you do not agree to have your child photographed, videotaped or interviewed.

I understand that if, for whatever reason, at any point in time, I decide to revoke this authorization, and I so notify the parish in writing, references to the named youth (including images or interview) will no longer be used. Any website references will be removed within thirty (30) days of written notification. I further understand, however, that references to the name youth may continue to be used in any publication already printed or published prior to my revocation of the authorization provided herein.

This Release expresses the complete understanding of the parties.

PRINT Parent or Legal Guardian Name

Parent or Legal Guardian SIGNATURE

Parent or Legal Guardian Phone No.

Date



Safe Environment Tips for Parents and Caregivers 2023-2024

Every child deserves a
safe environment.



Ministry to children and
young people is a
privilege, not a right.

Did you know...

In the Diocese of Erie, in order to work with children, an adult must :

- ⇒ Obtain the state of Pennsylvania required clearances.
- ⇒ Complete Safe Environment training that includes how to recognize and report child abuse.
- ⇒ Complete an application.
- ⇒ Sign a statement saying they will follow the Policy for the Protection of Children.
- ⇒ Sign a statement acknowledging they are mandated reporters, required to report child abuse.

A list of the required documentation for clergy, employees, and volunteers can be found on the Protection of Children webpage of the diocesan website, www.eriercd.org.

Did you know....

- ⇒ The Office for the Protection of Children and Youth visits parishes and catholic schools to check for compliance.
- ⇒ The Diocese is audited yearly by an independent firm to evaluate implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Youth People at the diocesan level and parish/school level.

What Parents and all other adults can do....

Watch for these warning signs of abuse in children:

No longer wants to see a particular person they had been close to

Declining academic performance

Demonstrates aggressive behavior or constantly angry

Changes in personality or mood

Tries to hide use of technology

Depression or anxiety

No longer interested in activities they used to enjoy

Loss of appetite or changes in eating habits

Withdraws from family or friends



Commits physical and emotional boundary violations

... and these warning signs of Perpetrators

Does not believe the rules apply to them (or, does not follow rules or protocols)

Gives lavish gifts to minors

Keeps secrets with minors

Allows or encourages minors to break laws or rules

Has inappropriate or suggestive conversations with minors

Is overly interested in spending time with minors

Takes photos without approval, or asks minors to send them

Tries to get minors alone

Boundary violations committed by employees and volunteers working in parishes and catholic schools can be reported to the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth.