

## St. Teresa of Avila Parish

**St. Teresa Church**  
(Union City)

**Weekend Masses**  
**Saturday: 4:30 P.M.**  
**Sunday: 10:45 A.M.**  
**Confessions: Saturday, 4:00 P.M.**

*Rev. Matthew J. Strickenberger, Pastor*

*Rev. Mr. Randy Kondrlik, Deacon*

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**Our Lady of Fatima Chapel**  
(Canadohta Lake)

**Weekend Masses**  
(Memorial Day – Labor Day)  
**Sunday: 9:30 A.M.**

**Confessions: before Mass**

### WELCOME

If you are new to our parish, we extend a warm welcome and hope you will find our parish community a place where your faith will be nourished. Newcomers are asked to introduce themselves to the pastor and call the office to register.

### WEEKDAY SERVICES

See inside of bulletin for current weekday schedule.

### BAPTISM

By appointment. Parents must attend pre-baptismal instruction.

### MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made six months in advance.

### SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please let the pastor know when a family member or a friend is ill, either at home, in the hospital or at a nursing home.

### CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

#### ● ROSARY-ALTAR SOCIETY

Meets the first Monday of each month at 6:00 P.M.

#### ● KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Meet every third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

#### ● RELIGIOUS EDUCATION GUILD

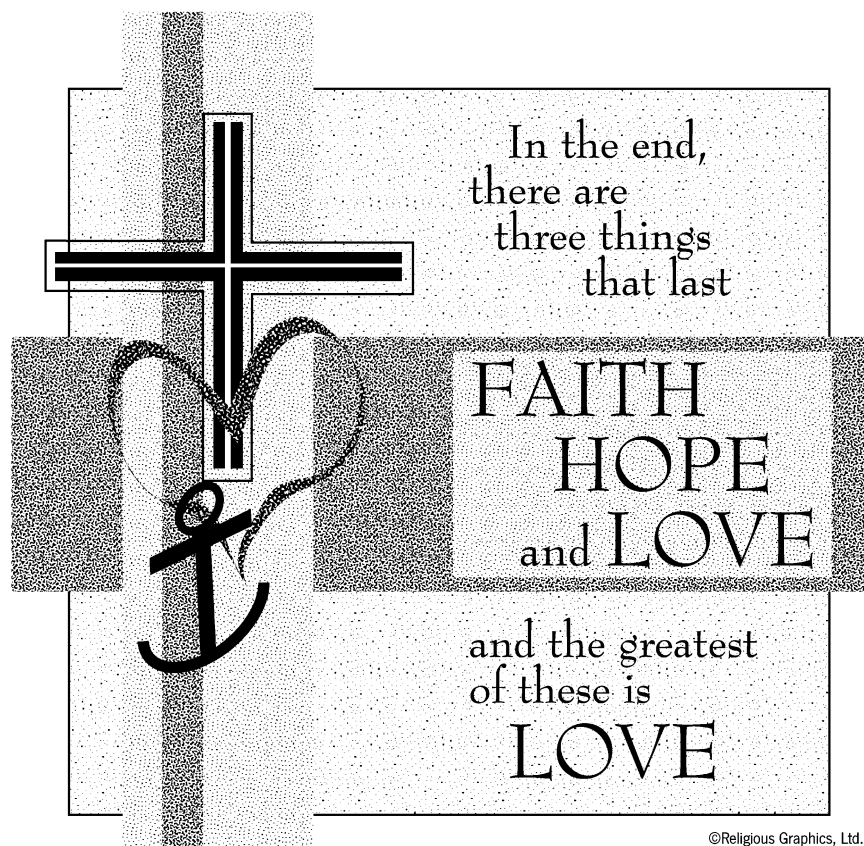
Meets during the school term.

#### ● SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION GROUP

1:00 p.m. Wednesdays (Sept. – May)

#### ● PARISH CENTER RENTAL

Contact Matt Moon: 814-490-1494



Fourth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

January 30, 2022

We give thanks for you Holy  
Name, O Lord!

## MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

### Saturday, January 29 Weekday

4:30pm (St. Teresa) NO MASS

4:30pm (St. Thomas) Intentions of our Parish Family

### Sunday, January 30 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:45am (St. Thomas) Tony Amoroso by Janet & Family

10:45am (St. Teresa) Bernard Gluvna by Dan & Casey Pfeiffer

### Monday, January 31 St. John Bosco

8:00am (St. Teresa) Herbert Pinchak by Family

### Tuesday, February 1 Weekday

5:15pm (St. Thomas) Nigbor & Jankowski Families by Nigbor Family

### Wednesday, February 2 The Presentation of the Lord

8:00am (St. Thomas) Bernie Gluvna by Bob & Judy Macko

### Thursday, February 3 Weekday

NO MASS

### Friday, February 4 Weekday

8:00am (St. Teresa) Mary Ann Kowalski by Sandy, Debbie, Jeff, Chris & Ashley

### Saturday, February 5 St. Agatha

4:30pm (St. Teresa) Dick Landis by Cathryn Landis, Mary Harned & Linda Fucci

4:30pm (St. Thomas) NO MASS

### Sunday, February 6 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:45am (St. Thomas) Edward "Sonny" Zukowski by The Bill Zimmer Family

10:45am (St. Teresa) Intentions of Our Parish Family

**Sacrificial Giving:** The offertory last weekend was \$1,685 for St. Teresa which includes \$1,615 in envelopes and \$70 in loose & \$275 for Our Lady of Fatima. Offertory Goal \$3,000

JUST A REMINDER – There will be Saturday Masses during the month of February at St. Teresa Parish, but there will be no Saturday Masses at St. Thomas in Corry. Saturday Masses in March will be said in Corry but not in Union City. We will continue alternating going forward until our pastor makes a determination. This schedule will in no way affect Sunday Masses.

Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup> is First Friday, There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:00am until noon.

## Mass Readings for the Week

Mon Philippians 4:4-9 ♦ Matthew 18:1-5

Tue. 2 Samuel 18:9-10,14b, 24-25a, 30 – 19:3 ♦ Mark 5:21-43

Wed Malachi 3:1-4 ♦ Hebrews 2:14-18 Luke 10:1-9 ♦ Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Thurs. 1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12 ♦ Mark 6:7-13

Fri. Sirach 47:2-11 ♦ Mark 6:14-29

Sat. 1 Kings 3:4-13 ♦ Mark 6:30-34

Sun. Isiah 6:1-2a,3-8 ♦ 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or 15:3-8,11 ♦ Luke 5:1-11

## Religious Education

01/30 Class & Youth Mass – 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>

02/06 Class – First Reconciliation & First Communion Enrollment

02/13 Class

02/20 No Class

**PLEASE – any calls regarding the Religious Education Program should be made directly to the parish office. The extension is 103 to leave a message for Missy Silka, Religious Education Facilitator.**

Goal - \$28,606

Amount Pledged to Date - \$30,347

Amount Paid to Date - \$29,922

**Reminder – Please make all CSA checks payable to St. Teresa Church**

**St. Martin Center in Erie** is hiring a Maintenance Team Member, a Trauma Case Manager and several teaching positions. All information can be found on their website, [www.smcerie.org](http://www.smcerie.org)

**Pray for Our Priests:** Rev. John E. Santor, Rev. Thomas N. Trocchio, Rev. David Renne, Rev. Paul S. Siebert, Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Smith, Rev. Matthew J. Strickenberger, The Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico

## SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 5 & 6

4:30

10:45

### LECTOR

Becky Boleratz

Cheryl Mongera

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Mary Ann Shinko

Paul Beer

Choir: Ilene Zakovitch

### ALTAR SERVER

Mary Jo Smith

Morgan Beer

**A Family Perspective:** Mary and Joseph must have been proud when their village “all spoke well of Jesus and were amazed at his words.” But they probably felt shame when the same people drove him out of town. Like Mary and Joseph, the highs and lows of parenting are our path to being a Holy Family.

### The Special Intentions of Pope Francis

Dear Father - As we start a new year, we ask you to bless us with true human fraternity. We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution. May their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

### Annual Pre-Lenten Retreat

Longing for a deeper encounter with the Lord this Lent? Singles and couples are invited to participate in a retreat Feb. 25-26 at St. Thomas More House of Prayer in Cranberry. Retreatants will have opportunities for community, talks, adoration, Mass and confession. For more information, visit [www.eriercd.org/chastity/retreat](http://www.eriercd.org/chastity/retreat). Questions? Call or email Jacob Kessler at 814-824-1216, [jkessler@eriercd.org](mailto:jkessler@eriercd.org). The retreat is sponsored by the Diocesan Chastity Education Office.

**Marriage Moment** Love is patient, kind, truthful, hopeful, enduring...Love is not jealous, pompous, inflated, rude, quick-tempered, brooding. (1 Corinthians 13:4-8) Tell your beloved which positive quality you think they are strong in.

The **Rosary Altar Society** will be holding a **Bake Sale** February 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> after both Masses.

THE **ERIE CURSILLO MOVEMENT** is currently planning and accepting applications for a Men’s Cursillo from February 11 to 13, 2022 and a Woman’s Cursillo from April 29 to May 1, 2022.

Applications can be found on the Cursillo Website at [eriecursillo.org](http://eriecursillo.org), calling the Cursillo office at 814-824-1119, or by asking someone you may know who has completed a Cursillo weekend who would be willing to serve as your sponsor.

### Seven

"**Say Yes!** to the 7th Annual 138 Women’s Conference. The conference will be held from 8:30-12:30 on March 12, 2022. You may attend live at St. Jude Parish in Erie, PA, virtually at satellite parishes via zoom or in your own home via zoom. The cost is \$20. This years conference will feature national speakers Lisa Hendey, bestselling author and founder of CatholicMom.com and Patricia Breen who writes online for Blessed is She, Fem Catholic, Grotto Network and CatholicMatch. Visit our website at [www.138women.com](http://www.138women.com) for more information and to register."

United Way of Erie County is offering Free Tax Preparation this year. If you earned less than \$57,000 last year, the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA), Erie Free Taxes provides free federal, state, and local tax preparation service to Erie County residents across multiple locations. To make an appointment at a VITA site, visit [ErieFREETaxes.org](http://ErieFREETaxes.org) or call 1.888.829.5680

**Worship Me Only.** Whatever occupies your mind the most becomes your god. Worries, if indulged, develop into idols. Anxiety gains a life of its own, parasitically infesting your mind. Break free from this bondage by affirming your trust in Me and refreshing yourself in My Presence. What goes on in your mind is invisible, undetectable to other people. But I read your thoughts continually, searching for evidence of trust in Me. I rejoice when your mind turns toward Me. Guard your thoughts diligently; good thought-choices will keep you close to Me.

**Feelings** are visitors of the heart. Welcome them. Each feeling comes to teach you something very specific. Be hospitable to these guests. They are only passing through.

Unless you ignore them. This detains them unnecessarily. You cannot get them to leave by ignoring them, avoiding them, or pretending they don’t exist. They will stay until you attend to them. And when it comes time for them to leave, thank them for visiting.

The **Rosary Altar Society** will hold their monthly meeting Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Parish Center

*At present I know partially; then I shall know  
fully.  
(1 Corinthians 13:12)*

“God only knows!”

Befuddled, we say these words while rolling our eyes. Hurt, we mutter them through clenched teeth. Despairing, we whisper them with tears in our eyes. The truth is, life is full of mystery. There are some things that only God knows. We may understand them one day, but right now, we don't. We know in part – only God knows fully.

Our readings today remind us that God's ways are far beyond our understanding. Jeremiah knew that he was to be a prophet and understood God's word to the people of Israel at that time (Jeremiah 1:4). But he didn't know that centuries later, his prophecies would be fully realized in Jesus. He know only in part. Only God knows fully.

In our Gospel, Jesus chided the people in the synagogue for dismissing him as “the son of Joseph” (Luke 4:22). They had heard his remarkable teaching, but they couldn't get past the Jesus they had known for thirty years. They knew only in part. Only God knows fully.

Even St. Paul, whose understanding helped form the Scriptures, acknowledged, “At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known” (1 Corinthians 12:12). As much as Paul had learned about God, he know that it was only the smallest glimmer of God's goodness and glory. Like Paul, we see indistinctly, dimly, as in a mirror or a darkened room. Only God knows fully.

But God knows you fully, better than you know yourself! Even more, in his wisdom, he knows the plan for your life. He knows what you will face in the future, and he is pouring out grace to prepare you even now.

Life is a mystery. Some things you will only understand in heaven – and that is where faith comes in. Faith in the loving God who knows everything. And one day, he will reveal it all.

***“Thank you, Lord, that I am fully known and fully loved.”***

**Why is Life so messy?**

It's a reasonable question. But it's worth asking whether we really want to know the answer. Perhaps we already know the answer, but we ask the question, hoping that maybe, somehow, the answer will be different.

Life is messy because I am messy. Any day now the world's human population will reach eight billion. We each have our own mess, and of course, if you add all those little messes together it becomes significant. This isn't necessarily good or bad. It isn't necessarily a problem. The problem occurs when we try to live as if it isn't so.

Paul the apostle observed, “The good that I would, I do not; and the evil that I would not, I do.” What was he saying? We don't do what we say we will do. We don't do what we intend to do. And worse than that, we often do things we know are bad for us, things we know will hurt other people, things that we know we will regret. And we do all these things even though deep down we don't want to do them.

Life should be lived with maximum intentionality. But too often we are conflicted and confused. When we act in these states, we usually cause pain and suffering to ourselves and others. Clarity is necessary to live with great intentionality. But finding that clarity is almost impossible in the midst of this crazy, noisy, busy world. That's why having time in silence and solitude each day is essential.

Why is life messy? Life's messy because we are messy. But this is not the only reason. Life is messy for reasons that make sense, but it can also be messy in ways that can only be rightly defied as a mystery.

Life is also messy because it can be random and unpredictable. We don't like random and unpredictable. The illusion of control is one of the most powerful. The reality is that while we can influence a great many outcomes, we are not in control. Despite this indisputable reality, we waste so much energy laboring under the illusion, trying to control people, situations, and outcomes.

Life is messy, but it isn't just a mess. Life is also wonderful. But this is the perspective that departs us when we are in the thick of the mess. We lose sight of all the good and get consumed by the turmoil we are embroiled in. We are tempted at these times to think that life will never be good again. This is the perspective that steals away our hope. The whole truth is that life is messy, but it is also wonderful and beautiful and awe-inspiring.

When I began scribbling in this notebook, I had lost this more complete perspective and trying desperately to recover it. I knew I was lost and that was a grace. But that was all I knew in those dark moments. I didn't know how to get unlost. So, I would write, in hopes that, consciously or unconsciously, I would scribble something down that would point the way toward a brighter future. Wherever you are in your life, I hope these words do the same for you.

Life is messy because we are messy. The way forward always requires that we take responsibility for our part in the mess.

