



# SAINT THOMAS

## THE APOSTLE PARISH



Saint Elizabeth Church

*Second Sunday of*  
**ADVENT**



### PARISH OFFICE

203 W. Washington St. • Corry, PA • 16407

Office: (814) 663-3041 • Emergencies: (814) 664-7900

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 8:30a.m. to 3:00p.m.

Website: <http://StThomasTheApostle.Church>

Email: [Secretary@StThomasTheApostle.Church](mailto:Secretary@StThomasTheApostle.Church)

### SACRAMENTAL SCHEDULE

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday evening: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday morning: 8:45 a.m.

#### Daily Masses

Please visit schedule in this bulletin.

#### Sacrament of Penance / Confessions

Saturdays at 3:30 p.m.

#### 24 hour Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday before the First Friday - 8:30 a.m.

To First Friday of the Month - before 8:00 a.m. Mass

Saint Thomas the Apostle Church



**PRAYER LINE...** call: Gerrie (665-6944), Pam (664-7459), or Shirley (814-392-5411). Since prayer is an important ministry of trust, know that all requests are kept confidential.

**Mass Schedule and Intentions**

If you made an offering for a weekend Mass Intention, honor the person(s) mentioned by bringing up the Offertory Gifts. Please let the ushers know 15 minutes prior to the start of Mass.

**Monday, December 9 (St. Thomas)**

8:00a.m. ☩Michael Timmerman req by Richard & Jean Farver

**Tuesday, December 10**

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

8:00a.m. Mass at St. Teresa in Union City

**Wednesday, December 11 (St. Thomas)**

5:15p.m. ☩Tony Amoroso (anniv. of death) req by Janet Amoroso and Family

**Thursday, December 12**

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

8:00a.m. Mass at St. Teresa in Union City

**Friday, December 13 (St. Thomas)**

8:00a.m. ☩Adeline Rowland (birthday) req by Shirley Skiff

**Saturday, December 14**

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

4:30p.m. ☩Connie Bem req by Bill & Sherry Davis (St. Teresa)

**Sunday, December 15**

8:45a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Johnston and Zaczekiewicz Families req by Gary, Sue and Joseph Johnston (St. Thomas)

10:45a.m. ☩Jeanne Vallimont req by Ray Zapolski (St. Teresa)



**The SANCTUARY CANDLE for the week of December 8<sup>th</sup> burns in honor of our Lord and in memory of Alex & Lillian Sadowski requested by Diane and Eleanor.**

**This Week's Events****Sunday, December 8—Second Sunday of Advent**

8:45am Mass of Advent at St. Thomas Church

10:00am Rel. Ed. Classes (all grades) until 11:30am

**Monday, December 9—Immaculate Conception of Mary**

8:00am Mass of Feast Day at St. Thomas Church

7:00pm Mass of Feast Day at St. Teresa Church in Union City

7:00pm Knights of Columbus Meeting at the Parish Center

**Wednesday, December 11**

5:15pm Mass of Advent w/ Mary Reflection at St. Thomas

6:00pm Combined Organization Dinner at the Parish Center

**Saturday, December 14**

9:00am Rosary prayed at St. Thomas Church

3:30pm Confessions at St. Thomas Church

4:30pm Vigil Mass of Advent at St. Thomas Church

**Sunday, December 15—Third Sunday of Advent**

8:45am Mass of Advent/Youth Mass at St. Thomas Church

10:00am Rel. Ed. Classes (all grades) until 12:00pm

3:00pm Parish Advent Penance Service at St. Thomas

Please patronize the sponsors of our bulletin. It is through their paid advertising that we can publish the bulletin. Thank you.

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: November 24, 2019**

Amount in Envelopes: (98) ..... \$3,374.00

Loose..... \$311.01

Faith Formation/Rel. Ed..... \$0.00

Online Giving ..... \$35.00

Flower Fund ..... \$280.00

Total Offertory Income ..... \$4,000.01

Weekly Budget (Offertory) ..... \*\$4,327.00

Difference..... \$(-326.99)

Actual Average Weekly Offertory ..... \*\$4,309.00

Budgeted Weekly Expenses ..... \*\$6,536.00

Actual Average Weekly Expenses ..... \*\$6,338.84

*\*Based on Fiscal Year July 2019—June 2020*

*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 St. Thomas Cemetery or St. Elizabeth Cemetery. Thank you.*



*Please know that you can now give all your donations online by visiting our parish website at*

*[www.StThomasTheApostle.Church](http://www.StThomasTheApostle.Church) and click 'Donate Online'.*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Catholic Campaign for Human Development**

Amount in Envelopes: (40) ..... \$468.00

Loose..... \$244.00

Faith Formation/Rel. Ed..... \$712.00

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: December 1, 2019**

Amount in Envelopes: (92) ..... \$3,879.00

Loose..... \$251.00

Faith Formation/Rel. Ed..... \$80.00

Online Giving ..... \$180.00

Flower Fund ..... \$35.00

Total Offertory Income ..... \$4,425.00

Weekly Budget (Offertory) ..... \*\$4,327.00

Difference..... \$98.00

**2019 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) Update**

We wish to thank everyone from our parish who made a pledge and paid it during the 2019 CSA campaign. Our parishioners pledged a total of \$44,971 to the CSA this year! It is through your continued generosity that we can help spread the Gospel message of Jesus. As the year-end draws near, we only have a few outstanding pledges, totaling approximately \$2,000. Please think about paying off your CSA pledge before the end of 2019.

*'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'*

**Upcoming Events:**

December 15—Parish Advent Penance Service at St. Thomas

December 17—Final Bible Study on the Scriptures

December 22—Decorate St. Thomas for Christmas after Mass



## Diocesan & Parish News

### **Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary**

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is normally celebrated December 8<sup>th</sup>. This date falls on Sunday this year, so the Feast day has been moved to Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> and, thus is not a holy day of obligation this year. However, for those who wish to attend Mass, two will be offered on Monday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>: 8:00am at Saint Thomas Church and 7:00pm at St. Teresa Church.

### **St. Elizabeth Cemetery Trees**

Due to the age of the trees at St. Elizabeth Cemetery, it has become necessary to remove some of them and to support others with cable. The cost of the project is \$4,000. As many of you know, our cemeteries are not financially strong. We are asking for support from our parishioners to help cover the cost of this project. If you are able to help, please place your donation in an envelope marked 'St. Elizabeth Tree Project' and drop it in the offertory basket or bring your donations to the parish office. Thank you for your support.

### **Corry Knights of Columbus News & Meeting Time**

Council #425 will meet this Monday, Dec. 9 at St. Elizabeth Parish Center. Rosary begins at 7:00pm and the meeting is at 7:30pm. Also, Brother Knights of Council #425 wish to welcome two new first degree members: Benjamin Barney and Alan Griebel. For 120 years the local Knights have been active in the Corry Catholic Community. If you are a Catholic male 18 years of age or older and want to be part of a Catholic Brotherhood, please call Brother Knight Paul Wascak at 664-2005.



### **Please Support our Angel Tree Program**

Our church will again have an Angel Tree this Advent season. If you are looking to share your blessings with someone in need, please consider taking a tag or an envelope from the tree. **All wrapped gifts must be placed under the tree and all envelopes returned to the parish office no later than Sunday, December 15.** Please place the tag on the outside of gift/envelope so we can see both sides of tags. On behalf of the recipients, thank you and God Bless.

### **Decorating Our Church for Christmas**

Just a note, that help will be needed to decorate St. Thomas Church for the Christmas season. We will be decorating the church following the Mass on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> (approximately 10:00am). Much help is needed, as many hands make light work. Please plan to join us and THANK YOU!

### **"Question of the Week" - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Question for Children:** Beyond toys and other things, what do you hope will happen in your family this Christmas?

**Question for Youth:** What are the greatest challenges you face as a young person today in terms of allowing Christ to be your teacher and following him?

**Question for Adults:** Name the one thing in your life which you must "move out of the way" in order to make more room for Christ – a grudge, a possession, a memory, hurt, or feeling.

### **A Message from Fr. Skip**

Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> was our parish's most recent Youth Mass and Children's Church, and I have to say that I was a bit disappointed in the lack of participation. Of course, one of the young people assigned was understandably unable to show due to illness, but still, none of the others assigned to particular ministries showed either. On top of that, only one of the youngsters presented themselves for Children's Church. Again, it is disappointing. The amount of preparation that goes into events such as the Youth Mass and Children's Church is substantial, the pastor and parishioners are trying to reach out to our young people, and it's all being done for their present and future good, for their salvation. Please know that with the exception of holidays, Youth Masses are held on the last 8:45am Mass of each month, and Children's Church at that same Mass. And know that we would love to have you participate in these events!! If you are asked to serve at the Youth Mass, please cooperate with us. Please, say yes. And if you are between the ages of one and twenty-one (ha ha!!) and are sitting in the pew, please consider coming forward to receive a blessing for Children's Church. With thanks and love . . . Fr. Skip.

### **Advent Confessions in Corry**

Our parish's Advent Penance Service will be held on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> beginning at 3:00pm at St. Thomas Church. We will have five to six priests available to hear individual confessions. Also, Confessions will be heard on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> during class time for our Religious Education students. If, however, any adults cannot attend the Parish Penance Service on December 15<sup>th</sup>, they are welcome to receive the Sacrament on December 8<sup>th</sup> after the students.

### **Holiday Mass Schedule for Your Planning/Calendars**

Here is the Christmas Mass Schedule for St. Thomas the Apostle Church and St. Teresa of Avila Church:

- Tuesday, Dec. 24—4:30pm Children's Mass at St. Thomas
- Tuesday, Dec. 24—6:30pm Children's Mass at St. Teresa
- Tuesday, Dec. 24—11:59pm Midnight Mass at St. Thomas
- Wed., Dec. 25—10:00am Christmas Mass at St. Teresa

Masses for the Solemnity of Mary (Holy Day of Obligation):

- Tuesday, Dec. 31—7:00pm Vigil Mass at St. Thomas
- Wednesday, Jan. 1—8:00am Mass at St. Teresa
- Wednesday, Jan. 1—9:30am Mass at St. Thomas
- Wednesday, Jan. 1—7:00pm Mass at St. Teresa

### **Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments— Keeping**

**God's Children Protected and Safe:** To know that we are children of God is to live in complete love, with deep abiding security and the ability to dream, to sing, to create, to laugh, and to play without worry. As we grow older, we face a new reality – we cannot approach all God's creation with the same trust and confidence. We learn, through sometimes hurtful and damaging experiences, that some people reject the ability that God gave them to love and respect others – they ignore God's call. The diocesan program to safeguard children helps remind us of these very facts. With the help of this program, the faithful are guided and educated about the responsibility of how to keep God's children protected and safe. To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help maintain safe environments, visit <https://www.eriercd.org/childprotection/>.