

February 2, 2020
The Presentation of the Lord

Welcome Child of God!

*No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church,
No matter your personal history, age, income, background, gender, race, ethnicity or spirituality, or marital situation,
No matter your own self-image of holiness or virtue,
You belong to Jesus Christ and you belong to us!
You are invited, accepted and respected here at the Parish of Saint Thomas More.*

*Take our hands, Lord Jesus, leading us in courage to confront with courage the forces which oppress and divide.
Take our hearts, Lord Jesus, and open them to the truth which will set others free.
Accompany us on our way, Lord Jesus, as we seek to share our Roman Catholic faith and life in your Spirit.*



**When evening comes,
there will be light.**
Zechariah 14:7

Candlemas ~ Light in winter

The feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the temple commemorated today contains a blessing of candles and for that reason is sometimes called Candlemas.

Today is the fortieth day after Christmas, and this feast carries on the same ideas as the feast of Christmas. Light and joy are the dominant themes. Jesus, as God's anointed, is the light of the world. When they recognized him in the temple, Simeon and Anna proclaimed him with joy.

Eternal life is what our religion is about. To achieve it we require the light of the Risen Christ to guide our footsteps. Christ is the light that dispels darkness in a way that no human light, be it political, social or economic, can.

As He is the Light, so we are to shine as lights in our generation, illuminating the darkness of the world.

Fr. Andrew

CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS MORE

*A Community of Parish & University Ministry
PO Box 620, Durham, NH 03824; 868-2666; stmdurham@comast.net*

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK:

Mon, Tues, Thurs: 9am - 3pm; Weds, 9am - 1pm

Weekday Masses:

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday at 12:10pm.

Food Pantry: Thurs 4-6pm

February 9: Fifth Sunday of O.T.

Reading I: Isaiah 58:7-10
Reading II: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16



For February 1st – 2nd

Saturday, 5pm – † John McDonnell (1st Anniv)
Sunday, 9am – † Louis Cloitre (1st Anniv)
Sunday, 11:15am – † Maggie Nicoloff

For February 8th – 9th

Saturday, 5pm – † Andrew & Evelyn Cryans
Sunday, 9am – † William Boyland
Sunday, 11:15am – † Fr. Bernard Campbell

CARING & SHARING



For this week the Pantry needs are:

Meal Helpers - Manwich, Hamburg/Tuna Helpers, Taco Shells, Juices, canned carrots, tomato sauce, tomato paste.

Second collection this weekend

..is for the Diocesan Catholic Schools.

We appreciate your generosity!

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE:

**Average Weekly Regular Offertory Amount Needed
to Meet Our Annual Budget = \$5,234**

Offertory for Jan 26: \$ 4505

Give and it shall be given to you.” - Luke 6:38

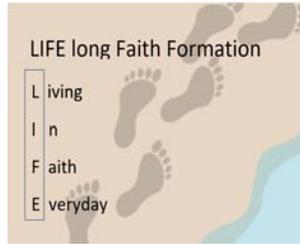
Thank you for your generous contributions.

LIFE LONG FAITH FORMATION

This weekend (2/2):

Faith Formation Classes resume on **Sunday, Feb 2nd** after the 9:00 am Mass (10:00am). Children will have class in their classrooms (CFF) and Adult Faith Formation (AFF) will be offered in the gym.

Sr. Helene Higgins will present on the topic of prayer. All adults are welcome to join us.



Next weekend (2/9):

Parents and children will meet in the classrooms (PCC).

The following weekend (2/16):

Whole Parish Formation (WPF) will meet in the gym. Everyone is welcome!



Middle School Faith Formation

The next sessions are **Feb 10** and **Mar 2**, 6-7:30pm.

High School Youth Ministry



Life Teen: Sunday, Feb 9; 6-8pm (snacks)
DTS: Sunday, Feb 16; 6-8pm (meal)
Fellowship: Wednesday, Feb 26, tubing

The Yarn Crew will meet on

Monday, Feb 10th at 10:00 am
in the church hall.

All are welcome. Hope to see you there!



STM PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Our Ministry provides prayer shawls for special celebrations; for the sick or lonely, and baby blankets for Baptisms.

We meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month from October through May in the Student Center Library, **11:00 am** to noon.

We hope you will consider joining us on **Tuesday, February 4.**

If you have questions or know anyone who would benefit from God's healing love by receiving a shawl, please contact the STM office at 868-2666, or Mary Ann Marchi at 868-2019.



200 CLUB

February is already here & the next drawing will be on Feb 9 at coffee & donuts after Sunday's 9am Mass.



New Members: Don't miss out on a chance to win the special prizes of \$500, \$300 and \$100 at the **Second Anniversary Drawing at the March 17th St. Patrick's Day dinner.**

Charter Members: Don't forget to renew your subscription.

Membership available for 3, 6 or 12 months, at a cost of \$50, \$100 or \$200 respectively. Payment for your subscription is due at the parish office by 3:00 PM on Thursday, February 27th in order to be included in the second anniversary drawing.

Renewal/New Membership envelopes are available at the entrances to the church, in the foyer of the Catholic Student Center, and in the hallway going into the church hall. The completed renewal form and check can be mailed to the STM parish office at 6 Madbury Rd., PO Box 620, Durham, NH 03824 or simply dropped in the collection basket or the lock box at the back of the church.

For additional information contact Tom Dolan at tomdolan84@hotmail.com or 603-767-3578

Care for Creation

The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. Hence, there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face. The ideal is ... to discover God in all things.



- From CT Bishop Peter Rosazza's keynote at the 2019 National Council of Catholic Women convention



The **February UNH Red Cross Blood** drive will be:

Mon, Feb 3 - Thurs, Feb 6:

9am to 3pm

Mon - Wed:

Memorial Union Building (in the MUB at UNH)

Thurs:

Strafford Room (in the MUB at UNH)

Scheduling an appointment online (redcrossblood.org) is easy and will result in a shorter wait time. All blood types are needed and walk-ins are welcome. Thank you!

One of our UNH CSO students is on the leadership committee for the American Red Cross Club of UNH. Help support her work!



Walking with Purpose: Women's Bible Study

What Does the Eucharist have to Do with My Friendship with Christ?

Please join us this week for a closer look at how the Eucharist helps deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ. No experience necessary, come as you are and join in anytime!

Thurs, Feb 6 at 10:30am (STM Student Center Library)

"Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1)

Walking with Purpose is held weekly Oct - May. For more info: Michelle Dunbar at STMDurhamWWP@gmail.com or 498-2778.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Journey to the Easter Sacraments

Please pray for Alex & Derek, our Catechumens seeking Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist and being Sent for the Rite of Election with Bishop Libasci on March 1st at the Cathedral.

They join Candidates Kyle & Walter, joining the Catholic Church, and Gil & Gustavo, Danielle, Lucas & Pat as they continue their formation in preparation to receive Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Our parish community is truly blessed!

If you are interested in joining the Catholic church, BEGIN THE CONVERSATION with Roberta MacBride stmpastoralmin@comcast.net ~ 603-868-2666 x115



FOOD FOR THE POOR

To the St. Thomas More Family:

Food For The Poor wishes to thank you for the welcome you extended to Fr. Thomas Falkenthal on our recent visit to your parish.

On behalf of our brothers and sisters throughout the Caribbean and Latin America, we thank you for your compassion and care. We are all blessed by and grateful for your generosity.

*In Christ,
The Food For The Poor Family*



Coffee & Donuts



February 9 March 1 March 29 May 3

Parishioners are welcome to **bring food** to Coffee & Donuts events, and such contributions are much appreciated.

It would be wonderful if we receive the food contributions around **8:45 a.m.** Thank you.



Game Night Potluck Friday, March 13 6pm

Dust off your board games as the Fellowship committee is hosting a Game Night Potluck! Mark your calendars for Friday March 13th at 6pm in the Student Center Gym. Signup will arrive closer to the date.

STM Recycles!

With its recycling "eco-bins," the Vatican is currently at 98% of sorted waste. Thanks to STM staff member Pat Murphy, St. Thomas More parishioners can also step up to help the planet by using the bright blue recycling bins now stationed in STM buildings.

Please help streamline the effort by following the disposal instructions provided at the bin stations.

Recycling reduces the amount of energy required to manufacture materials (as compared to manufacture with virgin inputs) and leads to avoided greenhouse gas emissions.

The Lord God then took the man and settled him in the garden of Eden, to cultivate and care for it.

- Genesis 2:15



STM Card Ministry

The cold and gloom of winter can be a difficult time for those whose lives have been turned upside down in the loneliness of being homebound; worry of going through a difficult illness or injury; the grief of losing a precious loved one; or other loss.

If you know of someone who would be lifted up by a Card greeting of love, hope, encouragement, consolation and peace, please contact Roberta MacBride at 868-2666 x115 or stmpastoralmin@comcast.net.



UNH Campus Ministry

SPRING 2020- VOL. 2

Hello parishioners and students!

Are you planning on voting in the upcoming Presidential Primary? There are so many things to look into as we search for the perfect candidate—where to start? The Diocese of Manchester has a wonderful pamphlet titled “Voting for the Common Good,” that walks you through what questions to ask when making a sound decision that incorporates our Catholic Social Teaching. I still have some copies if you are interested!

Ryan Cornelissen— unhstm@gmail.com
Campus Minister

Collaborative College Retreat! 2/15

Save the date for **Saturday February 15th** in Concord, NH at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish for our annual collaborative retreat with students from other New Hampshire colleges! This year’s theme is:

“Love”

We will be looking at the three main types of love that are referred to in our sacred scripture and how we are called to incorporate each into our lives in different ways! Food will be provided and student car-pools will be arranged! Contact Ryan for more info at unhstm@gmail.com!

Alternative Spring Break Trip Fundraiser!- Monday Feb 10th!

Come support the UNH Catholic Student Organization’s alternative spring break trip to Bethlehem Farm on **Monday February 10th** at The Community Oven in Epping, NH at Brickyard Square (Old 900 Degrees). A percentage of sales from **5 PM to 9 PM** that night will benefit our trip, the more people who come the more we make!

- First 50 pizzas —> We earn 5% of sales
- 50 - 80 pizzas —> We earn 10% of sales
- 80+ pizzas —> We earn 15% of sales

Thanks in advance for your support! Feel free to contact Ryan Cornelissen, Campus Minister with questions at: unhstm@gmail.com

Weekly Events!

SUNDAY— 2/2

5 PM- Student Mass
St Thomas More Church

NO Student Supper— SUPER BOWL!

TUESDAY— 2/4

1 PM— Community Lunch
Holloway Commons Dining Hall

WEDNESDAY— 2/5

7:15 PM— Catholic Student Org (CSO)
MUB 334

FRIDAY— 2/7

6:00 PM— Women’s Group— MUB 340

7:00 PM— Community Dinner— HoCo

8:00 PM— Men’s Group— Lighthouse



CROSS
ROADS
HOUSE

Upcoming Cross Roads House Service!

Cook— Sunday Feb 9th—
1 to 3:30 PM

Serve— Tuesday Feb 11th
— 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM

The Oven in Epping
24 Brickyard Square
Epping, NH 03042
(603) 734-4543



Help Us Support A Neighborhood Cause Each

Community Monday!