

September 22, 2019
Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.*

Therefore, if anyone is
in Christ, he is a new
creation; the old has

gone, the
new has
come!



2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

*"They say that I am thirty years old.
But if I had lived three minutes in
one minute, would I not be ninety
years old now?"*

The great French writer, Charles Peguy wrote a lovely poem which shows God contemplating his work at the beginning of creation, the brand-new world which had just emerged from his hands:

*"And God himself, both young and eternal, looked upon
the flower of youth. Like a father, he looked with paternal
eye on the world, gathered together like a humble village.*

*And God himself, both young and eternal, looked upon
time and age. Like a father, he looked with paternal eye
on the world laid out like a beautiful village.*

*And God himself, both young and eternal, looked upon
time and space. Calmly, gazing down with paternal
affection, he saw the image of God."*

May the Lord dispose of all our days and deeds in peace.

Fr. Andrew

CARING & SHARING



For this week the Pantry needs are:
Canned fruit, applesauce, cranberry sauce,
chicken noodle soup, vegetable soup, tuna

Thank you!!

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE:

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

Offertory for September 15: (see 9/29 bulletin)

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

Thank you for your generous contributions.

CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS MORE

*A Community of Parish & University Ministry
PO Box 620, Durham, NH 03824; 868-2666*

**REGULAR HOURS: Mon, Tues & Thurs 9am - 3pm;
Weds 9am - 1pm; closed Fri**

**Weekday Masses:
12:10pm Mass: Mon, Tues & Wed**

Food Pantry: Thursday 4pm - 6pm

September 29: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading I: Amos 6:1a, 4-7
Reading II: 1 Timothy 6:11-16
Gospel: Luke 16:19-31



For September 21st – September 23rd

Saturday, 5pm – † Albert & Lorraine Landry
Sunday, 9am – † Russ Northrop
Sunday, 11:15am – † Dennis Leo Hallisey
Monday, 12:10pm – † Lea Paquin

For September 28th – September 29th

Saturday, 5pm – † Norman Langlois
Sunday, 9am – † Stena MacBride
Sunday, 11:15am – † Josephine Plotkin

STM PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Prayer Shawl Ministry is a profoundly meaningful opportunity for you to share your love of knitting or crocheting with those who are sick or lonely, seeking healing and hope.

We hope you will join us on Tues, Nov 5.

For more info, call the office at 868-2666, or Mary Ann at 868-2019.

Second Collection this weekend...

is for the NH Diocesan Priest Retirement Collection.
Thank you in advance for your generosity!

LIFE long Faith Formation

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COME and SEE!

Whole Parish LIFE long Faith Formation begins **this Sunday** after the 9am Mass.

- + **Children** will be in their regular classrooms.
- + **ALL adults**, in every stage of life, are invited to join us in the gym for our first Adult Formation session, "*Coming to Faith... Looking in, Looking Out*" presented by Kathy Krane.

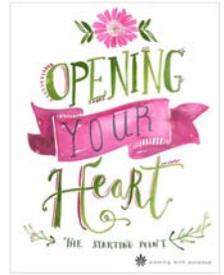
Through music, insights and experience, we are invited to discover how God is present within ourselves, others, creation, and our everyday life.

Please join us for our first session.

Walking with Purpose ~ Come and See!

Women of St. Thomas More ~

- *Do you desire to grow in your Catholic faith?*
- *Do you seek connection with other women in our parish community?*
- *We invite you to consider joining Walking with Purpose this fall at St. Thomas More.*



This contemporary woman's guide to the Bible, personal study and small group discussion, invites us to discover a deeper, personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

No experience necessary. ~ God meets us where we are.

Come and See ~ Thursday, October 17th, 10-11am
in the Student Center Library

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults ~ RCIA Journey to the Easter Sacraments

"COME AND SEE!!!"

Tuesday Sept 24

at 7pm

in the Student Center Library



Have you thought about joining the Catholic church by receiving the Initiation Sacraments of:

Baptism ~ Confirmation ~ Eucharist?

BEGIN THE CONVERSATION with Roberta MacBride
stmpastoralmin@comcast.net ~ 603-868-2666 x115

In our desire to renew, encourage, and support parish disciples of **all ages** and **all life long**, we have updated our Faith Formation mission and goals:

LIFELONG Faith Formation Mission Statement

ST. THOMAS FAITH FORMATION commits to engage our whole parish community by nourishing and growing the foundations of our Catholic faith and continuing the mission of Jesus Christ through

L I F E	iving	EXPLORATION-EDUCATION-
	n	EVANGELATION-FORMATION-WORSHIP-
	faith	PRAYER-SERVICE
	everyday	in OUR LIFELONG JOURNEY of FAITH.

The **STM Card Ministry** is looking for the following types of cards:

- ♥ Thinking of you
- ♥ Thank you
- ♥ Caregiver
- ♥ Bereavement

and...

- ♥ Stamps!



STM Card Ministry

Do you know someone who would be lifted up by a greeting of prayers for hope, healing, consolation, birthday, etc. from our parish community?

Please contact Roberta for donations or names of potential recipients at stmpastoralmin@comcast.net.

Thank you for your generous support of our Card Ministry.

200 CLUB



*The next 200 Club drawing is at
Coffee and Donuts
after the 9am Mass
on **September 29th.***

That's just a week away!

*Make sure you have a number.
It could be your turn to be a winner!*

It's \$200 for an annual or
\$100 for a semi-annual membership.

Additional information is available online at
stmdurham.org or on the Church Facebook page at
www.facebook.com/stmdurham

or
Contact Tom Dolan at 603-659-7162 or tomdolan84@hotmail.com.

Care for Creation

The theme of this year's Season of creation celebration is "the web of life." We Catholics are uniting with others in the Christian family to protect every creature in God's beautifully complex web of creation.

Protecting creation in all its glory coincides with another special event this year. In October, just after the Season of Creation closes, bishops from around the world will join His Holiness for a synod on the Amazon, an occasion for prayerful reflection on how we protect the Amazon and the people who share it.

The preparatory document for the synod calls us to listen "to indigenous peoples and to all the communities living in the Amazonia." In that spirit, we share with you a statement of spirituality from an indigenous community in the Amazon.

"Good living is abundance in life and harmony between brothers and sisters. Equilibrium in the world and protection of the forest. Having food that satisfies us and that gives us more strength, more life. Having health and living in a healthful way with the offerings of mother earth. Finding the light inside each human being."

The Season of Creation is an opportunity to celebrate the abundance of life and protect the light in side each member of God's creation.



Praise to you, Lord, for this wonderful creation that is the Amazon people, and for all the biodiversity these lands contain!

SEMINARIAN BRUNCH FUNDRAISER

Come meet our Seminarians at the first Black & White Brunch Fundraiser



Brunch with Bishop Libasci * Video Presentation
Music * Silent Auction * and lots more!

How to attend:

Date/Time: Saturday, Oct 19, 10am - 12:30pm
Location: Manchester Country Club
180 S River Rd, Bedford, NH
Tickets: \$100 per person
Register: www.liveinblackandwhite.com

Why we need your support:

Each year, the diocese spends over \$500,000 on tuition and room and board for our seminarians—a little more than \$100 a day for each young man studying to be a priest. Please show your support for these fine young men by making an investment in the future of our diocese and parishes.

For more information or to become a sponsor:

Community News

VETERANS NEED YOUR HELP The Chaplain Service of the VA Medical Center in Manchester is in need of individuals willing to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Fridays through Mondays. Chapel helpers for the Sunday 1pm Mass and volunteer visitors. Contact Fr. Thomas P. Steinmetz at (603) 623-8944 or at oloc.church@comcast.net

VIGIL FOR FALLEN AWAY CATHOLICS at Holy Trinity Church, Somersworth, **Sept 24-26**. Begins with Mass & candle lighting on Tues, Sept 24 at 6:15pm, and continues with perpetual adoration. Closing Mass Thurs, Sept 26 at 6:15pm at Holy Trinity church.

NHRTL BENEFIT BANQUET on **Oct 3** at the Executive Court Banquet Facility in Manchester. Reception: 5:30pm, Dinner & Speaker (Terry Beatley): 6:45pm. \$65/person. Reservations: nhrtl.org/banquet2019

ST. ANDREW DINNERS Men in our diocese who are considering a vocation to the priesthood or would simply like some help hearing the Lord's call for their life, are invited to an evening of prayer, conversation with the Vocations Team, and dinner. Young men (age 13-18) on **Fri, Oct 4**; men (age 19-60) on **Fri, Oct 18**. Both from 6-8pm at the Joseph House (279 Cartier Street) in Manchester. Please RSVP to Becky Vinson at rvinson@rcbm.org or 663-0153.

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES (FCA) GOLF TOURNAMENT on **Oct 18**, from 9am-2pm at the Oaks Golf Links in Somersworth. \$150pp, \$500/foursome. For more details, visit <https://fca.regfox.com/2019seacoastgolftournament>

FREE SCREENING - "UNPLANNED" & KICK-OFF RALLY
Learn more about 40 Days for Life. Sunday, Sept 22 at 3pm at Ste. Marie Parish, Montminy Hall, Manchester, NH. For more information, visit 40daysforlife.com/Manchester.

FULLNESS OF PURPOSE PARISH MISSION at Corpus Christi Parish in Portsmouth. **Oct 16-17**, 7pm each evening. Get Free Introductory audio talk – text word FREETALK to 44222, or visit <https://corpuschristinh.org/> for more details.

MARCH FOR LIFE NH Pilgrimage. Love will end abortion. Join the diocesan pilgrimage to Washington, DC, **Thurs Jan 23 – Sat Jan 25, 2020**. Questions: contact Derek McDonald, Director of Family Life Ministries & Respect Life, at dmcDonald@rcbm.org or 603-663-0171.

UNH Campus Ministry

Fall 2019– Vol. 4

Hello students and parishioners!

As Catholics, we are welcomed with open arms by a God of relationship and compassion. It is through the relational aspects of talking, listening and reflecting in prayer (and with others) that God continually calls us to conversion. No, not constantly switching faith traditions, but seeking out the places where God is calling us to better mirror Jesus' life and mission. In this week's gospel, Luke uses the theme of honesty versus dishonesty to guide our reflections. This can be honesty with other people, with ourselves, and also with God. The verse that states "no servant can serve two masters" speaks to the challenge of being authentic and honest with ourselves *and* God.

This call to authenticity reminds me of a work by Franciscan theologian Richard Rohr, titled, **Immortal Diamond**. The theme of this book is a concept he calls the "true self and false self." The true self is our best and most original self, as God created and intended us to be. The false self on the other hand is visible when we stray from God and His call to love. I appreciate this book because it highlights the reality of how fluid we are as humans. In other words, it's not simply that some people are their true selves and others their false selves, rather that we are constantly in flux between the two as we go through life! On this journey of studying and working hard to obtain the credentials for what we want to do or be, let us also take time to reflect on how we can be the best versions of ourselves right here, right now!

Peace,

Ryan Cornelissen unhstm@gmail.com
Campus Minister (603)868-2666 x113

Interested in Community Service?



- ◇ Cook and serve dinner once a month for Cross Roads House, Portsmouth!
- ◇ Help families to find affordable housing through build days with Habitat for Humanity of Southeast NH!
- ◇ Join us for other service opportunities and to learn more about our Alternative Spring Break Trip!

Come **Monday September 30th at 7 PM** to the St. Thomas More Student Center (building to the left of the church) for an informational opportunity to learn why we are called to serve others through our Catholic faith, and how we are actively participating in local community!

Weekly Events!

SUNDAY-

5 PM- Student Mass
St Thomas More Church

6 PM- Student Supper
St Thomas More Student Center

TUESDAY-

1 PM- Community Lunch
Holloway Commons Dining Hall

WEDNESDAY-

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

FRIDAY-

6:00 PM- Combined Men's and
Women's Group Dinner at HoCo

7:00 PM- Women's Group, Men's
Group (Contact for location info)

RCIA: Come and See!

- Are you seeking initiation into the Catholic Church?
- Do you or someone you know want to learn about our faith and perhaps enter the Church this coming Easter?



Come **Tuesday (9/24) at 7 PM** to the Catholic Student Center at STM for an informational meeting about the process and next steps for you may be!