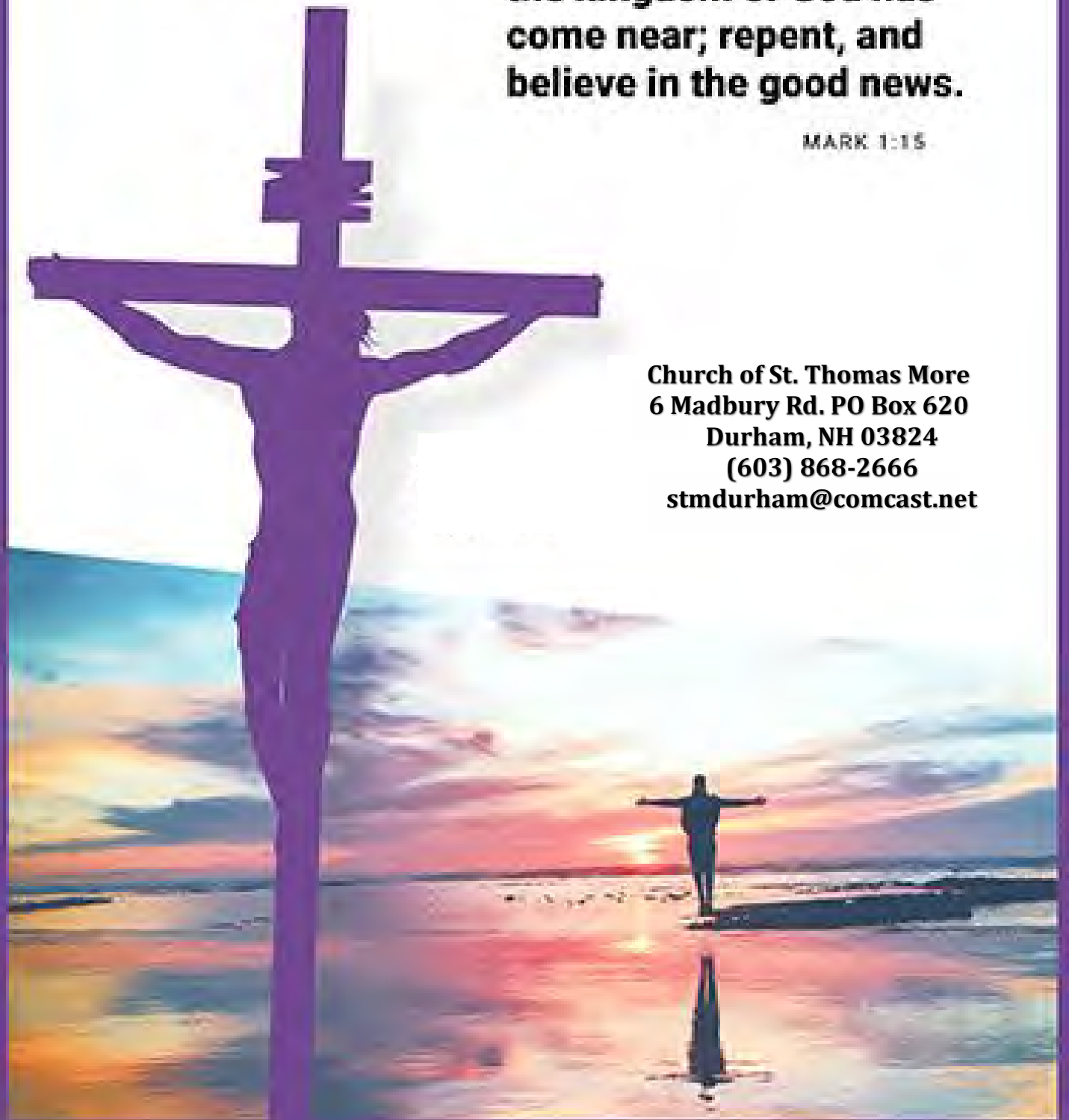


*First*  
SUNDAY OF  
**LENT**

**The time is fulfilled, and  
the kingdom of God has  
come near; repent, and  
believe in the good news.**

MARK 1:15

**Church of St. Thomas More  
6 Madbury Rd. PO Box 620  
Durham, NH 03824  
(603) 868-2666  
[stmdurham@comcast.net](mailto:stmdurham@comcast.net)**



**February 18, 2024**  
***First Sunday of Lent***

**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.*

**Awareness**  
**of Mortality**



Eleanor Harrison Bregman, who serves as a Protestant chaplain at Jewish Home Lifecare, a nursing facility in New York City, wrote these words on the ritual of Ash Wednesday:

*As the priest puts the ashes on my forehead, [saying] "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," I remember putting the ashes of my mother's remains into the earth a little over two years ago. This is real. Death will happen, someday....As I approached the priest this morning and those memories surfaced, I wept, and I thought, "Oh my God, it really is all going to end. It ended for my mother, it will end for me, someday, too.... Yet immediately upon the heels of that fear - almost terror - of dying, something else even more powerful welled up. I felt deep, deep thanksgiving for life. It is when you walk right up to your own mortality, or the mortality of those you love, that you know what and for whom you live and love. If you are lucky, you feel the grace of God so deeply that you know that even when it seems like it is all over, it isn't, because we are all resting in the palm of God's hand, now and forever.*

During this Lenten Season we journey with the Lord Jesus as he approaches death and the Resurrection. May God bless our **Journey from Ashes to Easter.**

In Christ,

*Fr. Andrew*

**CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS MORE**

*A Community of Parish & University Ministry  
PO Box 620, Durham, NH 03824; 603-868-2666;  
[stmdurham@comcast.net](mailto:stmdurham@comcast.net)*

**MASSES & OFFICE HOURS**

**WEEKEND MASSES**

Saturday 5pm  
Sunday 9am & 11:15am and 5:00pm Student Mass

**WEEKDAY MASS**

**No 12:10pm Mass Monday, February 19th**  
**Observance of President's Day**  
12:10pm Mass Tuesday & 11am Wednesday-Funeral

**REGULAR OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday-Office closed in observance of President's Day**  
**Tues & Thurs 9-3pm Wed 9-1pm Closed Friday**

**February 17th-18th; First Sunday of Lent**

Reading I: Genesis 9:8-15  
Reading II: 1 Peter 3:18-22  
Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

**February 24th-25th; Second Sunday of Lent**

Reading I: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18  
Reading II: Romans 8:31b-34  
Gospel: Mark 9:2-10



**February 17th-18th; First Sunday of Lent**

Saturday 5pm – ✠ Michael McGurty  
Sunday 9am – ✠ Rev. Marcel Allard  
Sunday 11:15am – ✠ Carol Knight McIver

**February 24th-25th; Second Sunday of Lent**

Saturday 5pm – ✠ Rev. Mark Rundzio  
Sunday 9am – ✠ Patricia Slavin  
Sunday 11:15am – ✠ John A. Rosson (20th Anniversary)



### **OFFERTORY UPDATE:**

Average Weekly Regular Offertory Amount  
needed to meet our Annual Budget,  
**\$5,192.31**

Offertory for February 11h: **\$4,981.38**

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

***Thank you for your generous contributions.***

### **MATCHING GIFT CAMPAIGN**



Our goal is **\$27,500**.  
Please help us reach our goal.  
Currently we are at **\$11,225.00**

**Your generosity is greatly appreciated!**



### **STM FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS**

#### **Faith Formation (K-5th grade)**

**Grades Kindergarten-1st During the 9am Mass—Church Hall**  
**Grades 2 & 3 (Student Center) & Grades 4-5 Church Hall**

#### **February Break-Feb 25th-March 3rd**

#### **Next Faith Formation Class March 10th-Whole Family**

**For more information please contact Ann McGurty**  
**[stmfaith@comcast.net](mailto:stmfaith@comcast.net) or call 603 868-2666 X110**

#### **Faith Formation Grades K-5th classes**

#### **Whole Family in the Gym on Sunday, March 10th**

**Please contact Ann McGurty for more information**

**[stmfaith@comcast.net](mailto:stmfaith@comcast.net) or 603-868-2666 EXT #110**

#### **Middle School Youth Ministry (Grades 6-8)**

**Next class Sunday, March 3rd from 6:30-8pm in the Church Hall**

**Please contact Regina Smick-Attisano for more information**

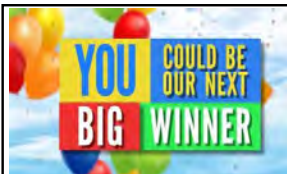
**[stmmsfaith@gmail.com](mailto:stmmsfaith@gmail.com)**

#### **High School Youth Ministry**

**High school students, please contact Felicia Sperry**  
**for more information on class schedule.**

**Please contact Felicia Sperry [stmHSYM@gmail.com](mailto:stmHSYM@gmail.com)**

**LIFE— Living In Faith Everyday**



### **200 CLUB**

**WILL YOU BE ONE OF THE BIG WINNERS?**

**Sixth Anniversary 200 Club**  
**Drawing on February 25, 2024**

You could be a winner of \$500 or \$300 or \$100 – the special prizes at the **Sixth Anniversary 200 Club Drawing** on **February 25** - but only if you are a member of the 200 Club and your payment has been received at the parish office by February 19.

Both enrollment and renewal are easy. Subscription options are for 3, 6 or 12 months, at a cost of \$50, \$100 or \$200 respectively.

Simply write a check made payable to St. Thomas More Church with 200 Club in the memo section. Mail it, along with your contact information [address, phone, and email], to the St. Thomas More parish office at PO Box 620, Durham NH 03824. For additional member information contact Tom Dolan at [tomdolan84@hotmail.com](mailto:tomdolan84@hotmail.com) or 603-519-0369



### **St. Thomas More Food Pantry January Update**

Reminder of Christmas Give Away at our Food Pantry. You are invited to come help yourself on Tuesdays between 1:00 and 2:00pm, Thursdays between 2:00 and 3:30pm and after all Masses through Feb. We have stockings, bows, universal light clips, shingle speed tab for lights, ornament hooks and more. If you know of a place or person who could use these holiday decorations, please contact me.

As part of your Lenten journey, add some service to the next 40 days, contact Regina Smick-Attisano at [rasamom3@comcast.net](mailto:rasamom3@comcast.net). We can match your availability with our opportunities to volunteer. This week, at the pantry, we have a need for:

- Laundry detergent
- Anything but yellow or chocolate cake mixes
- Crackers



**There will be**  
**no Children's Liturgy**  
**of the Word this week.**  
**We will resume on**  
**Sunday, March 10th.**



***"I establish My covenant with you." If in your listening to the Lord you are sensing the invitation to follow Christ as a priest, sister, or brother, talk to your priest or reach out to Fr. Matt Mason, the Vocations Director at 603-663-0196 or [mmason@rcbm.org](mailto:mmason@rcbm.org).***



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Avis Bennett  
Barbara Farrington  
Mary Golab  
Carol Johnston  
Dot Meneghin  
Carol Ober  
Susan Whitworth

*For all our homebound and residents of our local nursing homes and care facilities.*



OUR JOURNEY FROM  
ASHES TO EASTER  
HAS BEGUNS

Stations of the Cross on Fridays 7pm

Reconciliation is available Sat. 4pm and after Stations.



IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR!

Call Ann McGurty (603-868-2666) or email ([stmdurham@comcast.net](mailto:stmdurham@comcast.net)) the parish office if you would like a tax letter for your 2022 STM Contributions

Statement. Please let me know if you want the statement mailed, emailed, or if you are going to pick it up in person. It may take a few days to process, but I will try to get them out in a timely manner.

Thank you for your cooperation!



"I am the Resurrection and the life"

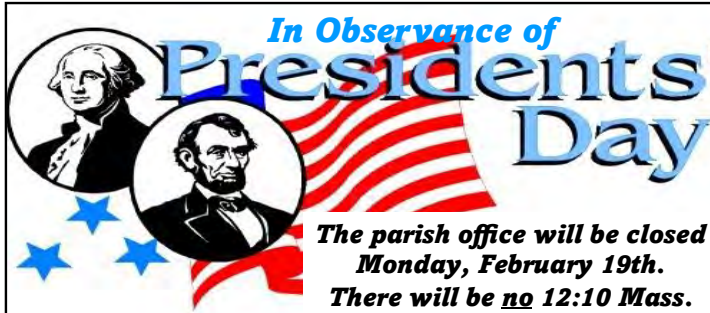
We pray for the repose of the soul of

† Jud Porter (long time parishioner)

Funeral Mass will be held on

Wednesday, February 21st at 11:00am at St. Thomas More

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him.  
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



The parish office will be closed  
Monday, February 19th.  
There will be no 12:10 Mass.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING A  
MINISTER OF HOSPITALITY TO WELCOME  
PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS TO OUR  
LITURGY CELEBRATIONS?



We are in need of Ushers & Greeters, for all Masses, especially on Sundays at 11:15am. If interested, please contact the office at 868-2666. Training will be provided.



The **Environment Group** is looking for individuals who would like to join a team and help with organizing materials and spaces, and decorating the Church for changes in the Liturgical Seasons.



Please Call **Roberta MacBride** for more information at 603-868-2666 EXT 115 or [stmpastoralmin@comcast.net](mailto:stmpastoralmin@comcast.net)



STM FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Our Fellowship Committee is responsible for hospitality and parish community activities. We are looking for new members. If you are interested in building community and sharing fellowship within our parish please call the parish office at 603-868-2666.



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD AS A LECTOR AT MASS?

Please contact the Parish office at 603-868-2666  
Or contact Roberta MacBride at [stmpastoralmin@comcast.net](mailto:stmpastoralmin@comcast.net)  
(Training will be provided)





# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## Week of January February 19th-25th

### WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAY 2/19	CSO Board Meeting 6pm-Student Center
TUESDAY 2/20	Bible Study, 6pm, Student Center Men's Group, 6pm Lighthouse
WEDNESDAY 2/21	CSO Meeting, 7pm, MUB 338
THURSDAY 2/22	Food Pantry, 4-6pm, Church Hall
FRIDAY 2/23	Stations of the Cross, 7pm

### UPCOMING UNH Student Mass Schedule

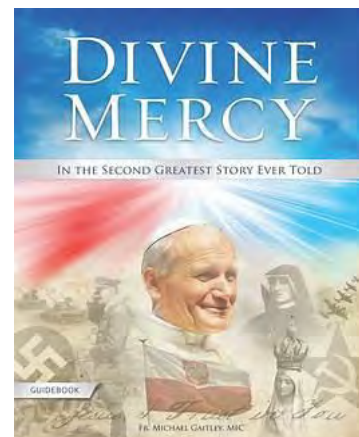
Sunday, February 25th	5pm
Sunday, March 3rd	5pm
Sunday, March 10th	5pm
Sunday, March 17th	SPRING BREAK

Home Cooked Meal to Follow All Student Masses!

Every other week, CSO will be watching Fr. Michael Gaitley's Divine Mercy in MUB338 at 7p.

### SECOND WEEK OF LENT

Loving God,  
I hear your invitation, "Come back to me"  
and I am filled with such a longing to return to  
you.  
Show me the way to return. Amen.



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**February 20**—Sts. Jacinta (d. 1919) and Francisco Marto (d. 1920) Visionaries at Fatima. Cousins of Sister Lucia. Devoted to the rosary, penance, and reparations for souls.

**February 21**—St. Polycarp (d. 155) - Disciple of St. John the Apostle, friend of Ignatius of Antioch. Martyred at age 86. Earliest full account of Christian martyrdom—Acts of Polycarp.



### UNH Catholic Student Organization News for Spring 2024 Students

If you would like additional information, please contact our Campus Minister,

Derick Alexandre—[unhstm@gmail.com](mailto:unhstm@gmail.com) or  
Tyler Johnson [tyler.johnson@unh.edu](mailto:tyler.johnson@unh.edu)

*Stay tuned for more exciting events happening this semester.*

*Hope to see you at the next meeting*  
*February 28th at 7:00pm at the MUB 338/340*

*Sunday Mass*  
*February 25th at 5pm*

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In Loving  
 Memory



**HEAVENLY ANNIVERSARY  
BLESSINGS TO  
OUR PARENTS**

**SEPTEMBER 12, 1964**

We Love & Miss You Very Much,  
Your Five Kids!! XO

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Don't be afraid...Be Ready

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help end hunger.**

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nine people face hunger.

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**Give blood.**



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