

Church of SAINT THOMAS MORE

A Community of Parish and University Ministry

6 Madbury Road (P.O. Box 620) - Durham, New Hampshire 03824-0620

January 12, 2025 **The Baptism of the Lord**



Parish Office: 603-868-2666 Fax: 603-868--3765

Campus Ministry: 603-868-2666 ext. 113

Email: stmdurham@comcast.net

Website: stmdurham.org

Beware of SCAMS!

Please call the office if you receive a
suspicious e-mail, phone call, etc.

PASTORAL TEAM

Ext.

Pastor & Catholic Chaplain:

Rev. Andrew W. Cryans

andrewstm@comcast.net

112

Rev. John P. Rosson- Assisting Priest

Office Administrator: Ann McGurty

stmdurham@comcast.net

110

Pastoral Minister/OCIA: Roberta MacBride

stmpastoralmin@comcast.net

115

Campus Minister/OCIA: Derick Alexandre

unhstm@gmail.com

113

Director of Faith Formation: Ann McGurty

stmfaith@comcast.net

110

Middle School Youth Minister: Selina Agandaa

Selina.agandaa@unh.edu

110

High School Youth Minister: Ann McGurty

stmfaith@comcast.net

110

Maintenance: Patrick Murphy

StThomasMaintenance@gmail.com

110

Bereavement Ministry: Roberta MacBride

stmpastoralmin@comcast.net

115

SUNDAY LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am; 11:15 am & Sunday **No 5pm Mass**
(Resumes 1/26/2025)

WEEKDAY MASS

No 12:10pm Mass Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Tues, Thurs: 9-3pm, & Wed 9-1pm. **Closed Friday**

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: Saturday, 4:00 - 4:30 pm or by appointment.

Baptism: Call office to register for class & date of celebration.

Marriage: Call office to schedule appointment at least six months prior.

Anointing of Sick: Call office anytime.

Inquiries & Reception in Catholic Faith (OCIA): Call Roberta ext. 115.

First Communion, First Reconciliation & Youth Confirmation:

Call Director of Faith Formation at ext. 110.

For Parish Registration call 603-868-2666 or visit stmdurham.org.

January 12th, 2025

The Baptism 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.*

The Baptism of the Lord



*"I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie: he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."
Luke 3:16*

Today the Church celebrates that point in Jesus' life when he went public, so to speak. He began to reveal who he was. There is another revelation in today's liturgy. It is that God is Trinity. At his Baptism, when Jesus the Son came up out of the water, the Spirit descended upon him and the voice of the Father declared that Jesus was his Son.

The Trinity, which is revealed in today's feast, is what is unique about Christianity and the point at which it differs most from Judaism from which it sprang. The revelation of God in the history of the chosen people took a significant leap forward with the birth of Jesus because now God is most clearly revealed for who God is - Father, Son and Spirit.

May God's favor rest on each of you.

Father Andrew

CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS MORE

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

MASSES & OFFICE HOURS

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5pm
Sunday 9am, 11:15am & **Sunday No 5pm Mass
resumes January 26, 2025**

WEEKDAY MASS

NO 12:10pm Mass Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Tues, & Thurs 9-3pm & Wed 9-1pm **Closed Fri**

January 11th-12th; The Baptism of the Lord

Reading I: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
Reading II: Titus 2:11-14-3:4-7
Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22



January 18th-19th; Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading I: Isaiah 62:1-5
Reading II: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
Gospel: John 2:1-11



January 11th-12th; The Baptism of the Lord

Saturday 5pm – † Christine Mason
Sunday 9am – † Helen Donnelly
Sunday 11:15am – † Thomas Maciolek



January 18th-19th; Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 5pm – For All Our STM Ministers
Sunday 9am – For All Our STM Ministers
Sunday 11:15am – For All Our STM Ministers



Please pray for our STM Faith Formation students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation over the next few weeks concluding with a retreat on January 25th.

May they be filled with the Holy Spirit as they prepare to be Disciples of Christ.



OFFERTORY UPDATE:

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

Christmas Offering December 25th **\$6,554.49**
Offertory for December 29th **\$10,150.76**

"Give and it shall be given to you." - Luke 6:38
Thank you for your generous contributions.



MATCHING GIFT CAMPAIGN

Our goal is **\$20,000.00**
Please help us reach our goal.
Currently we are at **\$7,949**

2025 Matching Gift Campaign is now officially begun and may run for approximately 2 months.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Ed Donnelly
Barbara Farrington

Peter Farrington
Dot Meneghin

Jerry Oidmen

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



Memorials for Deceased Loved Ones

Robert C. Rush, Sr. Pablo McLuz
Regis Croke Rick Fleming
Rob, Maureen, & Ron Buchan
Many Anonymous Donations



St. Thomas More Food Pantry Update Our December 2024 Report

In the month of December, we served 196 patrons from eight towns. The monthly total was down a bit from the earlier months in the fall although the needs of our patrons remain high. We are still seeking a person to transport donated baby items to New Generations in Greenland. This would be a one-time service opportunity. Let me know if you would like to take on this task and we can work out the details.

As always, if you would like to join our team, contact Regina Smick-Attisano at rasamom3@comcast.net

- This week, at the pantry, we have a need for:
- Herbal teas
- Laundry detergent
- Cooking spices

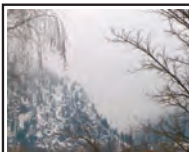


IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR!

Call Ann McGurty (603-868-2666) or email (stmdurham@comcast.net) the parish office if you would like a **tax letter for your 2024 contributions to STM**. Please let me know if you

want it mailed, emailed, or if you are going to pick it up in person. It may take a few weeks to process, but I will try to get them out in a timely manner.

Thank you for your cooperation!



200 CLUB

It was a cold and dismal day on Dec 29, but the following 200 Club members found warm winnings.

Regina Leahy
Tamara and Kevin Shilling
Gerry Gajewski



Both enrollment and renewal are easy. There's plenty of time to become a new member or renew your membership before the January drawing.

New/renewal application forms are available at the church entrances.

Or simply write a check made payable to **St. Thomas More Church**. Don't forget to put **200 Club** in the memo section. Mail it, along with your contact information [address, phone, and email], to the parish office at:

St Thomas More Parish, PO Box 620, Durham NH 03824

For additional member information contact Tom Dolan at tomdolan84@hotmail.com or 603-519-0369

A special note of thanks to all those who have supported the 200 club.
You have made a difference!!



St. Thomas More goal is **\$31,105.00**

As of December 2nd we have raised **\$25,652.33**. Help us reach our goal!

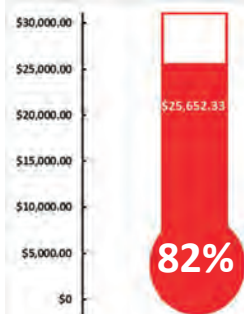
Thank you to all who have contributed. Feel free to take an envelope complete it and mail it directly to **NH Catholic Appeal**, or place it in the collection basket or go online at www.catholicnh.org/nhca

Our Parish number code is **41830**.

Our **STM Food Pantry** and **Campus Ministry** benefit from the NHCA contributions.

We're almost there!

Thank you for your continual support.





THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Monday, January 13

Repent and Follow Jesus

Jesus calls the first disciples: “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Simon, Andrew, James, and John abandon their nets and follow him. Find a parish where the sacrament of reconciliation is offered this week. Repent and respond to Jesus’ call to follow him. *Today’s readings:* Hebrews 1:1–6; Psalm 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9; Mark 1:14–20.

Saturday, January 18

Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity starts today. It was first celebrated in 1908 because division weakens the power of the Christian witness. The entire Christian community is invited to join in prayer. Visit the World Council of Churches’ website to learn about this year’s theme and to find resources to participate in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. *Today’s readings:* Hebrews 4:12–16; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mark 2:13–17.

Saturday, January 25

The Conversion of St. Paul

Today the Church observes the conversion of St. Paul. The Lord calls Saul after “a light from the sky” flashes suddenly around him. Saul is temporarily physically blinded, symbolizing his religious blindness. Though the conversion of others around us may not be as sudden as St. Paul’s, let us celebrate today by reflecting on the strength it takes to return to the Lord. Say a prayer for those who persecute followers of Christ: may their eyes be opened and may they have the courage to say yes to following the way of the Lord. *Today’s readings:* Acts 22:3–16 or Acts 9:1–22; Psalm 117:1bc, 2; Mark 16:15–18.

Sunday, February 2

The Presentation of the Lord

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is also known as Candlemas Day. Candles might be blessed during a liturgy to symbolize Christ, the light of the world. Light a candle and say a prayer in gratitude for your faith. Since Jesus is fully human, he knows well our joys and struggles, and is thus “able to help those who are being tested.” Rest in peace today knowing that the Lord deeply understands all you are experiencing and is holding it with you. *Today’s readings:* Malachi 3:1–4; Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10; Hebrews 2:14–18; Luke 2:22–40.

Thursday, February 6

St. Paul Miki and Companions

Jesuit brother Paul Miki, born into a noble Japanese family, and his companions were martyred by crucifixion in Nagasaki in 1597. The group consisted of Franciscan and Jesuit missionaries and Japanese lay people who were offered freedom if they renounced Christianity. They courageously declined. In today’s Gospel, we hear that Jesus sent the apostles out in twos to evangelize. Like the group martyred with St. Paul Miki, the work of brave evangelization can be done in community. Reach out to someone who inspires your faith. How can you preach the Good News together? *Today’s readings:* Hebrews 12:18–19, 21–24; Psalm 48:2–3ab, 3cd–4, 9, 10–11; Mark 6:7–13.

Saturday, February 22

The Chair of St. Peter

Jesus says Peter is the rock upon which the Church will be built. He was called to carry forth the mission of the Church so it could be passed down to future generations. The pope serves as the successor of St. Peter. Spend time learning something new about the pope and his apostolic mission today. Say a prayer in gratitude for those who have passed your faith on to you. *Today’s readings:* 1 Peter 5:1–4; Psalm 23:1–3a, 4, 5, 6; Matthew 16:13–19.



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Inbreaking

God our comfort,
you are with us!
You gather us in your arms,
embrace us in protection,
purify us,
and lead us with care.
We are filled with expectation—
help us to walk by your light
and see your inbreaking.
Send forth your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, January 12, 2025

New Creation



*Today's readings: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Psalm 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30; Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22. John the Baptist says: "One mightier than I is coming. . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." In other words, he will come to purify us. What a gift! Jesus did not need to be baptized, but in choosing to do so, he cleansed the waters and showed his solidarity with us so that we could be reconciled to God. In baptism, the Holy Spirit "moves us to answer Christ's call to holiness . . . we are asked to walk by the light of Christ and to trust in his wisdom," reads the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*. Spend time this week contemplating your baptism.*

On that day, you were welcomed into the Body of Christ and made a new creation. How does that inspire you?

On this last day of the Christmas season, we hear that at Jesus' baptism, God's voice proclaimed: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." God continues to make himself known to us. As we enter Ordinary Time, consider how you will remember the joy of God becoming human every time you go to Mass. How will you reflect on the gift of salvation long past the end of this Christmas season? Make it a point in your day to continue to be open to God presence.

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Hoover & Flynn, PLLC

Attorneys at Law

Hope M. Flynn, Esq.

100 International Dr., Ste. 365 • Portsmouth, NH 03801 • hope@hoover-flynn.com

In Loving
 Memory



**HEAVENLY ANNIVERSARY
BLESSINGS TO
OUR PARENTS**

SEPTEMBER 12, 1964

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

READY.GOV

Don't be afraid...Be Ready

**Act now to
help end hunger.**

In the United States, one in
nine people face hunger.

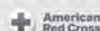
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**Be a
friend.**

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