

✠ HIS HOLINESS ✠
POPE LEO XIV



Church of St. Thomas More - Durham, New Hampshire

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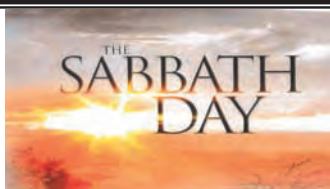
May 18, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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.*



Sabbath

The word Sabbath is from the Hebrew "Shabbat," meaning "to cease, desist." The weekly day of rest and abstention from work enjoined upon the Israelites (Genesis 2:1-3) was appropriated by the Christians, and Sunday became our chief liturgical day.

We need to stop, to pause, to pray. Perhaps begin your next Sabbath by reading Fr. Andrew Costello's Sabbath Prayer, the text of which follows:

GOD of sunrises and sunsets,
God of Mondays to Fridays,
teach me how to slow down and enjoy
Saturdays and Sundays.
Teach me how to Sabbath.
Teach me how to calm down
and actually taste the gift of a day off.
Teach me how to slow down enough to see
all that I'm missing
and to miss all that I'm seeing:
those tiny things, those annoyances,
that keep on wearing me down
day after day after day.
Help me to see people for their gifts,
instead of seeing them for their faults.
Help me to listen to the person I'm with,
instead of saying the same old responses
said in the same old way,
day after day after day.
God of sunrises and sunsets,
teach me how to relax and enjoy
Saturdays and Sundays,
so I'll be a better person
Mondays to Fridays.

-Andrew Costello

Celebration of Sabbath expresses the belief that our time belongs ultimately to God.

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*

MASSES & OFFICE HOURS

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5pm
Sunday 9am, 11:15am

WEEKDAY MASS

12:10pm Mass on Monday, Tuesday
No 12:10pm Mass on Wednesday

OFFICE HOURS

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

May 17th-18th; Fifth Sunday of Easter

Reading I: Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27
Reading II: Revelation 21:1-5a
Gospel: John 13:31-33a, 34-35

May 24th-25th; Sixth Sunday of Easter

Reading I: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29
Reading II: Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23
Gospel: John 14:23-29



May 17th-18th; Fifth Sunday of Easter

Saturday 5pm – † Elaine McGurty (17th Anniversary)
Sunday 9am – † Pope Francis
Sunday 11:15am – † Mary Stumhofer (1st Anniversary)

May 24th-25th; Sixth Sunday of Easter

Saturday 5pm – † Norma A. Monahan
Sunday 9am – † Lorie Cryans Fields (14th Anniversary)
Sunday 11:15am – † Daniel Wellehan



OFFERTORY UPDATE:

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

Offertory for May 11th **\$4,974.27**

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

Thank you for your generous contributions.



Benefit Concert

FEATURING
PIANIST & COMPOSER
LUCAS NERING

THURSDAY, MAY 22ND, 6:00PM

St. John's Episcopal Church

101 Chapel Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801

Light reception to follow.

HOSTED BY DRS. TOM & LISA SHERMAN

Sponsored by Martha Fuller Clark

Event is free but donations to SMHC are encouraged. RSVP to Kelly Hartnett at khartnett@smhc-nh.org or scan the QR code.



St. Thomas More Food Pantry Update

One set of our volunteers, our UNH students, have graduated or have moved onto their summer plans. If your late spring and/or summer plans are flexible, please consider adding some volunteer time to your week, we have options on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons; it will be most appreciated as the rest of our volunteers will also be heading for their summer vacations. Contact Regina Smick-Attisano at rasamom3@comcast.net for more details.

At the pantry this week, we have a need for:

- Paper towels
- Toothpaste
- Snack crackers



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Ed Donnelly
Dot Meneghin

Barbara Farrington Peter Farrington
Jody Newman

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



200 Club

If you are a 200 Club member, your winnings could bloom at our next drawing on May 25th. Make sure you have a number. Don't be left out.

There's enough time to become a new member or renew your membership.

The next drawing is on May 25th, so there's plenty of time to become a new member or renew your membership.

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

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

New/renewal enrollment forms are available at the church entrances. Or simply write a check made payable: 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

You are making a difference!!



The **Eucharistic Pilgrimage** will be stopping here at St. Thomas More Church on **Saturday, June 7th** from **7:10am-8:10am** with a procession around the block.

All are welcome to attend!

Anyone who is present to any part of the pilgrimage (even adoring our Lord as He passes by) can obtain the 2025 **Jubilee Year of Hope plenary indulgence and apostolic blessing** according to Bishop Libasci's decree and the norms for receiving plenary indulgences.

St. Thomas More goal is **\$31,101.00**
As of **05/05 2025**, we have raised

\$90.00

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 **2025 NH Catholic Appeal**; drop it in the basket at the entrances of the Church; 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.

Thank you for your continual support.



Congratulation to our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV (Robert Francis Prevost of Chicago)

Many blessings upon your papacy.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, May 19

Glory to God

After Paul heals the crippled man at Lystra, the crowds mistake Paul and Barnabas for gods. Paul and Barnabas exclaim that they are, in fact, not gods, but humans proclaiming the Good News: that they “should turn from these idols to the living God.” Sometimes we can mistake God’s work in our lives for something that is not God; we may idolize ourselves, someone in our community, or something else entirely when we should be recognizing God’s goodness. Spend time in prayer reflecting on the ways God has bestowed goodness on you. *Today’s readings: Acts 14:5–18; Psalm 115:1–2, 3–4, 15–16; John 14:21–26.*

Tuesday, May 20

St. Bernardine of Siena

St. Bernardine, a Franciscan priest, was known for his exceptional preaching. He traveled on foot, preaching from town to town. Bernardine is credited for creating on a blazing sun the symbol that is synonymous with the Holy Name of Jesus: IHS (the first three letters of Jesus’ name in Greek). He died while traveling on foot to preach. *Today’s readings: Acts 14:19–28; Psalm 145:10–11, 12–13ab, 21; John 14:27–31a.*

Wednesday, May 21

St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions

St. Christopher Magallanes and the twenty-five martyrs we honor today lived under an extremely anti-Catholic government in Mexico. Christopher Magallanes organized catechetical centers, schools, and orphanages in rural areas. The martyrs died serving as a part of the Cristero movement, dedicated to spreading the Good News even while it was a crime to be baptized or celebrate the Mass. Today, pray in gratitude for the ability to practice your faith. *Today’s readings: Acts 15:1–6; Psalm 122:1–2, 3–4ab, 4cd–5; John 15:1–8.*

Thursday, May 22

St. Rita of Cascia

From a young age, St. Rita desired to become a nun. Her parents, however, arranged for her marriage to a man who proved to be abusive and unfaithful to her. After eighteen years of marriage, St. Rita’s husband died in a brawl. Shortly after, her two sons also died. While Rita tried to join the Augustinian nuns, she was rejected three times because she was a widow. Eventually, the Augustinians welcomed her. She became known for her prayerfulness, care for sick nuns, and austerity. St. Rita of Cascia is the patron saint of difficult situations, mainly in the context of marriage. Today, join her in prayer by saying a prayer uplifting married couples to God in your community. *Today’s readings: Acts 15:7–21; Psalm 96:1–2a, 2–b3, 10; John 15:9–11.*

Friday, May 23

Love One Another

Jesus commands us to love one another as he has loved us. It is because we have been chosen and loved by God that we are called to love others (and have the strength to do so). Resolve to love those around you by performing acts of service. Choose one person to serve each day in the coming week. What act(s) of service might show your love for them? How can you share Christ’s love with them? *Today’s readings: Acts 15:22–31; Psalm 57:8–9, 10 and 12; John 15:12–17.*

Saturday, May 24

Chosen

Jesus says that he has chosen us, we were created to follow him! Following Jesus will not always be easy: today we are reminded that “the world . . . hated [Jesus] first.” If we are persecuted or disliked for spreading the Good News, we must remember that Jesus is with us. Today, say a prayer in gratitude for Jesus’ companionship and guidance. Reflect on the ways he has been with you as you have discerned your role as his disciple. *Today’s readings: Acts 16:1–10; Psalm 100:1b–2, 3, 5; John 15:18–21.*



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



As You Love Us

Gracious God,
you make all things new.
You dwell with us,
promising to bring us to a place
of peace, comfort, and joy—
to everlasting life!
Help us
to proclaim this Good News,
to strengthen the spirits of those
around us,
and to encourage them to persevere
in faith.
Grant us the wisdom, courage,
and perseverance
to love one another
as you love us.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 18, 2025
Behold, I Make All Things New

Today's readings: Acts 14:21–27; Psalm 145:8–9, 10–11, 12–13; Revelation 21:1–5a; John 13:31–33a, 34–35. Jesus tells us that we will be known as his disciples by the way we love others. Our daily acts of service bring the presence of God to those around us. What a gift and a challenge to accept! This Sunday, spend time reflecting on those who have manifested God's love to you. Who in your life has shown you God's compassionate love? What have you learned from them? Say a prayer in gratitude for the ways they have glorified God. Make it a point to reach out to thank them.

In today's second reading from the Book of Revelation, we hear that "God's dwelling is with the human race."

Though we know this, it can be easy to miss the many ways God is present to us in our day-to-day lives, particularly as we experience hardships. In those difficult moments, we can take comfort knowing that God promises to wipe every tear from our eyes. God is with us as we experience death, mourning, wailing, and pain. God promises us everlasting life. How can you call to mind God dwelling among us when you are struggling? We are called to share the promise of everlasting life with those around us. This week, how can you glorify God and lovingly open the door of faith to others?

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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

READY.GOV

Don't be afraid...Be Ready

**Act now to
help end hunger.**

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

feedingamerica.org



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friend.**

Give blood.



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