

FIRST SUNDAY *of Advent*

HOPE



CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS MORE

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

Email: stmdurham@stmdurham.org; Website:

November 30 2025
First Sunday of Advent

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.*



Advent Morning Prayer

*The season of Advent
originated as a fast of forty
days in preparation for
Christmas. Ever mindful that*

*our faith is not only about what we believe, but also
about how we live.*

*I think Ella Wilcox's poem can help us focus on how
best to honor Jesus today in our words and actions*

Morning Prayer

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

*Let me to-day do something that shall take
A little sadness from the world's vast store,
And may I be so favoured as to make
Of joy's too scanty sum a little more.
Let me not hurt, by any selfish deed
Or thoughtless word, the heart of foe or friend;
Nor would I pass, unseeing, worthy need,
Or sin by silence when I should defend.
However meagre by my worldly wealth,
Let me give something that shall aid my kind-
A word of courage, or a thought of health,
Dropped as I pass for troubled hearts to find.
Let me to-night look back across the span
'Twixt dawn and dark, and to my conscience say-
Because of some good act to beast or man-
"The world is better that I lived to-day."*

*Let us Prepare the way of the Lord by acts of faithful
love and service .*

Fr. Andrew

CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS MORE

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

MASSES & OFFICE HOURS

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5pm

Sunday 9am, 11:15am & 5pm -When UNH is in Session

WEEKDAY MASS

12:10PM MASS ON MON, TUES & WED IN THE CHURCH

OFFICE HOURS

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

Food Pantry-Thursdays 4-6pm

We await the Savior
EMMANUEL

November 29th-30th; First Sunday of Advent

Reading I: Isaiah 2:1-5
Reading II: Romans 13:11-14
Gospel: Matthew 24: 37-44



December 6th-7th; Second Sunday of Advent

Reading I: Isaiah 11:1-10
Reading II: Romans 15:4-9
Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12



November 29th-30th; First Sunday of Advent

Saturday 5pm – † Lorie Cryans Fields
Sunday 9am – † Helen Donnelly (1st Anniversary)
Sunday 11:15am – † Theresa Staples



December 6th-7th; Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday 5pm – † Rosemary Maciolek
Sunday 9am – † Illa Schaller (1st Anniversary)
Sunday 11:15am – † Jud Porter





STM FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS

For more information please contact
Ann McGurty stmdurham@stmdurham.org
or call 603-868-2666

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES NOV. 30TH

Grades K-5th Classes

Next Faith Formation Grades K-5 Classes– December 7th

Middle School Youth Ministry

Next Middle School Class December 7th

10:00am-Middle School (Grades 6-8) Gym
See Middle School Calendar for upcoming dates

LIFE– Living In Faith Everyday



St. Thomas More Food Pantry Update

In the spirit of giving, members of our communities donated food to three local food drives during the month of November which our pantry was the recipient. Thanks to the Boy Scouts Troop 154, Churchill Ice Rink at Jackson's Landing and Brookdale Spruce Wood Senior Living Community who organized these food drives.

This week, at the pantry, we need the following items:

- Shampoo
- Confectioners' sugar
- Seltzer water



STM CHRISTMAS 2025 GIVING PROJECT FOR CHILDREN



This year we are working with the Durham Fire Dept in collecting **brand new unwrapped toys and coats** for children (infant–high school) from **Nov 9th -Dec 14th**.

There will be designated boxes between the glass doors at the Student Center for coats and toys. Gift cards are accepted but please bring to the Office.

As always, thank you for your generosity!



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Ed Donnelly
Peter Farrington
Barbara Farrington

Christine Johnston
Dot Meneghin
Bernadette Komonchak

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



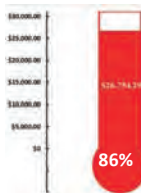
St. Thomas More goal is **\$31,101.00**
We have raised **\$26,754.29**

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.

Thank you for your continual support.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Meets on **Tuesday, December 2nd**
at 11:30 in the student center library
All interested in knitting & crocheting are welcome!



ADVENT CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & ENVIRONMENT

Honor or remember a loved one with a donation to our Advent/Christmas flowers & environment. Names of those remembered will be listed in the bulletin during the Christmas Season. Envelopes are available in the church; you can stop by the office, or you can mail your names/donations to:

St. Thomas More, Box 620, Durham, NH 03824



Christmas Fair Volunteers Needed!

STM Christmas Fair **Saturday, Dec 6, 2025**

The STM Christmas Fair is one of our biggest Fundraisers for the parish and **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

The Christmas Fair is in need of volunteers for the various tables and activities at the fair: White Elephant, Bake Table, Basket Raffle, Pets, Jewelry, Accessories, Crafts, Set-up and Clean-up, etc... We are also looking for someone who would be interested in assisting with advertising/ promotion. Please contact **Kara Kane directly at 603-767-9837** if you are able to assist with one of these roles.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

If you are able to help with raffle prize donations and/or gift baskets, all donations will be greatly appreciated. **Please drop off all Gift Baskets by Thursday, Dec 4th.** Monetary gifts are also accepted as we can use these to purchase raffle items. Many businesses will donate items at this time of year, so please check to see if your company participates in charitable giving.

THANK YOU!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Week of December 1st-7th

WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday 12/1 OCIA 7pm-Student Center
 Tuesday 12/2 Men's Group 7pm
 Women's Group 7pm
 Wednesday 12/3 CSO Meeting 7pm MUB 162
 Thursday 12/4 Pantry 2:00-6:30p (STM)
 Friday 12/5 CSO Board Meeting 5:30pm
 Adoration 7pm, STM
 Saturday 12/6 CSO Christmas Party-7pm
 Sunday 12/7 Student Mass/Supper 5pm

2nd Week of Advent

Prayer for Peace: Prince of Peace, in a world filled with turmoil, grant us the tranquility that only your peace can bring. Help us to be instruments of reconciliation and harmony in our relationships and communities. Amen.

UPCOMING UNH Student Mass Schedule

Sunday, December 7 5pm

[SEE YOU IN THE SPRING SEMESTER!](#)

A Homecooked meal to follow Student Masses!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**CSO CHRISTMAS PARTY-
 SATURDAY DECEMBER 6th in
 the STUDENT CENTER.**



UNH Catholic Student Organization News for 2025 Students

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

Derick Alexandre—unhstm@stmdurham.org or
Sam Heinze—sarah.hunton@unh.edu

Stay tuned for more exciting events happening this semester.

*Hope to see you at the next meeting
 December 3rd at 7:00pm at the MUB 162
 Sunday Mass with Supper to Follow
 December 7th at 5pm*

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December 3-St. Francis Xavier (d. 1552). Co-founder of the Jesuit order. Missionary. Brought the Gospel to India and Japan. Many Universities named after him.



December 8th-Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Holy Day of Obligation. Commemorates Mary's conception. Patron Feast of the United States.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“You know the hour in which we are living. It is now the hour for you to wake from sleep, for our salvation is closer than when we first accepted the faith. The night is far spent, the day draws near. Let us cast off the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light’... ‘The Son of Man is coming at the time you least expect.’”

Welcome to a another, a new season of advent. We are looking again for the coming of the Lord, remembering Bethlehem, but His promised coming again. Since our last advent have you ever thought of your final destiny, salvation won for you by the first coming of Christ?

Let’s begin this advent thinking, not about our celebration of the birth of Christ, but His coming at the end of time and our salvation. Am I ready to meet Him? Am I concerned about the salvation of others, my friends and family? Consider the words of Paul in Romans as he stirs us to wake from sleep and both think and act, as we prepare for His coming to me. The words of the hymn echo in my heart ‘Jesus is the Lord of my salvation; I trust in Him and have no fear.’

HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON
THE SUNDAY READINGS



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**HEAVENLY ANNIVERSARY
BLESSINGS TO
OUR PARENTS**

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