

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 4, 2024-*Epiphany of the lord*



PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor & Catholic Chaplain:

Rev. Andrew W. Cryans
andrewstm@stmdurham.org

Rev. John P. Rosson—Assisting Priest

Office Administrator: Ann McGurty
stmdurham@stmdurham.org

Pastoral Minister/OCIA: Roberta MacBride
stmpastoralmin@stmdurham.org

Campus Minister/OCIA: Derick Alexandre
stmunh@stmdurham.org

Director of Faith Formation: Ann McGurty
stmfaih@stmdurham.org

Middle School Youth Minister: Selina Agandaa
Selina.agandaa@unh.edu

Maintenance: Patrick Murphy
stmmaintenance@stmdurham.org

Bereavement Ministry: Roberta MacBride
stmpastoralmin@stmdurham.org

Food Pantry: Regina Smick-Attisano
rasamom3@comcast.net or *stmfoodpantry@stmdurham.org*

TELEPHONE PROMPT

#2

#3

#4

#5

#3

SUNDAY LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am; 11:15 am & No 5pm Mass

WEEKDAY MASS

12:10pm Mass on Mon, Tue & Wed

OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Tuesday & Thursday: 9-3pm & Wed: 9-1pm & **Fri. Closed**

Food Pantry-Thursday 4-6pm

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 603-868-2666

First Communion, First Reconciliation & Youth Confirmation:

Call Director of Faith Formation 603-868-2666

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

January 4, 2026

Epiphany 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.



Epiphany

Christmas is too rich to be celebrated on one day only — hence we continue to take different aspects of this great mystery for further reflection. This is the strangest of the Christmas stories. The plot is full of mystery, intrigue; and what a cast of characters. Few personalities in the Bible have provoked so much discussion as the “Magi.”

What significance do they hold for the contemporary believer? The Magi's value is theological. The witness to the significance of Jesus is universal. All men and women in all times and places are invited to discover in Jesus the source of a new relationship with God and one another.

Probably the Magi's greatest lesson is that they were not alone. They confirmed each other in their belief and in their hope. They believed, they hoped, they kept going. What do I believe? What do I hope? With whom do I share my visions?

Some questions to ponder on Shakespeare's “Twelfth night.”

Blessed Epiphany

Fr. Andrew

“O Come Let us Adore Him”

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

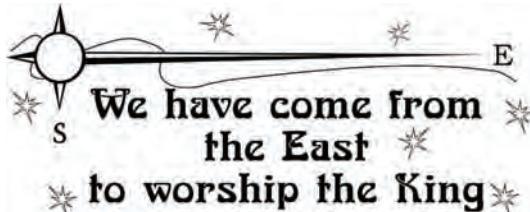
WEEKEND MASSES

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-Thursday 4-6pm



Jan 3rd-4th; The Epiphany of the Lord

Reading I: Isaiah 60:1-6
Reading II: Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12



January 10th-11th; The Baptism of the Lord

Reading I: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
Reading II: Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38
Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Jan 3rd-4th; The Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday 5pm –† Bill MacBride
Sunday 9am –† All STM Ministers
Sunday 11:15am –† Desmond Gibbons



January 10th-11th; The Baptism of the Lord

Saturday 5pm –† Bill MacBride
Sunday 9am –† Don Cowles
Sunday 11:15am –† Thomas Maciolek

20+C+M+B+26



EPIPHANY

New Year Blessing of the Door

The chalking of the Door is typically done on January 6th on the Feast of the Epiphany and celebrates the revealing of Christ to the world in three events: The visit of the Magi when Jesus is revealed to the Gentiles, the baptism of Christ by John, and the changing of water to wine at the Cana wedding. God revealed Himself to us and dwells with us and we desire the life in our homes to reveal Christ to others. This short liturgy is a way of yearly marking our homes, usually at the front or main entrance, with sacred signs and symbols to intentionally set our homes apart as places of Christian hospitality; as safe and peaceful outposts of the Kingdom of God in the world; as habitations of healing and rest. We again invite God's presence into our homes and ask His blessing upon all those who live, work, or visit throughout the coming year.

Chalk is used in this service as an ordinary substance of the earth, dust put to holy use. It reminds us that we are of the dust of the ground, the most ordinary of substances, and yet are fashioned as holy beings for most holy purposes. Chalk will not permanently mark the dwelling. Weather will likely cause the marking to fade over time, but each time we view it upon entering our homes we will remember the reason for it and rededicate ourselves to that purpose. Typically, the markings are intended to remain at least until the Feast of Pentecost but need not be removed at all. Another year passes and a new Epiphany arrives, and will again dedicate ourselves to be Lights of the World.

The Inscription:

Each year, the inscription is the new year separated by C+M+B. For instance, in 2026, the inscription will be **20+C+M+B+26**.

Church tradition names three of the Magi— Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar—and on Epiphany we celebrate these three kings and their gift-bringing. The numbers of the year are the bookends of the inscription.

“C M B” above the door, also stands for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, Latin for “Christ, Bless this house.”

OFFERTORY UPDATE:



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

Offertory for December 14, 2025 **5,049.05**

Offertory for December 21, 2025 **4,122.15**

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



Memorials for Deceased Loved Ones

Gloria Filar	Kevin Kearney	Carol McKenney
Andrew Fella	Bob Brown	Clair & Earl Way
Kim Marsh	Ralph Johnston	James Michael Johnston
Ralph & Claire Miles	Carolyn & Jud Porter	
Jabby & Bette Jablonski	Michael Jablonski, Jr.	
Chuck Longchamps	Bill MacBride	
Deceased Members of the Russell & MacBride Families		



200 CLUB WINNERS

The new year of 2026 rang in December's lucky winners:

Bob Doty

Kevin O'Shea

Lindsey Murphy

Congratulations to All!

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. 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**. **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 and continue to support the 200 Club.



St. Thomas More Food Pantry Update

A big thank you to Advanced Concrete Technologies of Greenland, NH for their generosity in an unexpected gift to the Food Pantry this week.

This week we are seeking volunteers to help during the month of January. In the last week of our operation in December, we served 41 patrons! We have multiple opportunities for assistance but have a special need during our hours of operation on Thursdays from 4-6pm and for setup from 2-3:45pm. Let me know if this sounds like it can fit into your schedule.

Contact Regina at rasamom3@comcast.net.

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

- Tissues
- Aluminum foil or plastic wrap
- Pickles

Happy New Year 2026

Attention All Christmas Fair Volunteers

We would like to thank everyone who volunteered and assisted with the Christmas Fair.....we couldn't do it without all of you!! We raised **\$6,760.00** (net income) for the parish. We have planned a pot-luck luncheon scheduled for **Sunday, Jan 11th at 12:30pm** in the church hall. We hope you can attend to enjoy some after the holidays fellowship. We will also "debrief" this year's fair and make suggestions for next year's fair.

If you plan to attend and can bring either a dish or dessert, please let Kara (603-767-9837) or Stacey (603-534-5420) know. Thank you all so much for another wonderful year! Kara & Stacey



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

"You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people of other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit, that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel."

Holiday travel has ended. The journey, our new year has begun. It seems we were like the Magi. We move from the gifts, the star, and seek to understand the meaning of today as we begin 2026. We might say the secret is revealed, telling us who we are. Saint Paul reveals it to us. First, we are beneficiaries of the gift of new life. We have been claimed by God as members of His church, which membership should never just be presumed or taken for granted. He tells us thirdly; we are copartners in His ministry. May my resolution for this year be to find ways to deepen my commitment to Christ, as His partner, in my own parish. As Ephesians states, it is for our benefit.

HIS WORD TODAY

BY REV. WILLIAM J. REILLY

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON
THE SUNDAY READINGS



KID'S KORNER

Gospel Today

Epiphany of the Lord | Matthew 2:1-12

The Wise Men follow a star to the place where Mary and Jesus are and offer the Child gold, frankincense, and myrrh. They do not return to Herod but follow another route to their own country.

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F



Find and write the missing letters not listed (from A to Z).

U M Z
X C J P N V
E L W H
O D I Y Q
K G B



Unscramble the letters and fill in the blanks to complete the sentence below.

When they saw the _____,
they were overjoyed.

Matthew 2:10



answer: star

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Don't be afraid...Be Ready

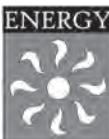
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In Loving

 Memory



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Your Five Kids!! XO

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