



The Thomas More College of Liberal Arts

ORIENTATION 2026





Welcome to Thomas More College

Dear Incoming Students,

The start of your first semester here at Thomas More College of Liberal Arts is just around the corner, and we look forward to welcoming you into our community! As you prepare for your arrival, we want to provide you with some useful information, including multiple packing lists, arrival instructions, and the orientation schedule.

Please feel free to contact me or your Resident Director, Gavin Farinholt '26, with any questions or concerns.

Safe travels and God Bless,



Michael Dominic Taylor, PhD
Teaching Fellow & Dean of Students
mtaylor@thomasmorecollege.edu
(603) 546-0879



Gavin Farinholt '26
Resident Director
gfarinholtfl21@thomasmorecollege.edu

More Friendly Faces

In addition to Dr. Taylor and the Admissions Officers you have already come to know, we'd like to introduce you to some other members of the faculty and staff—as well as our Student Life Team—who will be helping you get settled into life at the College.



Matthew Walz, PhD | Fellow & President

mwalz@thomasmorecollege.edu

Dr. Walz is the fourth president of Thomas More College. In the coming years, he looks forward to getting to know each of you and teaching a variety of courses in the curriculum.



Denis Kitzinger, PhD | Fellow & Dean

dkitzinger@thomasmorecollege.edu

Dean Kitzinger teaches across several disciplines at the College. Students should direct all questions regarding their classes and academic standing to him.



Paul Jackson | Executive Vice President

pjackson@thomasmorecollege.edu

Mr. Jackson runs the Development office. In addition to supporting the College's various initiatives, his efforts help enable the College to offer scholarships to students like you.



Pamela Bernstein | Director of Business and Registrar Affairs

pbernstein@thomasmorecollege.edu

Mrs. Bernstein is responsible for the Business and Registrar Offices and overseeing the Financial Aid Department. Students should direct questions involving registration and billing to her.



Tryphena Reidy | Financial Aid & Title IX Coordinator

treidy@thomasmorecollege.edu

Mrs. Reidy coordinates financial aid packages and oversees the student work program. Students should direct all questions involving financial aid to her, as well as any Title IX issues.



Clarke Mitchell | Teaching Fellow & Assistant Dean of Students

cmitchell@thomasmorecollege.edu

Mr. Mitchell is the Assistant Dean of Students and the Director of Guilds. He teaches the freshman-year course on Euclidean geometry and is writing his dissertation Euclid's *Elements*.



Sara Kitzinger | Teaching Fellow & Director of Cultural Life

skitzinger@thomasmorecollege.edu

Dr. Kitzinger teaches upper-level humanities courses at the College. As the Director of Cultural Life, she is a lover of all things merry and a staunch defender of etiquette and hospitality.



Margaret Six '25 | Assistant Director of Cultural Life

msix@thomasmorecollege.edu

Margaret is interested in medieval literature and art history. Her favorite artist is John Singer Sargent, and one of her favorite books is *Beowulf*. She enjoys singing, playing cards, and making art.



Alexander Gay '27 | Proctor

agayfl23@thomasmorecollege.edu

Alex is interested in history, literature, political philosophy, and the sacramental imagination. In his free time he enjoys chess, Tolkien, running, and visiting the ocean.



Valerie Hurth '27 | Proctor

vhurthfl23@thomasmorecollege.edu

Valerie is interested in literature, philosophy, and theology. In her free time she enjoys hiking, baking, music, art, and going on adventures with her friends.



John Paul Schnake '28 | Resident Assistant

jschnakefl24@thomasmorecollege.edu

John Paul is a native Kansan who enjoys time outdoors and playing guitar. His academic interests lie mainly in the humanities, Scripture, and natural history.



Emma Jackson '28 | Resident Assistant

ejacksonfl24@thomasmorecollege.edu

Emma is interested in the humanities, theology, and visual arts. In her free time, she enjoys drawing, reading, and being in nature.

Campus Life & Dormitories

Thomas More College is known for its unique student life and campus culture. To make the most of your time here, please read the following information carefully and keep it in mind as you prepare for your arrival.

For Stillman & Kopka

Please keep in mind that the dormitories are not air conditioned. The laundry rooms are equipped with irons and ironing boards, as well as washers and dryers. Paid laundry machines are available in the basement of each dorm.

Necessary Items:

- Bedding: Twin size sheets, blankets, comforter, pillow and pillowcases
- Laundry: hamper, detergent
- Shower: bath, hand, and face towels; flip-flops; shower caddy
- Toiletries and medications (prescriptions, ibuprofen, allergy medication, etc.)
- Fan

Recommended Items:

- An extra lamp
- Reading light
- Coffee mug
- Umbrella
- Sunscreen and bug spray
- Mattress topper
- Hair dryer
- Musical instrument(s)

New Hampshire promises both warm and crisp fall days, cold and snowy winters, and hot spring afternoons. As St. Peter notes in his letter, *parati semper*: be prepared always.



For the Library & Classrooms

We strongly recommend that you bring your own laptop. Internet connection and printers are provided in the library and study halls only. There is no Internet available in the dormitories. Please note that electronics are not permitted in the classroom and are not to be used in the cafeteria during mealtimes.

- Laptop
- Notebooks, folders, paper
- Pens, pencils, highlighters
- Binders
- Stapler/3-hole punch
- Backpack or satchel



Attire

Students are expected to dress modestly, respectfully, and appropriately for each occasion. For Chapel, class, and meals, women may wear dresses, blouses/formal shirts, sweaters, and skirts or trousers (not beach clothes or sportswear). Men may wear trousers (not jeans) and collared shirts. More formal dress wear is appropriate for special occasions such as feast days, banquets, dances, and lectures.

For more details, please consult the Student Life team. The official dress code can be found in the Student Handbook.

Gentlemen

Necessary Items:

- Sports coat/blazer
- Collared shirts (button down/ polo)
- Sweaters
- Khakis
- Ties and/or bowties
- Dress shoes
- Sneakers, hiking boots
- Activewear (hiking/sports)

- Winter gear: coat, hat, gloves, scarves, boots
- Rain gear: boots, light jacket

Recommended Items:

- Suit
- Modest swimwear
- Cleats
- Hats



Ladies

Necessary Items:

- Dresses
- Formal shirts/blouses
- Blazer or cardigan(s)
- Sweaters
- Skirts and slacks
- Dress shoes
- Sneakers, hiking boots
- Activewear (hiking/sports)
- Winter gear: coat, hat, gloves, scarves, boots

- Rain gear: boots, light jacket
- Knee- or mid-length cocktail dress

Recommended Items:

- Floor-length formal gown
- Modest swimwear
- Cleats
- Hats or head coverings





New Student Orientation

This year marks the 302nd anniversary of the martyrdom of Fr. Sebastian Rale, SJ, a missionary to the Abenaki Indians of Maine from 1695 to 1724. He was killed by British soldiers on August 23rd, 1724. His cause for canonization is ongoing.

Thomas More College has annually considered Fr. Rale's life and work as the patron of our Thanksgiving banquet. In order to honor this holy missionary this year, we will dedicate our New Student Orientation trip to his memory by exploring the lands where he tended to his flock, reflecting on his life and sacrifice, and visiting his tomb.

You will find a packet with a selection of his letters in your welcome folder, which you will receive when you get to campus. Please read through these and be prepared to share your thoughts and reflections when the opportunity arises.

Orientation Packing List and Schedule

Our pilgrimage will be a three-day, two-night trip that will include a variety of indoor and outdoor activities. Please bring the following:

- Daypack and water bottle
- Activewear for hiking and outdoor activities
- Outerwear, rain gear, layers
- Appropriate casual clothing and PJs
- Footwear (hiking boots, flip-flops)
- Hat and sunglasses
- Sleeping bag and pillowcase
- Toiletries and medications, snacks
- Towels for shower & water sports (quick dry travel towels are best)
- Sunscreen and bug spray
- Modest swimwear
- Musical instruments

Saturday 8/22: Arrival

12:00 pm	Students begin to arrive (If you need to be picked up at an airport or bus station, please reach out to admissions@thomasmorecollege.edu as soon as possible)
12:00 – 1:30 pm	A light luncheon will be available in the cafeteria
4:45 pm	Reception for students and parents (Piazza); welcome by President Walz
6:15 pm	Dinner with students and parents (Cafeteria)
7:15 pm	Goodbyes and departure of all parents
7:30 pm	Welcome to Thomas More College by Dr. Taylor in the Lounge, followed by Social
9:30 pm	Compline
10:30 pm	Pack inspection followed by lights out

Sunday 8/23: Mass & Pilgrimage to the Land of Fr. Rale

6:30 am	Reveille
7:00 am	Breakfast
7:30 am	Roll call and Departure in vans to Flagstaff Lake (mainehuts.org/hut/flagstaff-lake-hut/)
5:00 pm	Holy Mass, Dinner, Orientation Activities

Monday 8/24: Following in the Footsteps of Fr. Rale

6:30 am	Reveille
—	Holy Mass, breakfast, hiking, canoeing, fellowship

Tuesday 8/25: Visit to Fr. Rale's Tomb, Return to TMC

6:30 am	Reveille, pack up, breakfast
—	Holy Mass at Fr. Rale's tomb, return to campus

Wednesday 8/26: Registration & Introduction to Courses

See Class Schedule & Registration Schedule (to be posted in caf.)

7:30 – 8:30 am	Breakfast available
11:00 am	Confession available (Chapel)
11:30 am	Holy Mass (Chapel)
12:15 pm	Lunch
6:00 pm	Dinner
7:00 pm	Handbook Meeting with Dr. Taylor in the Newman Room (all students)

Thursday 8/27: Regular Class Schedule Begins

See Class Schedule (to be posted in caf.)

7:30 – 8:30 am	Breakfast available
11:00 am	Confession available (Chapel)
11:30 am	Holy Mass (Chapel)
12:15 pm	Lunch
6:00 pm	Dinner

Academic Calendar

FALL 2026

Saturday, August 22

Sunday, August 23 through

Tuesday, August 25

Monday, August 24

Monday, August 24 and

Tuesday, August 25

Wednesday, August 26

Friday, September 11

Sunday, October 11 and

Monday, October 12

Friday, October 23 through

Monday, October 26

Tuesday, October 27

Sunday, November 1

Monday, November 23 through

Sunday, November 29

Monday, November 30

Tuesday, December 8

Friday, December 11

Monday, December 14

Tuesday, December 15 through

Thursday, December 17

Friday, December 18

SPRING 2027

Sunday, January 17

Monday, January 18

Tuesday, January 19

Tuesday, February 3

Friday, February 5

TBD

Thursday, March 25 through

Saturday, April 3

Sunday, April 4

Monday, April 5

Wednesday, May 5

Thursday, May 6 and

Friday, May 7

Monday, May 10 through

Wednesday, May 12

Saturday, May 15

Sunday, May 16

MERRIMACK CAMPUS

Dormitories open at 12:00 p.m.; new students arrive

New student orientation

Continuing students arrive

Registration

Classes begin*

Convocation (no classes) and *Traditio*; final day for changes in course registration

Fall Open House**

Mid-semester break

Classes resume

Solemnity of All Saints

Thanksgiving break

Classes resume

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (no classes)

Last day of classes

Study Day

Final examinations

Dormitories close at 12:00 p.m.; students depart

MERRIMACK CAMPUS

Dormitories open at 12:00 p.m.; students arrive

Registration

Classes begin

Final day for changes in course registration

Traditio (no classes)

Spring Open House**

Easter break

Easter banquet

Classes resume

Last day of classes

Thesis defenses

Final examinations

Commencement

Dormitories close at 12:00 p.m.; students depart

* Short introductory classes. **Alternative class schedule.

Getting to the College

By Car to 6 Manchester Street, Merrimack, NH 03054

From the North (Concord, NH area): Take US 3 Everett Turnpike South to exit 10, Industrial Dr. Left at the end of the ramp onto Industrial Dr. Right at second light onto Daniel Webster Hwy. (at Anheuser Busch plant). Drive 0.8 miles and turn right onto Manchester St. The College entrance is the second driveway on the left.

From the South (Massachusetts/Rhode Island/Connecticut): (I495 and I95 intersect with Rte. 3.) Take US 3 North to exit 7E, Henri A. Burque Dr. Straight at the end of the ramp onto Henri A. Burque Dr. Left at second light onto Daniel Webster Hwy. Drive 1.5 miles and turn left onto Manchester St. The College entrance is the second driveway on the left.

From Boston: Take I93 North (11 miles). Merge onto I95 South via exit 37B (5 miles). Merge onto US 3 North via exit 32A (27 miles). Exit at 7E, Henri A. Burque Dr. Straight at the end of the ramp onto Henri A. Burque Dr. Left at second light onto Daniel Webster Hwy. Drive 1.5 miles and turn left onto Manchester St. The College entrance is the second driveway on the left.

From the East (Haverhill, MA area): Take I495 South to US 3 North via exit 35B. US 3 North to exit 7E, Henri A. Burque Dr. (17 miles). Straight at the end of the ramp onto Henri A. Burque Dr. Left at second light onto Daniel Webster Hwy. Drive 1.5 miles and turn left onto Manchester St. The College entrance is the second driveway on the left.

From the West (Keene, NH area): Take NH 101 East to NH 101A East. Left onto Continental Blvd. Right onto Industrial Dr. Right onto Daniel Webster Hwy. (at Anheuser Busch plant). Drive 0.8 miles and turn right onto Manchester St. The College entrance is the second driveway on the left.

By Air to Boston Logan or Manchester Airports

If you need to be picked up from an airport or bus station, please let the Admissions Department know of your travel arrangements ASAP so we can coordinate the shuttle service. The College will provide two shuttles for arrival in Boston (from Logan Airport and South Station for train arrivals) and frequent shuttles from Manchester Airport and Nashua Exit 8. Should you arrive in Boston, we encourage you to use the Boston Express, which runs conveniently and frequently from both Logan Airport and South Station to Nashua Exit 8 (bostonexpressbus.com). Please contact Admissions with any questions.

Manchester Boston Regional Airport—MHT (15 minutes north of the College)
1 Airport Rd., Manchester, NH 03103 | flymanchester.com

Directions from Manchester Airport: North on Airport Rd. Continue on Airport Rd. At the first traffic circle, take first exit onto Raymond Wieczorek Dr. At the second traffic circle, straight to stay on Raymond Wieczorek Dr. Follow signs to the Everett Turnpike S toward Nashua/Boston. Take exit 10 for Industrial Dr. toward US 3 (there will be a sign for Thomas More College). Turn left at Industrial Dr. Turn right at Daniel Webster Hwy./US 3 S. Turn right onto Manchester St. The College entrance is the second driveway on the left.

Boston Logan International Airport—BOS (60 minutes south of the College)
1 Harborside Dr., East Boston, MA 02128 | massport.com/logan-airport

Directions from Logan Airport: Leave the airport following signs for I90 W. Merge onto I90 W from the right lane (1.5 miles) and take the right hand exit onto I93 N (13 miles). Take exit 28B to merge onto I-95 S toward Waltham (5.4 miles) then take exit 50A for US-3 N toward Lowell (27 miles). Entering New Hampshire, continue on US-3 N and take exit 7E. Go straight at the light onto Henry Clay Dr. (0.8 miles) and take a left at the light onto Manchester St. (1.7 miles). After you pass the intersection with Henry Clay Dr., the College entrance will be on the right.

Local Information

Cafes & Dining

Buckley's Bakery & Cafe

436 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack
(603) 262-5929
buckleysbakerycafe.com/merrimack

The Common Man

304 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack
(603) 429-3463
thecman.com/common-man-merrimack

Buckley's Great Steaks

438 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack
(603) 424-0995
buckleysgreatsteaks.com

The Peddler's Daughter

48 Main St., Nashua
(603) 821-7535
thepeddlersdaughter.com

Hotels In the Area

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites

4 Amherst Rd., Merrimack
(3 miles away)
(603) 429-3600
Mention the College for a reduced rate.

Quality Inn

242 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack
(2 miles away)
(603) 429 4600

Cell Service

While other carriers also work, Verizon provides the best coverage on campus. The closest Verizon store is at 258 Daniel Webster Hwy., Nashua: (855) 702-1519.

Banking

Saint Mary's Bank

14 Spruce St., Nashua
(603) 821-2005
stmarysbank.com

Bank of America

157 Main St., Nashua
(603) 594-1900
bankofamerica.com

Catholic Churches

During the academic year, Mass is offered on campus throughout the week (excluding Saturdays) and Confession is offered Monday through Friday. In addition, Nashua and Manchester offer a variety of Catholic communities for TMC students to explore, some of which are listed below along with their Sunday Mass times. The Student Life team also provides transportation to certain off-campus Sunday Masses. Please ask the Resident Directors for more information.

Nashua:

Saint Patrick Parish (Diocesan)

stpatricksnashua.org

- 4:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil
- 7:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass

Saint Stanislaus Church (FSSP, Latin Mass)

latinmassnashua.org

- 7:00 a.m. Sunday Low Mass
- 8:45 a.m. Sunday High Mass
- 11:15 a.m. Sunday High Mass

Saint Christopher Catholic Church (Diocesan)

stchrisparishnh.org

- 4:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil
- 8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass

Manchester:

Our Lady of the Cedars Church (Melkite Catholic)

olocnh.org

- 4:30 p.m. Saturday Vigil
- 10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy





Caritas Congaudet Veritati

The College motto is inspired by the words of St. Paul in his First Letter to the Corinthians: “Charity rejoices not with iniquity; charity rejoices in the truth.” St. Paul reminds us that loving action will, in this world, involve confrontation and trial, but ends in the joy of truth.

Thomas More College adopted this Pauline observation as its motto in 2007. Two years later, the College noted with great joy that Pope Benedict XVI framed key passages and themes of his encyclical *Caritas in Veritate* around the very observation that the College had taken as an expression of its mission and spirit. In his encyclical, Pope Benedict wrote that “Each person finds his good by adherence to God’s plan for him, in order to realize it more fully. To defend the truth, to articulate it with humility and conviction, and to bear witness to it in life are therefore exacting and indispensable forms of charity. Charity, in fact, ‘rejoices in the truth’” (§1).

“To defend the truth, to articulate it with humility and conviction, and to bear witness to it in life”—is this not a fine summation of the Catholic educational endeavor? It is a joyful endeavor because of the privileged task shouldered by teacher, staff, and student to bear witness to the truth. This is a labor in the old Roman sense—that is, it is good work, not toil—but it is a labor that brings renewal, a labor that is wedded to leisure and ultimately reposes in the truth.



*... every Catholic
educational institution is a
place to encounter the living
God who, in Jesus Christ,
reveals his transforming love
and truth.”*

POPE BENEDICT XVI

