



Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



December 5, 2024

Empowering students to grow as informed, inspired, compassionate souls.

Dear Parents and Staff,

It is wonderful to see the support that our families give to SJRS and OLMA.

For example, we just received a check for \$392.04 from the shopping that parents did during Hannaford Supermarket's promotion last spring.

Also, this Tuesday, students enjoyed a wonderful show by Ashuelot Concerts, performed by SJRS parents Louisa Stonehill and Nicholas Burns. The music was beautiful and inspiring, and students had many questions about the violin and music in general.

And for those parents who were not able to attend the presentation that was given on Monday night, the parents who did attend voiced their commitment to assist our schools and programs and asked how they could help improve the financial health of our schools. What was shared was that the school has a large debt with the Diocese of Manchester, and that we will be working on an incremental plan to bring down our debt and grow the schools. Increased enrollment, fundraising, and watching expenses will be the three parts of this plan. I will be looking for input from staff and families; the venue for this has not been determined yet. Those who did attend received a copy of the letter of support from our Superintendent of Schools, David Thibault, and next week, a recap of the information shared and the letter will be made available online to families.

As we journey through this Advent Season, it is very encouraging to hear from parents that they love what our teachers do every day in the classrooms and it is even better to hear from students that they love coming to school every day, or as one 6th Grader put it, "All the teachers are really nice, and the teaching is really good."

Thank you to our awesome teachers and staff and thank you to our supportive families!

In His service,

Miss Victoria Farrington
Principal

JEREMIAH 33:14-16

The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah. In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land. In those days Judah shall be

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday 12/8 -- Lessons & Carols Festival at St. Bernard's -- 4-6pm (see details below)

Monday 12/9 -- All-school Mass (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) -- 9:30am

Monday 12/9 -- National Honor Society Induction Ceremony -- 10:15am (immediately following Mass)

Thursday 12/12 -- House meetings -- Secret Santa reveal!

Wednesday 12/18 -- All-school Mass -- 9:30am

Mon-Fri 12/23-1/3/25 -- **Christmas Break** -- **NO**

safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure; this is what they shall call her: "The LORD our justice."

SCHOOL

[CLICK HERE for the UPDATED 2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR](#)



FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

The Advent Wreath's first candle, which is purple, symbolizes HOPE. It is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever. Amen.

IMPORTANT: VENMO ACCOUNT CLOSING

Please note that **we will be closing our school Venmo account** effective immediately. All payments to the school must be made via FACTS in the future. If you have questions about this, please contact Kate in the SJRS Main Office (kate@stjosephkeene.org).

50/50 RAFFLE WINNERS!

Our 50/50 Raffle winners are:

- 1st prize -- \$5,000 -- Crystal Foley (sold by A. Foley-Britt)
- 2nd prize -- \$3,000 -- Jamey Morse (sold by J. Pratt)
- 3rd prize -- \$2,000 -- Fiona Caffrey (sold by C. Young)
- 4th Prize -- \$1,000 -- Kate and Ben Prescott (sold by H. Prescott)
- 5th Prize -- \$1,000 -- Stephenie and Jim Konopka (sold by B. Konopka)
- 6th Prize -- \$1,000 -- Florence Osgood (sold by S. Tarnowski)
- 7th Prize -- \$1,000 -- Jacob Bortnick (sold by C. Famolare)
- 8th Prize -- \$1,000 -- Pann Su Hmwe (sold by V. Chow)
- Bonus Prize -- \$2,330 -- Nilaja Young (sold by K. Young)



Our top sellers:

- Ouellette Family -- 96 tickets
- Chow Family -- 84 tickets
- Pratt Family -- 58 tickets

CONGRATULATIONS to all! And **THANK YOU** to everyone who sold and purchased tickets! Your support of our schools is tremendously appreciated!!!!



Earlier in November, Ms. Avril's Culinary students were getting ready for Thanksgiving feasts, learning to make delicious pies and dips!



A huge THANK YOU to everyone at Walier Chevrolet for hosting Ms. McGovern's Consumer Finance class on November 19! The students learned all about car buying and leasing, and got to check out a brand new car!



HOUSE MERCHANDISE

Beeze Tees has put together a great House merchandise store for us -- **just in time for Christmas gift giving!**

[CLICK HERE](#) to check out the House merch store!



A few weeks ago, Mrs. Hoye's Physics Honors class did their egg drop challenge lab. Groups had limited time and materials to build a vessel to hold an egg to see if when dropped from a second floor window, the egg would make the flight without breaking. Not many eggs survived!







Our Lady of Mercy Academy | 161 Main Street | Keene, NH 03431 US

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