



# Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



August 29, 2024

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

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff,

We are almost done with our first full week of school, and I would like to thank:

- our parents for entrusting their beautiful children to our school;
- our families for being patient as we refresh our recall of the parking lot routines;
- our students...I have been really impressed by their excellent manners and good behavior;
- our staff for making students feel welcome and loved from the moment they stepped through the school doors;

-Fr. Alan and the choir, servers, lector, and eucharistic ministers for a joy-filled first school Mass.

We commissioned our 8th Graders and 12th Graders as the leaders for each school;

-the excitement of the beginning of the school year. Yes, we will have some bumps along the way, but we all want the best possible spiritual and academic environment for our children, and working together, we will continue to make SJRS and OLMA the best schools in Keene.



Please join us on Friday, September 13, for the Back to School Picnic ! This is a great event that students love and also a great time to meet one another in a relaxed setting, enjoy the fall weather, some good food, and even better company.

Also, a reminder that there is NO SCHOOL on Monday, September 2, for Labor Day.

In His service,

Miss Victoria Farrington  
Principal

## **JEREMIAH 29:11**

For I know well the plans  
I have in mind for you—  
oracle of the LORD—  
plans for your welfare and  
not for woe, so as to give  
you a future of hope.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Monday 9/2 -- Labor Day -- NO SCHOOL**

**Wednesday 9/4 -- All-school Mass -- 9:30am**

**Sunday 9/8 -- Youth Group -- 4-6pm (see details below.)**

**Friday 9/13 -- Back-to-School Picnic -- 5:30-7:30pm (see details below)**

**Sunday 9/15 -- Parish of the Holy Spirit Faith Formation Family Picnic -- After the 11:15am Mass (see details below)**

**Thursday 9/19 -- Back-to-School Night**

**Saturday 9/28 -- Golf Tournament at Bretwood (see details below)**

**Monday 10/14 -- Columbus Day -- NO SCHOOL**

**CLICK HERE for the UPDATED 2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

### **2024-2025 FORMS TO BE COMPLETED**

All permission and school acknowledgment forms are in the Renweb Family Portal to centralize all documents and forms. These forms can be accessed from the homepage of your account. **ALL FAMILIES MUST LOG IN AND COMPLETE ALL FORMS!**

To find the forms:

- Go to <https://sjo-nh.client.renweb.com/pwr/>
- Log into your Renweb Family Portal account.
- Type in the District Code: SJO-NH, your username, and password. (If you have forgotten your username or password, please click on the link provided for help.)
- Under the “School” drop-down on the left side of the screen, locate “Web Forms.”
- Click on “Web-Form” to access the permissions slips and acknowledgments.
- Forms that need to be completed will appear in blue. You will need to open and sign each form individually.

**THE DEADLINE TO COMPLETE ALL FORMS IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6.**

If you have any questions, please contact Megan Amundson

([mamundson@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:mamundson@stjosephkeene.org)).



On Monday, Miss Farrington kicked off our all-school assembly as we reviewed all of our policies and procedures. Mr. Sully introduced and welcomed the Seniors to their final year at Mercy, and new students were sorted into their Houses. Classes are in full swing!



### **ATHLETICS FORM**

For any students playing sports outside of OLMA, please complete the below linked Google Form so that we can put a calendar together for teachers. Please note that all students should reach out to teachers if they will be missing a class PRIOR to leaving for the day. This form will need to be completed for each sport played.

**[CLICK HERE for the Athletic Participation Form](#)**

If you have any questions, please reach out to our Athletics Coordinator Ali Wilson ([awilson@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:awilson@stjosephkeene.org)).

**LUNCHES**

Hot lunches will be available **starting next Tuesday, September 3** . Ordering via Renweb is now available in the Lunch Orders section. Orders are placed in Renweb, then you will be invoiced via FACTS, and payments should then be made promptly via FACTS. Our lunch options this year are:

Monday -- Cheese pizza -- \$2.75/slice Pepperoni pizza -- \$3.00/slice

Tuesday -- Chicken nuggets with mac & cheese -- \$5.00

Wednesday -- Ham/turkey/bologna/veggie sandwich with chips -- \$5.00

Friday -- Cheese pizza -- \$2.75/slice Pepperoni pizza -- \$3.00/slice

If you have questions about ordering through Renweb, please contact Ashley in the SJRS Main Office ([ashleybrown@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:ashleybrown@stjosephkeene.org)).



## A FAMILY OF FAITH

Family Catechesis  
for Our Parish

### Family Faith Formation

The theme of this year's family faith formation program is Christian Prayer, as we follow volume four in the series A Family of Faith. We will be exploring and experiencing various forms of prayer, unpacking the significance of the petitions in the Our Father, drawing closer to our Blessed Mother, and more!

Parents meet monthly to receive teaching, inspiration, and support both for their own faith journey and for guiding their children in lessons at home. There are also opportunities to gather as families in community to live out our faith together.

We encourage all families with children from Kindergarten to middle school to participate in this opportunity to grow and deepen your faith life together. There is always more to learn!

Participation in the program is required for families of children in grades 1-3 or older who are preparing to receive the sacraments of reconciliation (typically, second grade), confirmation and first communion (generally, third grade).

Please register online using the link on the Parish website [swnh Catholics.com](http://swnh Catholics.com). Feel free to contact Carol at [faithformationswnh@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationswnh@gmail.com) with any questions.

Our year will begin with a family picnic after the 11:15 Mass on Sunday, September 15th! Burgers, hot dogs, and drinks will be provided. Feel free to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

### CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD



Honoring the beauty, depth, and joy of the child's relationship with God

Based on the child development principles of Maria Montessori, CGS is hands-on, contemplative method of religious formation that takes place in a specially prepared space called the atrium. Everything in the atrium is designed to foster exploration and wonder as we work with essential elements of the liturgy and scriptures.

The Good Shepherd calls each of us by name, cares for us, and gives us everything we need. In the atrium we are given the freedom to hear His voice, to get to know Him, and to respond with our whole being.

CGS is an especially beautiful way for children to understand the gift and significance of receiving the sacraments of reconciliation, first communion, and confirmation.

We will be offering sessions for Level I (ages 3-6) and Level II (ages 6-9) beginning in late September. Please contact Carol at [faithformationswnh@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationswnh@gmail.com) if you are interested, and look for our table at coffee and donuts in the next weeks!

#### BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 5:30-7:30pm

Celebrate back to school time with our whole school community!

We are asking that families with the last name beginning with **A-L** please bring a side dish or a salad to share with everyone.

Families with the last name beginning with **M-Z** please bring a dessert item to share.

We'll have seating in the field and under the tree at Mercy. The playground will be open for students to play on, however, please know that we do not have any faculty/staff monitoring them, so parents should consider themselves in charge of their students while they are here.



## YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group of the Parish of the Holy Spirit will meet on **Sunday, September 8, 4-6:00pm in the Masiello Room** at Mercy. Mr. Sully runs the Youth Group! All high school students are invited to participate. Please see Mr. Sully if you have any questions. Prayer, food and fun!



## 2024-2025 OLMA FAMILY HANDBOOK

Please make certain to review the updated OLMA Family Handbook.

**CLICK HERE** to view the **2024-2025 OLMA Family Handbook on our website.**

## 2024-2025 PARKING PERMITS

Students who hold a valid New Hampshire driver's license may apply for a parking permit. Students who are granted parking privileges will be charged a \$25 annual fee to help defer the cost of parking lot maintenance. Passes are not prorated. They must be purchased at the Main Office at full price at any point during the school year. **The Parking Permit Application can be found on our website HERE.**

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 819  
ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL SCHOOL | OUR LADY OF MERCY ACADEMY PRESENT

**4th Annual  
SJRS/OLMA  
Golf Tournament**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28  
8:30AM SHOTGUN START  
BRETWOOD GOLF COURSE  
[WWW.MERCYACADEMYKEENE.ORG/GOLF](http://WWW.MERCYACADEMYKEENE.ORG/GOLF)



### **Our annual GOLF TOURNAMENT is coming up!**

Join us to hit the beautiful fairways of Bretwood Golf Course. Play is Scramble format with great prizes. The field will be limited to the first 100 golfers (25 foursomes) to register, so gather your family, friends, and colleagues! **CLICK HERE for details and to register!**

**Highlight your business** with us as one of our **sponsors!** Personal/individual sponsorships are welcome also. Lots of different sponsor levels are available.

**<https://www.mercyacademykeene.org/golf-sponsorships>**

## 50/50 RAFFLE COMING SOON

This fall we will once again be having our annual 50/50 raffle! Each student will receive an allotment

of 12 tickets. All families will be responsible for either selling their allotted tickets OR they may purchase the tickets themselves. Keep an eye out for more details and your tickets coming to you on the Back-to-School Night! If you have questions, please contact Jen Marshall ([jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org)).



## ARRIVAL

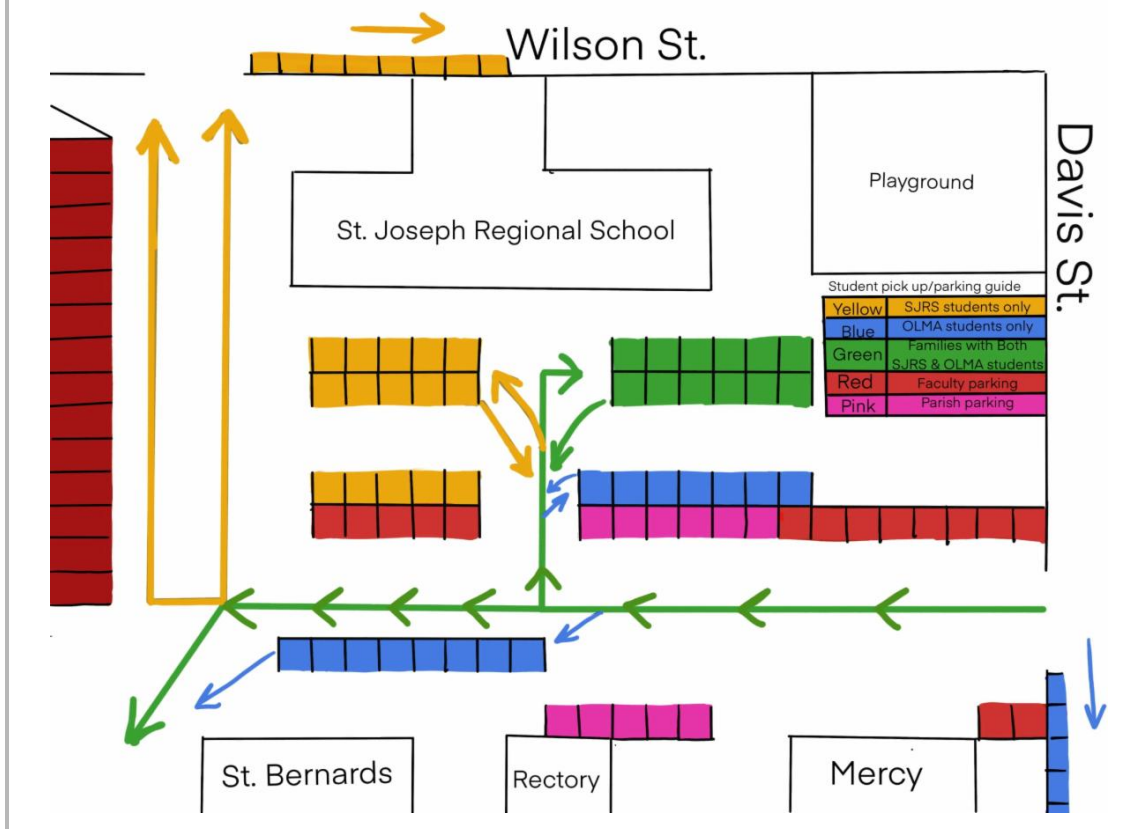
A reminder that students are expected to arrive at Our Lady of Mercy Academy **by 8:00am**, which is the warning bell for the start of homeroom. A student is considered tardy when they are not in their homeroom (first block) **by 8:05am**. Students must enter the building every day at the main front door facing Main Street.

## DISMISSAL

School ends at 2:45pm. As always, safety is our top priority. Always be aware of students walking in the parking lot and always drive slowly. **Please see the map below as a guide for dismissal time.**

If you are entering the parking lot for dismissal, you **must** enter via Davis Street (**GREEN** ARROW). When exiting, you **must** exit on the SOUTH side of St. Bernard's Church (**GREEN/BLUE** ARROWS).

Students may be picked up along Davis Street or from the parking lot immediately behind Mercy Academy (**BLUE**). Any students leaving the school campus on foot after school must exit the building from the front door facing Main Street and utilize the sidewalks. Mercy students may pick up their siblings at SJRS at the playground door (known as the "Mercy door") and walk the students to your parked car in the parking lot near the flagpole (**GREEN**).





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

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