



# Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



September 26, 2024

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

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff,

Thank you to the parents who attended our initial Home and School meeting on Tuesday night. This is what was shared with them.

We are restarting a parent group:

- as a way to work on fundraising and fun-raising activities for our schools;
- as a venue for important presentations to parents (such as cybersafety tips);
- as a platform for parents to talk about and give input on important school matters;
- as a way to support the Mission of our schools.

The group will be called Home and School because it incorporates the two parts of a student's life, the home and the school, that work in partnership to provide the best quality Catholic Christian education possible. It is not a PTA or PTO which are also national organizations with dues and legislative agendas. Exception: any legislation focused on increasing state scholarships for students is something for which we'd advocate.

The meeting was an open exchange of ideas and hopes for the new school year, and the parents who were present expressed interest in continuing these discussions while planning ways for them to become involved in the many fun things that we do at SJRS and OLMA. Our schools absolutely need more parents to help plan and work at events, and we encourage new and creative ideas from them.

If you were not able to attend this meeting, there will be plenty more opportunities to participate. My plan is to have regular Home and School meetings to organize activities, and to also have some 'fireside chats' which would be more of a Q and A about school issues. The next newsletter will include some additional dates for these, so stay tuned.

Again, thanks to the parents who attended. I know our school is on a good path when staff and parents join together for the benefit of our awesome students.

In His service,

Miss Victoria Farrington  
Principal

## **LUKE 9:2-3**

(H)e sent them to proclaim the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick. He said to them, "Take nothing for the journey, neither walking stick, nor

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Saturday 9/28 -- Golf Tournament at Bretwood**

**(see details below)**

**Sunday 9/29 -- Blessing of the Animals -- 1pm** (see details below)

**Wednesday 10/2 -- University of Dallas visit** (see details below)

**Wednesday 10/2 -- All-school Mass -- 9:30am**

**Friday 10/11 -- Xavier University visit** (see details below)

sack, nor food, nor money, and let no one take a second tunic."

below)

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

**Tuesday 10/15** -- Picture Day

**Friday 10/18** -- Saint Anselm College visit (see details below)

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



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Last Friday, we had our Student Council speeches and elections! Our officers for the 2024-2025 school year are:

**President:** Francis Cardine -- Grade 12

**Vice President:** Ethan Young -- Grade 11

**Secretary:** Emma Schriver -- Grade 12

**Treasurer:** Atticus Eden -- Grade 11

The Representatives are: Gracein Jasmin, Melkamu Visser, Taylor Johnson, Colleen Nelligan, Jillian Boulay, Madyson Brown, TJ Nagle, Amelia Knowles, Lillian Sanderson.

**CONGRATULATIONS everyone!!**

CONGRATULATIONS to senior Francis Cardine for being one of only 34,000 students nationally to recently receive a special Letter of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation in recognition of his performance on the PSAT/NMSQT and his outstanding academic promise! Francis is the first OLMA student to ever receive this level of recognition.



This past Tuesday was a special day on our campus -- **the feast of Our Lady of Mercy!** Mr. Sully took a few minutes before lunch to speak with all of the students about the origins of Our Lady of Mercy. And then we celebrated by each of the students receiving one free homework pass AND donuts!!!

Our Lady of Mercy, help of God's children throughout the world—pray for us!

To learn more about Our Lady of Mercy:

<https://www.mercyacademykeene.org/our-lady-of-mercy>

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**COLLEGE VISITS**

Admissions counselors from the following schools will be visiting OLMA. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact School Counselor, Sarah Kaczenski ([skaczenski@mercyacademykeene.org](mailto:skaczenski@mercyacademykeene.org)).



**Wednesday, October 2**

The **University of Dallas** is a private Catholic university located in Irving, Texas (and the alma mater of our principal, Miss Farrington!) . Established in 1956, it is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools with an undergraduate enrollment of 1,500 students and graduate enrollment of 1,038 students. The university comprises three academic units: the Braniff Graduate School of Liberal Arts, the Constantin College of Liberal Arts, and the Satish & Yasmin Gupta College of Business. Dallas offers several master's degree programs and a doctoral degree program with three concentrations.

**Friday, October 11**

**Xavier University** is a private Jesuit university in Cincinnati, Ohio. It is the sixth-oldest Catholic and fourth-oldest Jesuit university in the United States. Xavier has an undergraduate enrollment of 4,860 students and graduate enrollment of 1,269 students. Xavier offers more than 90 majors and 60 minors within the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Professional Sciences, the Williams College of Business and the College of Nursing. Xavier also offers programs for students who plan to further their education in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, and pharmacy.

**Friday, October 18**

**Saint Anselm College** is a private Benedictine liberal arts college in Goffstown, New Hampshire. Founded in 1888, it is the third oldest Catholic College in New England. It is ranked as a Top 100 Liberal Arts Colleges by Forbes and Princeton Review ranks it #24 most engaged in community service.

**FEATURED STUDENT-ATHLETE**

Junior **Liam Crisman** started playing golf when he was in fourth grade. As a freshman, he was on the boys JV golf team at Keene High School. Last year, he moved up to varsity and is continuing



on varsity this fall.

Liam has helped the team to a record of 11-9 thus far going into the final week of regular season play next week.

GOOD LUCK LIAM!

*Photo credit: Keene Sentinel*



Everyone LOVED getting to spend time today with MacKinley, the therapy dog, from Monadnock Therapy Pets earlier this month!



## OCTOBER SAVES

OLMA freshman Raffi Podniesinski is a hockey goalie and participating in October Saves once again this year. It is his 6th season participating in the fundraiser!

He is closing in on his fundraising goal for this year, and is asking that even if people cannot donate that they read his mission and about Leo, who he is dedicating his season to. Leo is a friend of his that already has significant medical issues preventing him from playing hockey.

**CLICK HERE to support Raffi's October Saves fundraiser and to read about Leo's story!**



Miss Howerton's Mercy Project students spent some time this week crafting autumn greeting cards for nursing home residents at American House in Keene!

*Bless your pet for the Feast of St. Francis*

# BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

From kittens to chickens, guppies to puppies, there will be a blessing of the animals in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. This event is open to the parish, the schools and the entire community, so come and enjoy this wonderful tradition.

*Sunday, September 29th*  
1:00PM 

**St. Bernard's Church Parking Lot**  
**185 Main St, Keene**



## **50/50 RAFFLE**

Just about all of the 50/50 raffle tickets have been

distributed at this time. If you have not received yours, please be sure to check your child's backpack.



Once your tickets are sold, you may send the stubs/money back into school at any time. They can be given to your student's homeroom teacher or directly to Ashley Brown in the Main Office. THANK YOU!

**If you have any questions or would like additional tickets, please contact Jen Marshall ([jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org)).**



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

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