



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

Friday 12/6 -- Parents Night Out Movie Night -- 5:30-8pm (Grades PK-5) (see details below)

Sunday 12/8 -- Middle School Youth Group -- 4-6pm (see details below)

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 -- French Club crepes sale at lunch (see details below)

Friday 12/13 -- Middle School Christmas Dance --

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

6-8pm (Grades 6-8)

Tuesday 12/17 -- Christmas Concert -- Doors open 6pm -- The Colonial Theatre (see details below)

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



Our annual **Christmas Concert and Pageant** is coming soon!
Tuesday, December 17 -- The Colonial Theatre, 95 Main Street, Keene
Doors open: 6:00pm; show starts: 6:30pm
Tickets: \$10 each

All SJRS students in grades PK-8 will be performing in the show, therefore students DO NOT need a ticket. All students should be dressed up, in their "Sunday best" for the performance. No jeans please. (4th graders will be in their costumes for the pageant.)

Tickets must be purchased IN ADVANCE through The Colonial Theatre. You may purchase tickets in person at the theatre box office (open Tues-Fri 12-5). You may also purchase tickets by calling The Colonial box office (603-352-2033) or **ONLINE HERE**.

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 Main Office (kate@stjosephkeene.org).



We were thrilled to welcome SJRS parents Louisa Stonehill and Nick Burns of **Ashuelot Concerts** earlier this week as they shared beautiful live classical music with our students!

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL PRESENTS

Merry Christmas

Elementary Parents' Night Out

Watching Prep & Landing, pizza for dinner, decorating cookies, and a craft!

DECEMBER 6

FROM 5:30 TO 8 PM

Grades PreK - 5

SJRS FRENCH CLUB

OUR DELICIOUS CRÊPES MAISON AU NUTELLA OU À LA CONFITURE ARE BACK!

- MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2024
- MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2025
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025
- MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025
- MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2025



2 DOLLARS EACH



Before Thanksgiving, our whole school donated Thanksgiving dinner food items for Feeding Tiny Tummies. Members of the **Leadership Council** assembled and delivered all the food on November 22. AND the council made a \$250 donation from the proceeds of their apple cider sales. A huge **THANK YOU** to the Leadership Council for their hard work, and thank you also to all those who generously donated!



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!!!!





Mrs. Dubois's Kindergarten students had a great Balloons Over Broadway parade before Thanksgiving!



Middle School Youth Group
 Sunday, December 8th
 4:00pm-6:00pm

Rather than our
 Traditional Meeting,
 We will attend
Lessons & Carols
 as a group
 Reception & Prayer Afterwards
 Questions?
dheeran@stjosephkeene.org

*10th Annual
 Lessons & Carols Festival*
 Sunday, Dec 8th at 4pm
 St. Bernard Church
 PHS Choir & Handbells
 In Collaboration With
 KSC Concert Choir - Sandra Howard, Director
 KSC Vocal Consort - Morgan Bothwell, Director



Christmas
CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Christmas Children's Choir will be rehearsing for the 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass every Sunday until Christmas, at 1:00 PM in the St. Joseph's Music Room in the basement of St. Joseph's School. All school-aged children are welcome to participate. Contact Chris Dube to sign up or for any questions (603)499-1233 or Christopher_J_Dube@hotmail.com

LOST AND FOUND

You can now search through the lost and found from the comfort of your own home! You will find all the lost and found items in the below album called "ALL lost and found," and you will also be

able to search for specific items by category. Please take a look even if you think your child is not missing anything--you never know! If you recognize an item, you or your child may pick it up anytime in the Middle School cafeteria next to the Extended Day room. Lost and found items that have been uploaded will be kept for two weeks before they are donated.

ALL LOST & FOUND

Jackets

Lunchboxes

Hats/mittens

Hoodies (zip & pullover)

Miscellaneous

Sweaters

Pants/shorts

Boots/shoes

Crewneck sweatshirts

Water bottles

A big THANK YOU to Miranda Tarnowski for organizing and photographing our lost and found, and to Cayla Groeber for donating a rack for hanging the items!

ORIGINAL WORKS -- LATE ORDERS

It's not too late to order from Original Works! Our Late Order deadline has been extended to January 5!

CLICK HERE to access the SJRS Gallery


Each student received a unique access code, but you can also access the shop by school and student name.

All Late Orders will be delivered to school, BUT they may not be here in time for Christmas. If you have questions, please contact Jen Marshall (jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org).




Right before Thanksgiving, our **Leadership Council** members prepped to help serve hot chocolate and cookies at the Kiwanis Club of Keene annual Christmas Tree Lighting in downtown Keene!

Lessons & Carols Service



St Bernard Church
Sunday, December 27, at 12pm

Lessons & Carols Service



St Bernard Church
Sunday, December 27, at 12pm


KEENE STATE COLLEGE MUSIC DEPARTMENT
AND SAINT BERNARD CHURCH
PRESENT



**2nd Annual
Festival of
Lessons and Carols**

FEATURING
KEENE VOCAL CONSORT
DIRECTOR
MATTHEW LEVAK

3PM SUNDAY DECEMBER 3RD
SAINT BERNARD CHURCH
100 MAIN STREET, KEENE


**4th Annual
Lessons and Carols**

St Bernard Church
Sunday, December 2nd at 2pm




**5th Annual
Lessons and Carols
featuring St. Bernard's Choir**

Sunday, December 1st 2:00pm
St Bernard Church



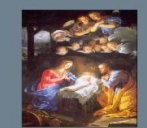
**6th Annual
Lessons and Carols**

St Bernard Church
Sunday, December 6th at 2pm




**7th Annual
Lessons and Carols**

Sunday, December 16th 2:00pm
St Bernard Church



**8th Annual
Lessons and Carols**

Sunday, December 16th 2:00pm
St Bernard Church
Reception to follow



**8th Annual
Festival of Lessons and Carols**

Sunday, December 2nd 2:00pm
St Bernard Church
Reception to follow

*10th Annual
Lessons & Carols Festival*

*Sunday, Dec 8th at 4pm
St Bernard Church
PHS Choir & Handbells*

In Collaboration With

*KSC Concert Choir - Sandra Howard, Director
KSC Vocal Consort - Morgan Bothwell, Director*



Amazing Grace Animal Sanctuary

Come Share Your Heart With The Animals!

THE GRINCH

Journey to Whoville and have your picture taken with the Grinch. \$5.00 cash donation with proceeds going towards the care of our Elderly residents.

This handsome fella will be stopping by the farm at 11:00 am and needs to be off and spreading Christmas Cheer at 1:00 pm, so get here early!!!

On December 7th from 11:00am to 3:00pm, we'll be toasting marshmallows and singing carols with the animals! You can hike the storybook trail, buy your holiday wreath and other goodies we'll have for sale.

Little Drizzle is so excited that he's jumping for Joy! The Grinch is coming to the farm and he's going to get his photo taken with the BIG GREEN Guy!!!



DON'T FORGET.....December 7th, from 11:00am to 1:00pm COME PARTY WITH ME!!!

161 Centre St., Sullivan, NH 03445, 603-358-0578



St. Joseph Regional School | 92 Wilson Street | Keene, NH 03431 US

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