



Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



January 23, 2025

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

Dear Parents and Staff,

Next week will be a fun one for all of our staff and students because it's Catholic Schools Week, CSW, and we encourage parents to join us with some of the activities:

1. come join any of the weekend Parish Masses and hear SJRS and OLMA parents talk about the value of a Catholic Christian education;
2. attend our weekly Wednesday Mass at 9:30 am (families who come sit together with their children) and hear our OLMA Student Council President Francis Cardine talk about his time at both schools. (For more on this outstanding student, [check out the Keene Sentinel article here](#).)
3. watch the SJRS Spelling Bee at 9 am in the gym. Grades 4-8 compete. All parents welcome.
4. sign up for the OLMA Granite Gorge trip of January 31 and enjoy skiing or tubing (see communication from OLMA) or the SJRS Alpine Club on the same day.

Note 1: we are showing 'appreciation' to all our hardworking staff by having an early release day on the 31st. The SJRS dismissal is at 11:45 and no Extended Day! The OLMA dismissal is at 11:30.

Note 2: We have 4 dress downs during CSW. Wednesday is the exception when SJRS students are in uniform for Mass, and OLMA students dress up for Mass. All monies collected will be sent to Corpus Christi Catholic School which was destroyed by the recent LA fires.

Note 3: A small but energetic group of parents attended the Home and School meeting last night. Next meeting is February 19 at 6 pm in the Parish hall. It's clear that parents want to become more involved and start planning some additional fundraisers to help our schools with expenses and past debt. Next week's newsletter will include the minutes from this meeting and the start of a few subcommittees to get things rolling. All parents are asked to send me ideas for fundraisers, and actually, any topics that need more details or clarification.

Note 4: The diocesan safety training company, Blue U, is offering its basic course, online, for FREE to all school stakeholders. [Click here for the link to register for the February 5 webinar](#) . For parents especially interested in seeing the training that staff received in September, which was also the basis for the Blue U visit to all classes on January 13, this webinar is informative.

BIG Note 5: Tune in to WKBK on Monday, January 27 at 8:10 am when the featured guests will be Mr Sully and myself, as we share the origin of CSW, its purpose, our school activities for the week, and everything we can think of about what makes our schools so great. Students, parents, staff come to mind!

In His service,

Miss Victoria Farrington
Principal

LUKE 6:35-37

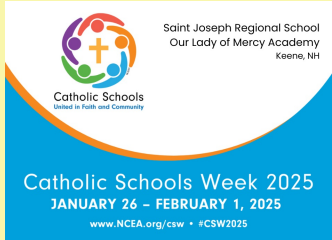
...(L)ove your enemies and do good to them, and lend

IMPORTANT DATES

Mon-Fri 1/13-1/24 -- i-Ready testing (K-8)

Sunday 1/26 -- Middle School Youth Group -- 4-

expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as [also] your Father is merciful. Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven.



6pm (see details below)

Mon-Fri 1/27-31 -- Catholic Schools Week (see details below)

Wednesday 1/29 -- All-School Mass -- 9:30am

Thursday 1/30 -- Hot chocolate sales at lunch (see details below)

Friday 1/31 -- HALF DAY -- 11:45am dismissal. No Extended Day.

Friday 2/14 -- Middle School Dance -- Grades 6-8 - 6-8pm

Mon-Fri 2/17-21 -- NHDI Residency

Mon-Fri 2/24-28 -- Winter Break -- **NO SCHOOL**

CLICK HERE for the UPDATED 2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

*****PLEASE NOTE***** The calendar has been updated to reflect that the Talent Show will NOT be on Fri, Jan 31. It will be at a later date yet to be determined. Fri, Jan 31, will still be a half day (11:45am dismissal and no Extended Day).

Catholic Schools Week

2024-2025

We are a Community of Faith and Hope

Sunday, January 25 and 26: Our Parish has Faith and Hope

SJRS and OLMA Families speak at all Parish Masses

SJRS and OLMA materials in bulletin and in church



Monday, January 27: Our School Community has Faith and Hope

\$1 Dress: school colors (blue, gold, and white)

Ice cream Sundae bar by SJRS Student Council, at lunch, OLMA invited

Tuesday, January 28: Our Families have Faith and Hope

\$1 Dress: crazy day (mismatched clothing)

SJRS and OLMA Family Pictures Display in each school building

Wednesday, January 29: Our Benefactors have Faith and Hope

Many Gifts, One Nation - Day of Giving

Dress: regular Mass attire (uniforms and dress-up)

All-school Liturgy at 9:30 am with Benefactors and School Advisory Board

with Intro by SJRS President Brynn Bezio and Reflection by OLMA President Francis Cardine

Sr. Mary Rose, from the Diocese, visits classrooms

Thursday, January 30: Our Students have Faith and Hope

\$1 Dress: sports teams attire and colors

SJRS Leadership sells hot chocolate during lunch

1:40 pm: Game between students and staff (details pending)

Friday, January 31: Our Staff has Faith and Hope

\$1 Dress: t-shirts and jeans

9:00 am: SJRS Spelling Bee, Grades 3-8, in the gym

11:45 am: Early dismissals (no lunch)

All Week

SJRS Penny Wars

SJRS CSW Activities in Religion Classes

Religious Knowledge Contests

SJRS Grades 7 and 8 and OLMA Science and Organ Kit sessions (Tues, Wed)

Note: all Dress money goes to Corpus Christi, destroyed in the California fires



As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week, join us for **Many Gifts, One Nation** -- a special Day of Giving for Catholic Schools across the United States! Your support on this day will help Saint Joseph Regional School and Our Lady of Mercy Academy continue to grow and fulfill our mission of providing quality Catholic education that shapes the minds and hearts of our students. More details to come!

OUR FAMILY TREE

For Catholic Schools Week, we want to celebrate all our families who make up our SJRS community! We are creating a very large family tree display inside the school. We invite every family to send into school photos of your family. Please make sure the photo is no larger than 4X6. **The tree will be complete by**

TOMORROW, Friday, January 24th, so please send the photos in ASAP. This is a wonderful way to bring us all together to show what makes SJRS so special, our families! Let's grow together!

You may send in a hard copy family photo with your student or email a photo to Ms. Nelligan at: mnelligan@stjosephkeene.org.



Dear Catholic School Parents:
have you been away from the church?
are you looking for a spiritual home?

**COME AND SEE
ON JANUARY 26TH!**

In our effort to help parents raise saints,
we joyfully invite families of Catholic School
students who are not Catholic, non-practicing,
or without a spiritual home to experience the
beauty of the Catholic Church by attending
Mass on Sunday January 26, at any parish
within the Diocese of Manchester.



Celebrating National Catholic Schools Week January 26-February 1, 2025

AFTERNOON OF APPRECIATION

The SJRS/OLMA Advisory Board and Home & School Association will be hosting an Afternoon of Appreciation for our SJRS/OLMA Faculty and Staff on Thursday, February 6th, from 3:30-5:30pm. We would like to ask for your help in making this a special event to honor and thank them for everything they do for our schools. **If you would like to contribute or help, please [CLICK HERE](#) for the sign-up genius.** For more information, please contact Annie Pearson at anniep1979@gmail.com.



SUPER BOWL SQUARES

Super Bowl Squares are back! It's a fun, popular game of chance that makes watching the Super Bowl a little more interesting. This is a traditional squares fundraiser with a 50/50 split -- half to

SJRS/OLMA and half to the winners.

Get your squares before they're gone!
And please share this with your family and friends. All are welcome to play!

\$25 per square

PRIZES

1st quarter - \$150

Halftime - \$325

3rd quarter - \$150

Final score - \$625

Go here for all of the details and to pay for your squares...

<https://www.stjosephkeene.org/squares>

Choose your squares here...

<https://www.superbowlsquares.org/sjrsolma2025/enter-picks>

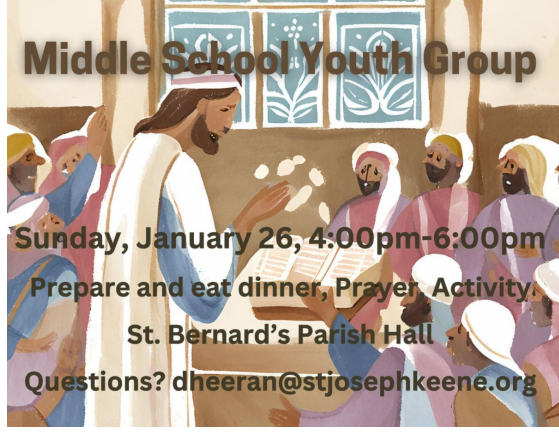
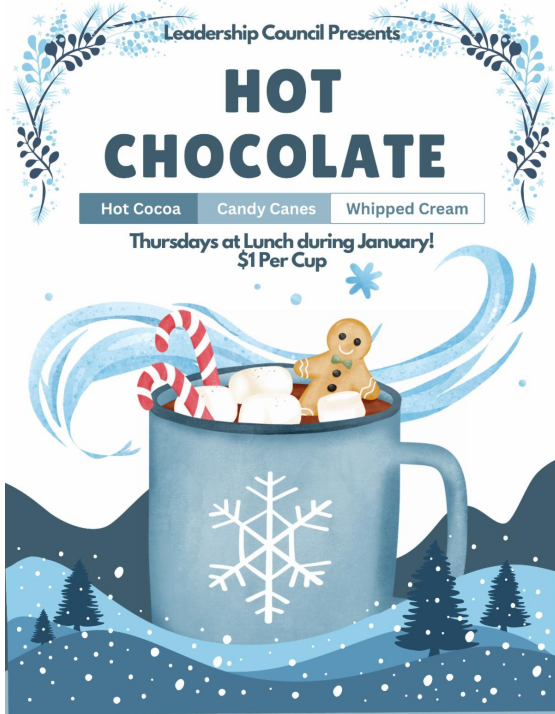


The SJRS/OLMA Alpine Club is fully underway with fun-filled times on Friday evenings at Crotched Mountain!

SJRS/OLMA FAMILY BUSINESS DIRECTORY

We are in the process of putting together a directory of all of the businesses owned by SJRS and OLMA families, so that we can share that information to encourage the support of those businesses within our school communities. If you own a business, please send along to Jen Marshall (jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org) your business name and contact information that you would like to share. We will only include those businesses whose owners let us know that it is OK to do so. THANK YOU!





SPELLING BEE

CONGRATULATIONS to the students who will be representing their classes in our Spelling Bee, which will be held next Friday, January 31, at 9:00am in the SJRS gym. All parents are welcome.

Grade 4

Evan Kwon
Melanie Nuru
Jack Wheeler

Grade 5

Rosie Jobbins
Hailey Kwon
Karter Young

Grade 6

Jack Kangas
Eva Kimber
Gavin Sweeney

Grade 7

Lucia Blanchard
Zac Lucena
Nola Raynor

Grade 8

David Roberts
Sophie Tarnowski
Sole Vicente-DiGiovanni

ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL SCHOOL

2025-2026 PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN ADMISSIONS NOW OPEN

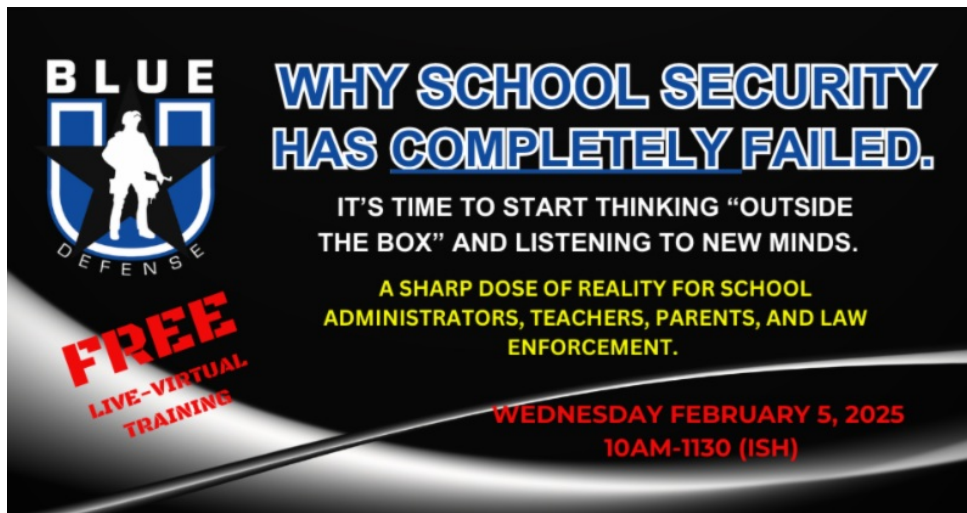
Schedule a tour today!

603/352-2720

Learn more: www.stjosephkeene.org
Contact us: admissions@stjosephkeene.org

Scholarship | Service | Faith | Family

The graphic features a dark blue background with yellow and white text. It includes circular images of children playing and a logo for St. Joseph Regional School. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical manner, with the school name at the top, followed by the years and program, then the admission status, and finally contact information and a call to action.



BLUE-U TRAINING

If you are responsible for, or have an interest in, keeping our teachers and kids secure while they are in school - this is a must attend, “training session of enlightenment”.

The title says it all - SCHOOL SECURITY HAS COMPLETELY FAILED!

Think about this: 27 years after Columbine (the incident that triggered a national effort to secure our nations schools) incidents of violence continue and, the results are, in many cases, worse than Columbine. This means that although schools today have done everything that “the experts” and “research” have told them that they should do to prevent and survive incidents-of-violence, the incidents persist and the results are many times as bad, and even worse, than Columbine - even though Columbine had none of the benefits of results of “the experts” and “research”.

So...we clearly have a significant problem that needs to be corrected!

BUT FIRST - we need to understand that we have a problem and why we have a problem.

And that's what this session is about.

Blue-U Defense is the national “thought-leader” in what it takes to truly secure people and organizations. Blue-U Defense is a NH-based organization serves (nationally) some of the biggest companies, organizations, and agencies in the world to create cultures that support individual responsibility for true security, practically enhance physical sites; and develop and deliver highly effective training programs, for normal, "non-warrior-type people that enhance prevention efforts and the ability to survive when prevention efforts fail.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

For your reference, all newsletters from previous weeks can be found on our website here:

<https://www.stjosephkeene.org/newsletters>

