



# Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



January 25, 2024

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

Greetings OLMA Families, Faculty, and Staff:

I want to congratulate every one of the students who were involved in the Winter Arts Showcase a few weeks ago. I was so proud of all of them. What an absolutely amazing job that they did. It was a tremendous evening for all involved!

We're already well into our second semester now. Report cards have gone out via email. If for some reason you have not received them, please be sure to reach out to Liberty Ebright ([lebright@mercyacademykeene.org](mailto:lebright@mercyacademykeene.org)).

We have a fun spirit week scheduled next week for Catholic Schools Week! See below for the details.

I was fortunate enough to have been able to see Father Greg Boyle speak at the Keene Library in honor of MLK Day, and I also attended a civic leaders breakfast with him earlier that same morning. It was truly a joy to get to spend time with him and listen to him speak. It moved me to think about our schools and what we are all working on accomplishing with our students and ourselves. Father Boyle spoke of meeting everyone and everything you encounter with kindness and tenderness. No matter the situation and no matter the person. I feel like I've always been a strong advocate for "kindness" as a way of interacting with people, and I've tried to be kind and worked hard to provide loving support to our faculty, our students, and all of our families as well. Deacon Ken was one of those beings within our community who always tried to deliver kindness and goodness to those around him.

I hope all of us will want to try to meet everyone with kindness and tenderness and caring on a daily basis in honor of what Deacon Ken always brought to our schools and in support of what we really want to model for our students and one another. I urge us all to offer these kindnesses without any expectation in return. Kindness and tenderness is for others, and that is why we're here at these schools – for others and each other. Blessed are the meek.

May Your Spirit Be Lifted,

Christopher Smith  
Principal

## **LUKE 6:35-37**

...(L)ove your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then

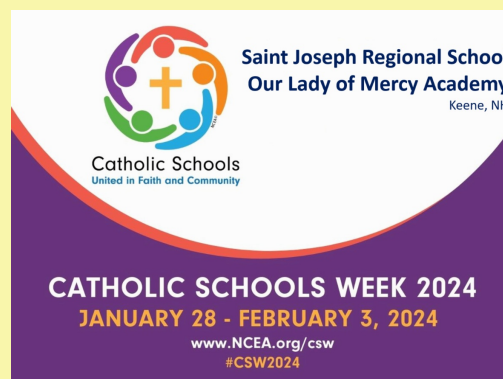
## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Mon-Fri 1/29-2/2** – Catholic Schools Week  
**Wednesday 1/31** – All-school Mass – 9:30am  
**Fri 2/2** – All-School Ski Trip (see details below)

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.

**Fri-Sat 2/9-2/10** – Overnight Lock-In Event  
**Mon-Fri 2/19-2/23** – Winter Break – **NO SCHOOL**

**CLICK HERE for the 2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR**



## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Dress up like...

**MONDAY** -- Decade Day

**TUESDAY** -- Aloha Day

**WEDNESDAY** -- House Color Day (dress down, IF you are in your House colors)

**THURSDAY** -- Twin Day

**FRIDAY** -- Ski Trip!

On Monday, be sure to check out the poster with pictures in the front hallway to GUESS WHO the faculty members are!

## 4TH ANNUAL ALL-SCHOOL SKI TRIP

We are planning our 4th Annual All-School Ski Trip to Pat's Peak next **Friday, February 2nd**. This will be a great way to close out Catholic Schools Week (which starts on January 29th) and celebrate together!

We will be departing from the Mercy Academy parking lot promptly at 8am and returning by 4pm. This year, students will be transported by bus. For students who choose not to attend, there will be no classes held on 2/2 (it is also a 1/2 day for SJRS).

Unfortunately, there are no lessons available this year.

Student/Family Contribution:

Lift ticket only: \$39

Lift ticket and ski/snowboard rentals: \$74

Helmet rental: \$10 (all students must wear a helmet)

For students who don't ski, snow shoeing at no charge is available. Please reach out to Liberty Ebright directly if you are interested in snow shoeing. She has four pairs of snowshoes she can lend.

**Payment is due to Allison Murray no later than Monday, January 29th. If you pay by check (payable to Our Lady of Mercy Academy) or Venmo (@stjosephregionalschool), please include Mercy Ski Trip on the tagline.**



We want all students to join us on this amazing trip! If it presents a financial hardship for your family, please reach out to Liberty to make arrangements.



### **STUDENT-ATHLETE FEATURE**

#### **Senior Greta Fenn**

Greta started skiing at the age of seven, and has skied for the Varsity Fall Mountain/Keene High School Alpine Ski Team for three years. GOOD LUCK this season Greta!



## **American Red Cross**

### **RED CROSS FIRST AID/CPR/AED**

We have the opportunity to offer the Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED (adult and pediatric) course, if there is enough interest. We could accommodate up to 24 students. The cost would be \$50 for the four-hour course. This could be a great opportunity for students in preparation for summer jobs.

We have the possibility of offering this during the school day, after school, or on a Saturday.

If you are interested, please email Mrs. Hart to let her know and also let her know your availability.  
([chart@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:chart@stjosephkeene.org))



On Martin Luther King Day, a group of students from Mercy Academy along with Campus Minister Anthony Sully attended a special discussion at the Keene Public Library with Father Greg Boyle, S.J., and two of his "homies" -- Wilber Acevedo and Sergio Basterrechea -- both former gang members, who are part of Father Greg's Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles. Father Greg's visit to Keene involved conversations with faith communities, city officials, area residents and local youth, where he imparted the idea of a "circle of compassion" with "nobody standing outside that circle." The Mercy students were all required to read Father Greg's book, *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*, for their summer reading going into the 2022-2023 school year. It was an extraordinary opportunity for the students to hear from Father Greg directly and spend a bit of time with Wilber and Sergio (shown with the students above).



Our **Good Samaritan Award** honorees for the first quarter are TJ Nagle (Grade 9) and James Crisman (Grade 12)! Our Good Samaritan Award recognizes creativity, honesty, helpfulness, perseverance, kindness, respect, courtesy, altruism, and empathy. CONGRATULATIONS TJ and James!

## **HONOR ROLL -- QUARTER 2**

CONGRATULATIONS to all students who made the Honor Roll for the 2nd quarter! Unweighted grades are used for determining Honor Roll for each quarter report card.

### **FIRST HONORS**

Students with 95 (A) average or better and no grades lower than 92 (A-).

#### **GRADE 9**

Jillian Boulay  
Madyson Brown  
Colleen Nelligan  
Shannon Nelligan  
Belen Vicente-DiGiovanni

#### **GRADE 10**

Liam Crisman  
Dean Kangas  
Ethan Petschik  
Andreea Rusu  
Elio Saba  
Ethan Young

#### **GRADE 11**

Allie Burgess  
Morgan Murray  
Francis Cardine

#### **GRADE 12**

James Crisman  
Ethan Lewis  
Brooke Muchmore  
Caden Nicholas



### **SECOND HONORS**

Students with 92 (A-) average or better and no grades lower than 89 (B+).

#### **GRADE 10**

Harmony Brown  
Torin Regney  
Sully Murray  
Kyle Paolino

#### **GRADE 11**

Elice Sodders

#### **GRADE 12**

Anthony Baker  
Sophia Fisher  
Tessa Pearson



CONGRATULATIONS to our Scholastic Art Awards of New Hampshire winners this year:

Andreea Rusu (Grade 10) -- Gold Key "I";  
Honorable Mention "Skeleton in a Storm"

Lucy Fisher (Grade 10) -- Silver Key, "Lucy  
Fisher"

Dean Kangas (Grade 10) -- Honorable Mention  
"Black Eye, Seein' Red"



### 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

**For all of the details on how to play and also pay for your squares...**

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

**Choose your squares here...**

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



### HOUSE MERCH

We have lots of great OLMA gear available!

#### Zeiger & Ollie Stores

These online stores are created by our own Miss Wilson and include fun merchandise specific to all of the Houses!



**AQUINAS**

**DROGO**

JOSEPHINE

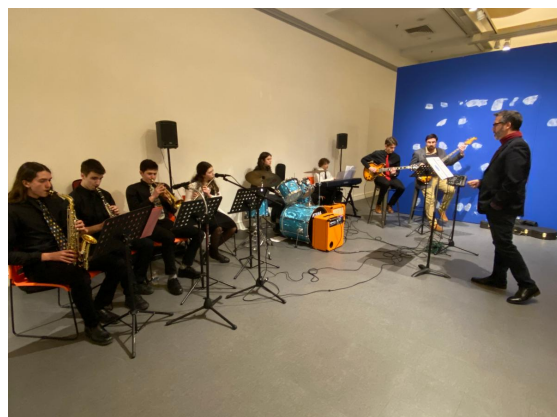
URSULA

Zeiger & Ollie OLMA  
Alpine store



## 2024 WINTER ARTS SHOWCASE

It was a stunning display at the Mercy Academy Winter Arts Showcase on January 11, at the Thorne-Sagendorph Art Gallery at Keene State College. The Jazz Ensemble, Chorus and Intermediate Guitar class performed, and all of the Art and Music Production students exhibited their work, including the 3D class's project...Barbie Dreamhouse: Some Assembly Required! CONGRATULATIONS to everyone for all of the hard work during the first semester!





WED & FRI JANUARY 24<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>  
3 PM. in the Masiello Room

## DRAMA Club

OPEN AUDITIONS

An evening of 1 Acts  
including:

Hamlet,

SNL skits,

Directed

By

Mrs. Heeran

The

Constituent

& Mr. Toscano

please see old man 'SCANO for  
Details!



KEENE LIONS CLUB *and* KEENE LIONS FOUNDATION, INC.

*Proudly Present Their 71st Annual Show*



# ANASTASIA

THE MUSICAL

Book by **TERRENCE McNALLY**

Music by **STEPHEN FLAHERTY**

Lyrics by **LYNN AHRENS**



**FEBRUARY 9-11, 2024**

*at the Colonial Theatre, Keene, NH*

**FRIDAY/SATURDAY EVENING *at* 7:30PM**

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY MATINEE *at* 1:00PM**

Proceeds Benefit Keene Lions Foundation, Inc. Charities



**TICKETS AVAILABLE *at the* COLONIAL THEATRE BOX OFFICE**

95 Main Street, Keene, NH • 603-352-2033 • [www.thecolonial.org](http://www.thecolonial.org)



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Newsletters from previous weeks can be found on our website here:  
<https://www.mercyacademykeene.org/news>



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