



# Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



February 29, 2024

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

Greetings OLMA Families, Faculty, and Staff:

I hope that everyone enjoyed a good break last week! The students seemed to return on Monday very refreshed and ready to get back to work.

Throughout Lent, we will be going to **Stations of the Cross** every Friday afternoon at 2:00pm at St. Bernard's Church. Families are welcome to join us anytime!

Please keep an eye out for an email from me tomorrow about some significant **dismissal issues** that we are going to be dealing with next week. The parish needs to do sewer work on St. Bernard's, and it's going to create a challenging situation with our dismissal and rides line for a few days. It will just require some extra patience from everyone. More details in my email coming tomorrow.

Thank you to all those who have taken care of **re-enrollment** for next year. The deadline to complete the two steps for re-enrollment is next Friday, March 8. Once again, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me.

The Diocese of Manchester has a **survey** that they would like all families to complete. The responses would actually be quite useful to us, so I encourage you to take a few minutes to respond. See below for details.

Next week, during all of our Theology classes (Mr. Sully and Mr. Toscano), we will be addressing the issue of bullying as part of the Diocese of Manchester's **Circles of Care** initiative. These are important conversations with teens. These discussions will be compassionate, welcoming and nurturing, and all students will be encouraged to participate.

May Your Spirit Be Lifted,

Christopher Smith  
Principal

## MARK 1:12-13

At once the Spirit drove him out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Fri 3/1** -- Stations of the Cross -- 2pm

**Mon-Fri 3/4-8** -- Penny Wars

**Mon 3/4** -- Chess Club meeting -- 2:45pm (see details below)

**Wed 3/6** -- All-school Mass -- 9:30am

**Fri 3/15** -- Faculty in-service day -- **NO**



### SCHOOL

Wed 3/20 -- International Night -- 5:30-7:30pm  
(see details below)

Mon 3/25 -- End of the 3rd Quarter

Wed 3/27 -- Advisory Board meeting

Wed 3/27 -- Retreat (freshmen), community service (sophomores), SAT (juniors), graduation planning (seniors)

Thurs 3/28 -- Holy Thursday -- **HALF DAY**

Fri 3/29 -- Good Friday -- **NO SCHOOL**

Mon 4/1 -- Easter Monday -- **NO SCHOOL**

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

## DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER SURVEY

Dear Parents,

As part of our ongoing partnership with you, we often seek your input as it relates to your child's Catholic school experience. The Catholic Schools Office is asking all parents in our diocesan Catholic school system to please complete this survey. If you have multiple children enrolled (and in multiple schools), please select one diocesan/parish school for the purpose of this survey. We are so grateful for your time; hearing directly from parents helps us in our role as Catholic school system administrators. The deadline to complete the survey is March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please click the link below to begin.



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HJMFNHJ>

Thank you for your participation!

In Christ,

Alison Mueller

Director of Marketing, Enrollment, & Development



**Wednesday, March 20 -- 5:30-7:30pm**

<https://www.stjosephkeene.org>

Would you and your family like to be a part of our International Night?

Would you like to share some of your family's heritage?

**FOOD/DRINKS** Is there a special recipe that you make at home with your family that is unique to your heritage? We would love to have as many different cuisines from around the world as possible for everyone to try!

**CULTURE** Is there an aspect of your family's culture that you can share with everyone? In

the past, we have had families wear traditional apparel, display special family items that have cultural or historical significance, and share recipes and customs.

Contact Jen Marshall at [jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org).

## SPRING CRAFT FAIR

Spread the word...our craft fair vendor registration is OPEN!

<https://www.stjosephkeene.org/spring-craft-fair-vendors>

Save the date -- Saturday, May 11!



## American Red Cross

## RED CROSS FIRST AID/CPR/AED

We will be offering the Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED (adult and pediatric) course on Saturday, March 30, 10:00am-2:00pm. The cost will be \$50. This could be a great opportunity for students in preparation for summer jobs.

We currently have seven students planning to attend. If you are interested, please email Mrs. Hart. ([chart@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:chart@stjosephkeene.org))

## CHESS CLUB

The first meeting of the Chess Club will be next Monday, March 4, after school in the Masiello Room. We will be preparing to play against Keene High School. All are welcome! If you have questions, please contact Mr. Toscano ([atoscano@mercyacademykeene.org](mailto:atoscano@mercyacademykeene.org)).

## ATHLETICS NEWS

**CONGRATULATIONS** to all of our student-athletes who have been competing throughout this Winter!

Jack Clark - Hinsdale High School basketball  
Parker Ederveen-Vahldiek- Monadnock/KHS ice hockey  
Greta Fenn - KHS alpine skiing  
Lizzie Gornall - KHS alpine skiing  
Liam Hart - Monadnock High School basketball  
Wesley McWhirk - Monadnock/KHS boys ice hockey  
Morgan Murray - Keene YMCA Dolphins swim team  
Sully Murray - Keene YMCA Dolphins swim team  
Kyle Paolino - Conant High School swim team  
Andreea Rusu - Keene YMCA Dolphins swim team  
Alyvia Singleton - KHS girls ice hockey  
Ben Stoning - Monadnock High School basketball

The **spring sports season** is getting underway now at the local public schools. For all of the details and contact information, **please CLICK HERE for the OLMA website** ! Please do not hesitate to reach out directly to the athletic directors about upcoming meet-the-coaches nights and first practices.

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY OFFICERS

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the newly-elected National Honor Society officers!

President - Andreea Rusu  
Vice President - Morgan Murray  
Secretary - Ethan Young  
Treasurer - Dean Kangas  
The Bard (public relations) - Ethan Petschik



Everyone has a great time at our first annual Lock-In event earlier this month!

The **Mercy Project** classes at Mercy Academy have some great activities and projects planned for this semester! The Mercy Project is our interpretation of a community service-based course in which students play active roles in both our immediate and extended neighborhoods. The course puts Mercy Academy's mission into action. It calls on students to be informed of the world immediately around them and beyond, and the needs of the greater community. The goal is for students to be motivated and inspired to share their gifts and knowledge to have an impact on others, and to grow as compassionate, active citizens.



Providing connections to food, housing, and job aid to those who need it in the City of Keene.

The **Keene Connect Hub** will be a kiosk available at 4 different locales and will provide connections to housing, food, and job aid to those in the community who are housing or food insecure. The way the kiosk works is by accessing a website with no other access to the internet. It allows people to gain access to information on services such as food and housing assistance as well as job aid. And it provides information on the locations of those services in the region.

**Come see us at International Night (and perhaps donate to our cause) on March 20th at SJRS, where we will be showcasing a prototype of this project!**

Mercy Project Presents

# PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER

06 April,  
2024

Arrive at 9am, games start at 9:30

HELP **MERCY PROJECT**  
FUNDRAISE FOR **CASA**: AN  
ORGANIZATION THAT SERVES AS  
THE "EYES AND EARS" OF THE  
COURT, AND SPEAKS UP TO MAKE  
THE CHILDREN'S BEST INTERESTS  
KNOWN.

**\$30 PER  
TEAM**

To be held at the SJRS gym

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!](#)

## MONTREAL/QUEBEC TRIP

Over the break last week, 22 Mercy students traveled to Montreal and Quebec. A huge THANK YOU to Madame Wilson for planning everything, and to Monsieur Sully and Monsieur Raabe for chaperoning. Everyone had a FANTASTIC time!!





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



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