



Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



March 28, 2025

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

Dear Parents and Staff,

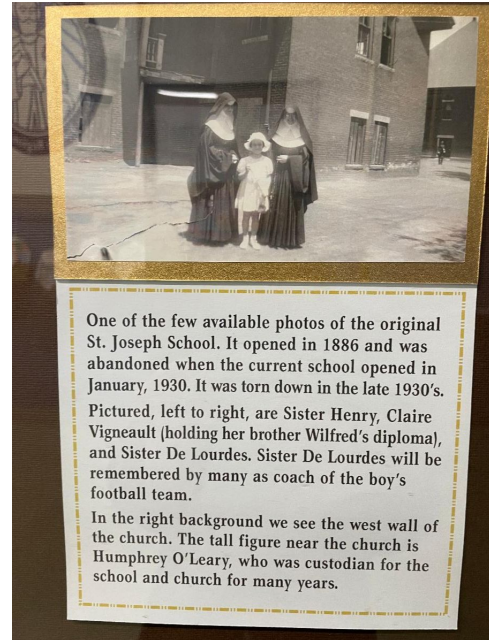
St. Joseph Regional School and Our Lady of Mercy have a long heritage of educating students in the Monadnock area. There are countless alumni of our program who are now active and productive community leaders.

As a celebration of this rich history, we have a "Throwback Thursday" moment, pictured here. It is one of the first known photographs of St. Joseph with two of the Sisters of Mercy who began the school in 1886.

Thank you to all the staff and families who have made SJRS and OLMA the great schools that they are, and to all the current staff and students and families who continue this outstanding legacy.

In His service,

Miss Victoria Farrington
Principal



LUKE 1:30-33

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end."

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 4/2 -- All-school Mass -- 9:30am
Thursday 4/3 -- SAT (juniors), Retreat (seniors), community service (fr/soph)
Sunday 4/6 -- Pancake breakfast after the 9:30am Mass (approx. 10:30am) -- St. Bernard's Parish Hall (see details below)
Friday 4/11 -- Stations of the Cross -- 1:20pm
Thursday 4/17 -- Holy Thursday -- **HALF DAY** -- Dismissal 11:45am. No Extended Day.
Friday 4/18 -- Good Friday -- **NO SCHOOL**
Mon-Fri 4/21-25 -- Spring Break -- **NO SCHOOL**
Wednesday 4/30 -- Home & School Association meeting -- 6-7pm -- St. Bernard's Parish Hall

CLICK HERE for the UPDATED 2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

*****PLEASE NOTE:** The calendar has been



updated to reflect the change in the date/time for the Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation Ceremony to Sunday, June 8, at 2pm.

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS

Full follow-up notes from our HSA meeting last night (3/26) will be shared next week.

On Wednesday evening at the HSA meeting, Ms. Wilson and Mrs. Petschik gave a helpful **presentation on managing technology use** for kids and teens. **CLICK HERE to view their presentation.**



The **Diocese curriculum standards** were mentioned at a previous HSA meeting, and parents expressed interest in viewing those. The standards have been added to our school website and can be found here: <https://www.mercyacademykeene.org/academics>

UPCOMING STANDARDIZED TESTING

The **SAT** will be on Thursday, April 3, for all 11th graders. There is no charge for this test as it is administered through the state of New Hampshire.

2025-2026 ADMISSIONS NOW OPEN FOR ALL GRADES

The 2025-2026 re-enrollment deadline was last Friday, March 7. **If you have not re-enrolled your child yet, please do so ASAP.**

Admissions for next school year are now open for all grades at SJRS and OLMA. Please feel free to share this with friends and family in the community. In the past, we have always found that word of mouth is the most important way that new families discover our schools. We also have flyers available in the front office. Parents are welcome to pick up copies if you would like to distribute/hang them locally in places you frequent. Thank you!

SJRS/OLMA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

We have compiled all information sent by parents for our new SJRS/OLMA Business Directory. We encourage the support of the businesses within our school communities! If you have questions or would like your business to be added to the directory, please email Jen Marshall (jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org). Please **CLICK HERE for the Business Directory.**



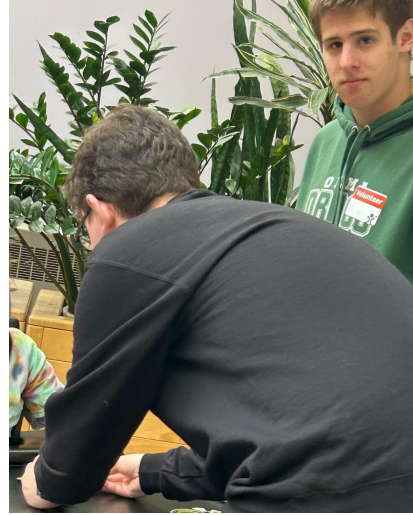
Pancake Breakfast

*Sunday, April 6th
After 9:30 Mass*

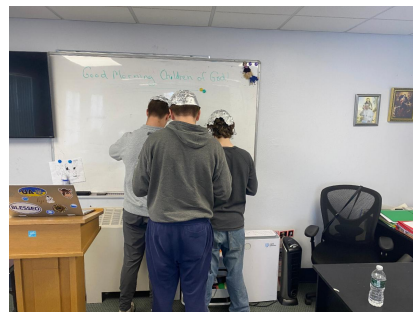
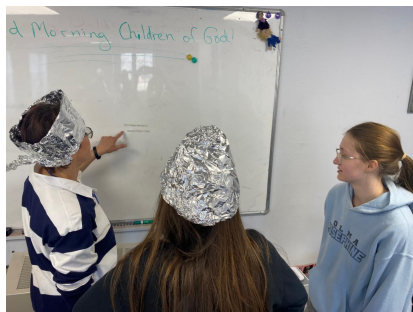
Join us for pancakes, fun,
and more! All proceeds help
fund OLMA's 2025 Prom.



For their community service project, our National Honor Society members have been going to Cedarcrest to visit with the children there!



Bagpiper Mark Polifrone made it a festive St. Patrick's Day for all earlier this month!



Today in Dr. Regney's freshman English class, students donned tinfoil hats to protect their brains as they worked together on conspiracy theory poems!

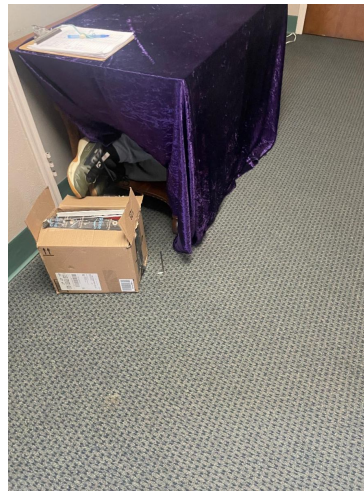
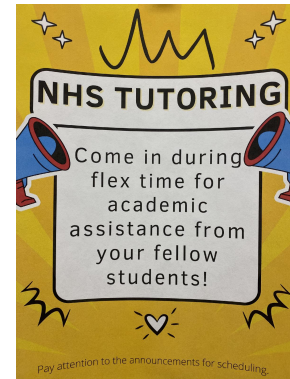
Recently Mrs. Hoye's Anatomy & Physiology students headed over to nearby **Elements MMA** to take a strength/stretching class to put their learning



of the skeletal, muscular, and nervous systems into real practice. Thank you Elements for hosting us!

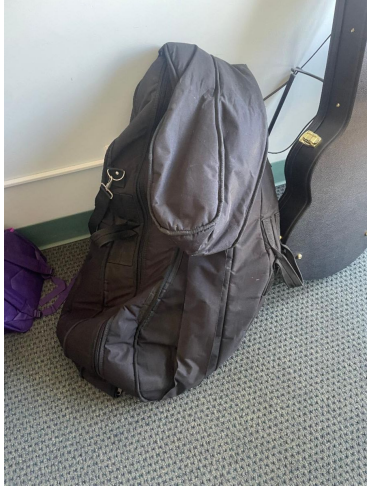
TUTORING AVAILABLE!


Tutoring by NHS scholars and Dr. Regney is available every day except Wednesdays. We meet during flex time in room 37. This is a quiet study/work space and only tutors and tutees may be in the room. Those seeking help please arrive by 11:40am at the latest to receive assistance. We can help you review areas on your midterm that you did not understand. We can help you with assignments (teacher permitting). We can help you study for quizzes and tests. **Come pump up your brain!**



OLMA students played a quick game of hide-and-seek for the House competition yesterday afternoon. They found some very creative hiding spots throughout the building! The House of Aquinas came out the victors, gaining them 50 House points. Currently Aquinas has a sizable lead in the House Cup this year with the House of Ursula in second. But anything can happen between now and June 6 when the 2024-2025 House Cup will be awarded!







MAKE A DIFFERENCE! HOST FAMILIES NEEDED!

2 weeks after OLMA
returns from France, the
same 30 French students
and 3 teachers who
hosted us are visiting
May 13-20, 2025

Please consider hosting....for more
information, text or call Kira Kangas at
603-242-5254 or email Mr. Sully
asully@mercyacademykeene.org



Is Anxiety Crippling Your Family?

Powerful and Practical Interventions

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APRIL 5 • 9 AM TO 12 PM • Ste. Marie Parish, Manchester, NH

AGENDA

9:00 AM Mass

SHORT BREAK WITH COFFEE/BREAKFAST FOODS

10 AM-10:50 AM

Mary Fallavolita MS, M.Ed. LMHC

Understanding
Anxiety

Mary Fallavolita is a diagnostic Catholic therapist, brain coach, teacher, mentor and speaker who launched her private practice, Mission Counseling & Guidance Center, LLC in 2017, which continues to grow – supporting those especially seeking faith-based counseling. Her session will focus on the relevance and derailments of anxiety among our children, adults and families. Anxiety in the present moment is inviting us to pay attention and pause.

11 AM-11:50 AM

Angela Hanscom

The Decline of Outdoor Play –
And the Rise in Sensory Issues

Angela Hanscom is a pediatric occupational therapist and founder of TimberNook—an award-winning developmental and nature-based program that has gained international popularity.

As we continue to decrease children's time and space to move and play outdoors, we are seeing a simultaneous rise in the number of children that are presenting with sensory and motor deficits. Using the same philosophy that lies at the heart of her popular TimberNook program—that nature is the ultimate sensory experience, and that psychological and physical health improves for children when they spend time outside on a regular basis—Angela Hanscom offers several strategies to help children thrive in outdoor environments using a therapeutic approach to nature play.

12 PM - CLOSING PRAYER

Contact: Karen Hettrick, Director of Parish Faith Formation, khettrick@rcbm.org or 603-663-0176

Registration is free, but please register by March 28 so we can plan for resources.
<https://form.jotform.com/RCBM/anxiety>

www.catholicnh.org




WHAT IS A JUBILEE YEAR AND WHY DO WE CELEBRATE IT?

■ ORIGIN AND SIGNIFICANCE:

- The concept of a jubilee year has ancient roots in the law of Moses. In the Book of Leviticus, it was prescribed that jubilee years should occur every 50 years. These years were marked by the return of lands to their owners and the forgiveness of debts – a manifestation of God's justice and mercy.
- Pope Boniface VIII established a similar practice in the year 1300 for the Catholic Church.
- The 2025 Jubilee Year follows the Catholic custom of celebrating a Jubilee every 25 years.
- It begins on December 24, 2024 (Christmas Eve) and concludes on January 6, 2026.
- Extraordinary jubilee years can also be proclaimed by the Holy Father as when Pope Francis decreed the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy in 2015.
- Additional Information can be found at www.usccb.org/jubilee2025.

■ THEME AND MOTTO:

- The theme for this Jubilee Year is "Pilgrims of Hope." These words encapsulate the essence of our journey in this life. Both "pilgrims" and "hope" resonate with key themes of Pope Francis' pontificate.
- The logo shows four stylized figures, representing all of humanity, coming from the four corners of the earth. They embrace to indicate the solidarity which should unite all peoples. The figure at the front is holding onto the cross which will never abandon us. There are rough waves under the figures, symbolizing the fact that life's pilgrimage does not always go smoothly in calm waters. The lower part of the cross is elongated into the shape of an anchor let down into the waves. The anchor is well known as a symbol of hope. Adapted from www.usccb.org/2025-va/en/giubileo-2025/logo.html

■ JUBILEE TRADITIONS:

- The Pope inaugurates the Jubilee Year by opening the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica. This Door is opened only during Jubilee years.
- Subsequently, the Holy Doors of other papal basilicas—St. John Lateran, St. Paul Outside the Walls, and St. Mary Major—are opened and remain so until the end of the Jubilee Year.
- This Jubilee Year will not include Holy Doors in all the (arch)dioceses of the world, though a bishop may designate a place or activity in honor of the Jubilee Year for the faithful to obtain the graces they could receive as if they had traveled to Rome. Bishop Libasci has proclaimed that all those who participate in the NH Diocesan Eucharistic Pilgrimage May 18 – June 19, 2025, will have an opportunity for these special graces called indulgences. Decree-JubileeYearOffHope2024.12.14.pdf
- Special Jubilee celebrations are held in Rome for many particular groups during this year. For example, the Jubilee of Artists is Feb. 15-18, the Jubilee of the Sick and Health Care Workers is April 5-6, and the Jubilee of Sports is June 14-15. And there are many, many more.
- Please go to www.usccb.org/jubilee-2025-calendar for more information.

ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL SCHOOL
2025-2026
ADMISSIONS
NOW OPEN
ALL GRADES

Schedule a tour today!

603/352-2720

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

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2025-2026
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Questions? Contact Mrs. Moylan, Yearbook Advisor, dmoylan@mercycademykeene.org

For your reference, all newsletters from previous weeks can be found on our website here:
<https://www.mercyacademykeene.org/news>



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

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