



Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy

December 9, 2021



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

Dear SJRS Families,

A brief **middle school basketball update** to begin...we will not be starting basketball next week. Because of the current COVID numbers in the county, we have decided to hold on basketball just for now. We will re-evaluate the situation when we return back to school after the break. We are hopeful for a January start, and will keep everyone informed of the plan.

Recording for the **Christmas Concert** is going very well so far. All of the elementary school students looked so festive dressed up yesterday! A reminder for grades 5-8 next week...students are encouraged to wear what they would normally wear to the Christmas Concert.

Tuesday, December 14 – Grades 5 - 8 – Dressed up (Chorus, Advanced Band)

Thank you to everyone who has sent in their **50/50 raffle tickets**. There are some families who have not sent their money/stubs back in yet. Please do so ASAP because the drawing is on Monday!

Beginning next week and going forward, all **SJRS weekly Masses** will be on Wednesdays at 9:30am, joined by the Mercy Academy students. There will not be a 9:30 Mass on Friday anymore.

I have continued to have a great time this week with all of the classes with their different **Advent surprises**. Make sure to ask your child about the fun we are having each day!

Finally, I wanted to share the **Christmas Novena** that I have been praying with the faculty each day over the past week or so in the morning before students arrive. This has been a special way for us to start our days together at this time of reflection.

Christmas Novena

Hail and Blessed be the hour and the moment

At which the Son of God was born of a most pure Virgin at a stable at midnight in Bethlehem in the piercing cold.

At that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, To hear my prayers and Grant my desires

(mention request here)

Through Jesus Christ and His most Blessed Mother.

May Your Spirit Be Lifted,

Christopher Smith
Principal



Luke 2:14

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

Advent is a season of reflection. The second purple Advent Candle stands for **peace**. Too often our understanding of the word “peace” is limited to worldly peace – the absence of war. But the word peace – as proclaimed by the angels to the shepherds at the birth of Jesus – has a much more spiritual significance.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 12/10 – Parents Night Out – 5:30-8pm

Wednesday 12/15 – SJRS/OLMA School Mass – 9:30am

Mon 12/20-Fri 12/31 – Christmas Break NO SCHOOL

Monday 1/3/22 – Return from Christmas Break



We have our special **SJRS suncatchers** available for purchase again this year throughout the month of December! The proceeds benefit our Annual Fund, which provides support to all of the programs that impact our students every day. For details and to purchase online:

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

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic for Ages 5–11

BY APPOINTMENT | DRIVE-THRU

Cheshire Medical Center, 580 Court Street, Keene, NH

▪ ~~Saturday, November 20~~

▪ ~~Saturday, December 4~~

▪ **Saturday, December 11**

Established and eligible Cheshire Medical Center pediatric patients, ages 5 to 11, can schedule an appointment in advance through myDH.org or by calling their primary care provider's office.

For more information, visit cheshiremed.org/vaccine



MUSICAL INSTRUMENT LESSONS

Local musician Floyd Oster, who has worked with several of our students in the past, has available time for trumpet, guitar and bass lessons for 30-minute or 45-minute lessons. He has openings on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school. If you have questions or would like to schedule a lesson, you may contact Floyd directly at fdoster@aol.com.



SJRS ALPINE CLUB MESSAGE FROM CLUB COORDINATOR: WENDY PETSCHIK

The SJRS/OLMA Alpine Club is gearing up for a great season of skiing and riding with the Voyager Program at Crotched Mountain. The club is open to all SJRS and OLMA students ages 5- 18 and there are no capacity limits this year so we can accommodate anyone who would like to join us! Below is the current information that has been provided by Crotched about the program. I am still working out the details/payment amount of those students who would like to join us but do not need lessons or rentals, so stay tuned for that information. I would like to get a contact list together of any interested students so please use the Google Doc link below to provide your information so I can create a master email list. If you have a season pass and do not want lessons, there is no need to sign up through Crotched Mountain, but you will still be part of our club so please sign up on the Google Doc below so I can include you in our club communications.

I am so excited for snow and the slope side fun to begin!! If you have any questions, please email Wendy Petschik at wpetschik@stjosephkeene.org.

Google Doc link for Alpine Club email

list: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JX9mfl-MgDzPLWYdmFeb9I3buQXY7FdT1aJKsssErZw/edit?usp=sharing>

Crotched Mountain Voyager Program details

- 5 weeks of lessons plus 2 additional weeks to come out and ski/ride. Voyager is now a 7-week program with lessons offered the first 5 of the 7 weeks.
- 2 products: Lift/Lesson/Rental (\$289) OR Lesson/Rental (\$140)

Schedule:

- Fridays
- Lesson start time: 5 pm
- Starting week of 1/4/22
- Ending week of 2/15/22
- One make-up day, if needed, on your regular day/time, week of 3/8/22



amazon smile

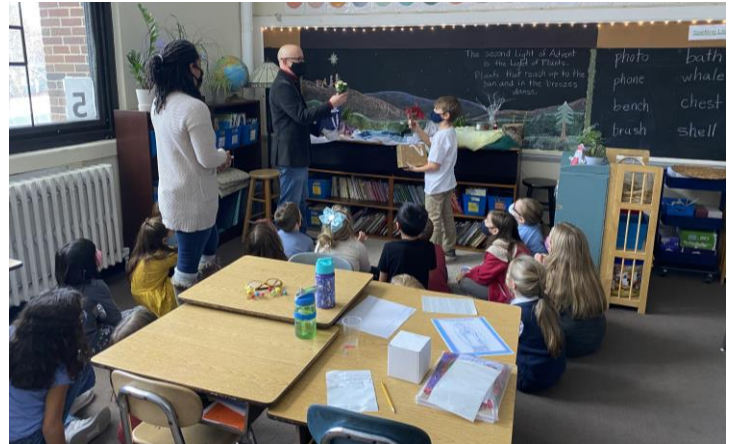


SHOP AMAZONSMILE THIS CHRISTMAS!

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support SJRS every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. [CLICK HERE for all of the details and to activate AmazonSmile.](#) THANK YOU!

IT'S TIME FOR OUTDOOR WEAR!

A reminder that all students in all grades go outside every day (sometimes multiple times per day) for mask breaks, snack, lunch, recess, or just for a short walk. Students in Childcare also go outdoors every day. **Now that the weather has turned colder, everyone must be dressed appropriately. Winter coats, boots, hats, mittens/gloves, and scarves are needed.** Please be sure that your child has all of the gear they need to be comfortable every day in the outdoors throughout the coming months. THANK YOU!



This morning Mr. Smith joined Mrs. Johnson's 2nd grade class with their daily Advent celebration. This week is the Light of Plants. Each day, they sing and read together about Mary and Joseph's journey, and then open class gifts. All this week the gifts are plants that they are adding to their beautiful Advent table.



The NHDI Year-Long Program is in full swing with students in grades 4-8 dancing every Thursday with teaching artist (and SJRS parent) Danielle Fitzpatrick! NHDI always includes live music, and this year, SJRS parent Andrew Adams is playing percussion with us during our class and with other schools in the program as well.



This week, our Girl Scout Troop 59010 put together over 30 Christmas gift bags filled with pajamas, mittens, hats, and stuffed animals to donate to children of Monadnock Family Youth Service!

ADVENT SURPRISES!

Mr. Smith's annual Advent surprises have been taking place for the last week, and will continue until the Christmas break. So far, Kindergarten watched a movie; 5th grade had hot chocolate (with a little extra surprise of whipped cream on Mr. Smith's head!); 4th grade had ice cream sundaes; and 7th grade had milkshakes. Plus the whole school got a dress down day!



PARENTS NIGHT OUT CHRISTMAS EDITION!!



Friday, December 10th

5:30-8:00 P.M.

\$15.00 per Student OR \$20.00 total for multiple students

from the same family

Come to Christmas Movie Night wearing your favorite Christmas Pajamas
and with a cozy blanket!

Pre-K and Kinder will be watching a Christmas movie in the Pre-School Room

Grades 1-5 will be watching a movie on the big screen in the Gym

Pizza and a dessert are included



Please fill out the bottom and turn it in to your child's teacher

(not the office) with the payment 😊

Student(s) Name(s): _____

Grade(s): _____

Allergies: _____

Number where you can be reached: _____

Who will be picking up your student(s): _____