



# Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



SUMMER EDITION  
August 4, 2022

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

Greetings SJRS Families and Faculty,

I pray that you are all enjoying the incredibly beautiful summer weather we've been having this year! Not surprisingly, even with the wonderful outdoors available, our teachers and staff have been at school working hard to prepare for the 2022-2023 school year. We are currently fully staffed (with every teacher and aide returning), which is truly a blessing, since many schools are significantly understaffed heading into the fall semester. We have also added five aides to our elementary staff as well as a Special Education case manager to help us with our growing population of students.

While we have had several room changes and improvements throughout the building over the summer, one of the most exciting (future) changes will be a renovated parking lot with many fixes, new surfacing, and restriping of parking spaces and directions. We are hoping to have this completed before school starts near the end of the month.

While COVID-19 continues to affect different parts of our population throughout the summer, the Diocese of Manchester has opted to continue the parental choice (mask-optional) decision made this past spring. Thus, masks will not be required in any classes or buildings at both schools and students should only be wearing masks if their parents choose for them to do so. If and when we receive more guidance from NHDOE and the Diocese, I will update everyone accordingly.

There is a lot of important information included below to help you begin preparations for the coming school year. Please pay close attention to this and additional communications to come in the next few weeks as we get closer to Monday, August 29.

May Your Spirit Be Lifted,

Christopher Smith  
Principal

## REVELATION 21:4-6

He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, [for] the old order has

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Mon-Fri 8/22-8/26** – Faculty In-Service Days  
**Friday 8/26** – Preschool and Kindergarten Open House – 9-9:30am  
**Monday 8/29** – **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!**

passed away.” The one who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” Then he said, “Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true.” He said to me, “They are accomplished. I [am] the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water.”

**Monday 9/5** – Labor Day – **NO SCHOOL**  
**Friday 9/9** – Back-to-School Picnic – 5:30-7:30pm  
**Tuesday 9/13** – Middle School Back-to-School Night  
**Wednesday 9/14** – Elementary School Back-to-School Night  
**Friday 9/23** – Golf Tournament at Bretwood

**CLICK HERE for the complete updated 2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

### **SUMMER HOURS**

Continuing through August 18, our Summer Hours will be **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 10:00am-2:00pm**. During the week of August 22, the faculty/staff will be in special meetings, planning sessions, a spiritual retreat, and professional development. Everyone will be in the building, but will have limited availability as final preparations are being made for school to begin.

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING**

The following list of books is the Summer reading required of the Middle School students in preparation for Fall 2022. Reading must be completed by the first day of school

**Grade 5** – *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan  
**Grade 6** – *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls  
**Grade 7** – *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle  
**Grade 8** – *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens

### **SUPPLY LIST FOR 2022-2023**

Please **CLICK HERE for the Supply List for the 2022-2023 school year.**

### **GET YOUR GEAR FOR BACK TO SCHOOL!**

Our online stores through Bulldog Design in Keene are open to help you get ready for back-to-school! All orders are produced on demand as they come in. Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery, so order soon! These stores also serve as fundraisers for SJRS and OLMA, so a portion of the sales come back to our schools.

<https://sjrsapparel.itemorder.com/shop/sale/>  
<https://mercyacademy.itemorder.com/shop/sale/>

### **LUNCHES**

Hot lunches will begin on **Tuesday, September 6**. You may start placing orders via Renweb/FACTS now and pay online. Payment may also be made by cash/check at the Main Office.

Mondays/Fridays -- Cheese Pizza (\$2.25/slice)  
Tuesdays -- Hot dogs/veggie dogs with chips (\$2.00)  
Wednesdays -- Ham/turkey/bologna/veggie sandwiches with chips (\$4.50)

If you have any questions, please contact Kate in the Main Office ([kate@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:kate@stjosephkeene.org)).

## **SJRS CHILD CARE**

SJRS offers Child Care before and after school each day for all students in all grades. The program is managed by our Kindergarten teacher, Rachel Reekie. All families utilizing Child Care must enroll. For all of the details and to enroll in the SJRS Child Care Program for the 2022-2023 school year, **please [CLICK HERE!](#)**



## **DRESS CODE**

The dress code for students in grades K-8 was established to support a commitment to simplicity, neatness, and lack of competition in the area of dress. Uniforms fit properly and are worn appropriately each day. Students who are not in proper uniform will be asked to contact parents to acquire proper uniform clothing or borrow available uniform clothing from the Main Office. Please mark all clothing, sneakers, mittens, boots, and coats/sweatshirts with students' names.

### **KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 4**

- Pants - Navy or khaki (Dockers style for boys)
- No leggings, yoga pants, or spandex without a skirt/dress/jumper over it (girls).
- Shirt - Oxford in white, navy, or light blue
- Polo shirts - Long/short sleeve with collar in white, navy, or light blue
- Turtlenecks - White or navy blue
- Sweater - V-neck cardigan/pullover in solid navy blue only
- Walking Shorts - Navy only
- Navy blue fleece vests w/ or without school letters/logo
- Plaid jumper (Girls Kindergarten through grade 2 only)
- Plaid jumper, skort, skirt – Plaid or Navy only (Girls grade 3 & 4 only)
- Blouse - Peter Pan collar in white or light blue (Girls grade 3 & 4 only)
- Navy blue or white tights or leggings may be worn with skirts/dresses/jumpers.
- No hooded sweatshirts.

### **GRADE 5 - GRADE 8**

- Pants - Navy or khaki (Dockers style)
- No leggings, yoga pants, or spandex without a skirt/dress over it (girls).
- Skirts/Kilt – Khaki, navy or plaid (All girls) – Knee Length
- Shirts - Oxford in white, navy, or light blue
- Polo's - Long/short sleeve, with collar in white, navy, or light blue
- Turtlenecks - White or Navy
- Sweater - V-neck cardigan/pullover in solid Navy blue only
- Walking Shorts - Navy or khaki – Knee Length
- Navy blue fleece vests w/ or without school letters/logo
- No hooded sweatshirts, except those that include the SJRS logo and/or are affiliated with an SJRS club or organization.

### **ALL GRADES**

- Shoes and sneakers in good condition. (See below for details.)
- Belts are to be worn with uniform pants and walking shorts in grades 3-8.
- Walking shorts are permitted for approximately the first six weeks of school and in the spring when announced as a result of the change in weather.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION DRESS CODE**

- Navy sweatshirt and sweatpants
- Navy t-shirt
- Navy mesh shorts
- Sneakers

### **SHOES**

Sneakers in good condition or leather shoes are appropriate for both boys and girls. Sandals and

clogs are not allowed at any time. Crocs with the back strap up may be worn seasonally during the first six weeks of the school year and the last six weeks of the school year. For safety, all shoes must have closed fronts and backs with no “platform” style heels and soles.

---

## FREE PIANO

We have a piano available to any family that is interested. It is FREE of charge and in excellent working condition. You will need to make arrangements for moving it to the location of your choice. If you're interested, please contact Kate in the Main Office ([kate@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:kate@stjosephkeene.org)).



---

## OUR COMMUNICATIONS PROCESS

As we get started for the year, we thought it would be helpful to clarify who to go to when various issues arise, as they oftentimes will. The very best way of initiating communication with any faculty or staff member is via email. On our websites, there are complete lists of all email addresses. You will receive a response within 24 hours. You may then set up a phone call or a meeting.

If you have an issue or concern about your child (academic or social), you should communicate, in this order, with:

- 1. Your child's teacher** -- After speaking with your child's teacher, if you feel that you would like to have additional discussions, you should then go to...
- 2. Dean of Students** -- The Dean of Students for SJRS is Mrs. Bezio (PK-8). After speaking with the Dean of Students, if you feel that you would like to have a further conversation, you should then go to...
- 3. Principal**

To be clear, Mr. Smith's door is absolutely always open, and he is happy to meet with parents on any issue whatsoever anytime. By laying out the above plan, the hope is simply to help everyone get the information that they need and resolve issues in as timely a manner as possible.

---

## 50/50 RAFFLE COMING SOON

This fall we will be having a 50/50 raffle as we mentioned in everyone's tuition letters. Each student will receive an allotment of 10 tickets. All families will be responsible for either selling their allotted tickets OR they may purchase the tickets themselves. Keep an eye out for more details and your tickets this fall!



---

## OUR 2022-2023 FACULTY/STAFF

Below are the faculty/staff listings for SJRS and OLMA for the 2022-2023 school year!

## **SJRS**

Preschool -- Michelle Smith, Tracy Young  
Kindergarten -- Rachel Reekie  
Grade 1 -- Stephenie Konopka, Mary Grace Nelligan  
Grade 2 -- Stephanie Johnson  
Grade 3 -- Catherine Isacco  
Grade 4 -- Bridget Lundin  
Grades K-4 Religion -- Ann Skidds  
Elementary French -- Julia Dutton  
Elementary Art -- Katrina Daugherty  
Elementary Aides -- Ashley Brown, Nicole Ouellette, Eve Smith  
Grades 5-6 Math -- Ali Wilson  
Grades 7-8 Math -- Bernadette Kuhn  
Grades 5 English -- Sue Foder  
Grade 6 English -- Megan Amundson  
Grade 7-8 English -- Rebecca Bezio  
Grades 5-6 Literature -- Megan Amundson  
Grade 7 Literature -- Rebecca Bezio  
Grade 8 Literature -- Christopher Smith  
Grades 5-8 Social Studies -- Sue Foder  
Grades 5-8 Science -- Wendy Petschik  
Grades 5-6 Religion -- Sue Foder  
Grades 7-8 Religion -- Melanie Zwolinski  
Grades 5-8 French -- Emily Winterbottom  
Grade 8 Spanish -- Isabel Hernando Cabrera  
Art -- Molly Fletcher  
Physical Education/Health -- Cathy Hart  
Music -- Bob Thies

### **Faculty Leads**

Middle School/Specials Lead -- Sue Foder  
Elementary Lead -- Christopher Smith

## **OLMA**

Art -- Molly Fletcher  
Campus Ministry, Theology -- Chelsea Herman  
Culinary Arts -- Avril Miller  
English -- Kristin Blais, Gabrielle Regney  
French -- Sharon Wilson  
Health -- Cathy Hart  
Mathematics -- Andy Cardine  
Mathematics -- Liz Wilber  
Mercy Project, Service Program, Theology -- Anthony Toscano  
Music, Computers/Technology -- Christian Raabe  
Physical Education -- Ali Wilson  
Science -- Abbey Hoyer  
Social Studies -- John Rafail  
Spanish -- Isabel Hernando Cabrera  
Theology -- Anthony Sully

### **Faculty Lead**

Andy Cardine

## **SJRS/OLMA Administration**

Principal -- Christopher Smith  
OLMA Dean of Students -- Liberty Ebright  
SJRS Dean of Students -- Rebecca Bezio  
Project Manager/OLMA Founder -- Anthony Toscano  
Director of Advancement -- Jen Marshall  
Director of Admissions -- Megan Amundson  
SJRS Office Manager -- Kate Pratt  
SJRS Office Assistant -- Ashley Brown  
OLMA Office Assistant/Bookkeeper -- Allison Murray  
Athletics Coordinator -- Ali Wilson

Dear SJRS Families and Faculty,

We are very encouraged and excited to share a new initiative that has begun this year at Saint Joseph Regional School and Our Lady of Mercy Academy. This has been a collaborative effort that we have undertaken to help nurture the full mission and vision of our schools.

As a Catholic school, not only do we hope to provide a rich educational experience for our students, but one that is authentically Catholic and infuses the beauty and truths of our faith and the messages of Jesus Christ into everything we do and teach. This is especially important in today's world where we are all surrounded by moral relativism, secular ideologies and materialism. The Catholic faith is awesome and life-giving and it is a blessing to be able to teach it and live it within our schools! By doing this, not only do we teach our students about their true dignity and worth as beloved children of God, but we also inspire and form them to be witnesses and true disciples of Christ in their own families and communities.

Inspired by a desire to reveal our faith, we assembled a ***Catholic Identity Formation Team***. The mission of the Catholic Identity Formation Team (CIFT) is to *form, foster, and preserve* the authentic Catholic identity of our schools, St. Joseph Regional School and Our Lady of Mercy Academy. To read more about the mission, vision, scope and applications of CIFT, [please click here](#).

The team is composed of a group of Catholic educators, administrators, pastors and parents whose particular focus is to look at the areas of teacher recruitment, faith formation, curriculum, and school culture. The group will also provide support and guidance to the administration regarding issues that the school faces surrounding Catholic identity.

To learn more about our team, how you can get in touch with us by email, and to stay updated on our work, we encourage you all to go to the school website and click on *Catholic Identity Formation Team*. Finally, we ask that you continue to pray for our students, our school and this work- that it always be Christ-centered and fruitful. We are so grateful to have this opportunity to work together and serve our students and families in this way.

May Your Spirit Be Lifted,

Christopher Smith  
Principal

Very Rev Alan C. Tremblay  
Pastor - Parish of the Holy Spirit

---

Greetings from the **SJRS/OLMA Advisory Board!**

The New Advisory Board was established in August 2021 and our mission is to collaborate with the principal to define the vision, and to promote and sustain the mission of the schools. The board meets bi-monthly and is tasked with providing sound advice and support to the principal, reviewing the schools' financial documents, recommending policies in the interest of the schools, and engaging in on-going strategic planning to ensure the long-term viability of the schools. The Board meetings have been joyful and collaborative, and all members are dedicated to the best interest of our schools and students.

For more information about the Board mission and a full list of Board members, please see <https://www.stjosephkeene.org/advisory-board>. If you have any questions or input for the Board, please feel free to contact Dr. Karen Stanish, Board Chair, at [kstanish@keene.edu](mailto:kstanish@keene.edu), or Troy Chaput, Board Vice Chair, at [Troy.S.Chaput@hitchcock.org](mailto:Troy.S.Chaput@hitchcock.org) or Jennifer Marshall at [jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org).

On behalf of the Board,

Karen Stanish, Board Chair

---

**Diocese of Manchester  
Catholic School Statement on  
Parental Partnership in Education**



**Diocese of Manchester**  
The Catholic Church in New Hampshire

Parents are the primary educators of their children; this is an essential tenet of the Catholic faith. \*

We, the teachers and administrators of the Diocese of Manchester, consider it our privilege to work alongside you in the education and formation of our Catholic school students.

When you choose to partner with our Catholic schools, we both commit to a collaboration of effort and good will, opening the door to a world of goodness, truth and beauty. Your child will experience the transformative effect of God's love in his or her life and you will be amazed at the ways it touches others, both in and outside of school.

Parents have both the right and duty to act as role models – physically, mentally, and spiritually – and a good example is the strongest teacher. Your personal relationship with God and your active involvement in the school community will influence the ways in which your child relates to God and others. It will enhance their education and create the next generation of societal leaders. The Catholic values and Christian behavior taught in our schools will take root in your child if they are also demonstrated at home. The Diocese of Manchester Catholic Schools will provide resources throughout the year which will seek to support and affirm your responsibility as the first educator of your child.

In our schools, we gladly welcome students of all faiths, at all stages along the journey to faith, and we need parents to support us according to our mission. Catholic schools will continue to be transparent about expectations, curriculum, and every aspect of our committed partnership. Students may not “opt out” of religion class, Mass, rosary, or any other of the Catholic practices that distinguish our Catholic schools from their secular counterparts. It is for the benefit of every child, in a true spirit of evangelization, that devotions are taught and required for all students.

During their formative years, your child needs constant support at home as well as at school to develop his or her moral, intellectual, social, cultural, and physical endowment. Parents and teachers must trust the sincerity of the efforts of their educational partner in the quest to nurture and challenge each student to reach his or her potential. We follow the Catholic principle of subsidiarity; that is, concerns should always be brought, first, to the staff member, teacher, or administrator that the parent has the concern with. It is vital that both parents and teachers model respect. Open and two-way communications between family and school are foundational to your child's growth and accomplishment.

Students are naturally eager to grow and learn. Sometimes, in the process of maturation, new interests may cause them to lose focus. As this natural process occurs, the student needs both understanding and structure. At times, your child may perceive structure as restrictive. However, we believe appropriate boundaries and limits provide children with much needed guidance and security. It also provides the best learning environment, where everyone can learn free from distraction. As a partner, we will work alongside you, to uplift you in your role as primary educator,

while creating an atmosphere where students can best be readied to achieve academic and personal success.

Nothing is more important, or more beautiful, than the task of forming knowledgeable, kind, effective and moral citizens of tomorrow. We are honored to have earned your trust, encouraged by your strong commitment, and we look forward to working alongside you.

*\* Catechism of the Catholic Church §2223*

		<p>Join us to hit the beautiful fairways of Bretwood's North course. Play is Scramble format with great prizes. The field will be limited to the first 96 golfers (24 foursomes) to register, so gather your family, friends, and colleagues!</p>
--	--	---

8:30am Registration, Driving Range, Putting Green, Continental Breakfast. Raffle Tickets and Mulligans sales!  
 10am Shotgun Start      Box Lunch provided in cart  
 3pm BBQ and Awards

Special **Hole-in-One Contest** with prize of a four-night stay for two at The Westin, Puntacana Resort and Club in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic! PLUS three additional hole-in-one contests with special prizes, PLUS prizes for men's/women's closest to the pin, putting contest, and top finishing teams.

\$125/player--\$500/foursome    **Early Bird discount -- \$100/player--\$400/foursome by registering by Friday, Aug 26!**  
**DEADLINE TO REGISTER -- SEPTEMBER 13!**      **Online registration at [www.mercyacademykeene.org/golf](http://www.mercyacademykeene.org/golf)**

**INDIVIDUAL PLAYER/TEAM REGISTRATION**

Participants are invited to register as a foursome or as individuals seeking to be assigned to a foursome. Please complete both pages of this form.

<b>Team 1 – Team Name or Business Name:</b>			
Player 1 Name:		Player 3 Name:	
Email:		Email:	
Player 2 Name:		Player 4 Name:	
Email:		Email:	

<b>Team 2 – Team Name or Business Name:</b>			
Player 1 Name:		Player 3 Name:	
Email:		Email:	
Player 2 Name:		Player 4 Name:	
Email:		Email:	

Mail completed form/payment to:  
**St. Joseph Regional School, ATTN: Golf, 92 Wilson St, Keene, NH 03431**  
 Questions? Jen Marshall: 603/352-2720 x504 or [jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org)



## SPONSOR/INDIVIDUAL PLAYER REGISTRATION

I will play in and/or sponsor the golf tournament as a (please check all that apply):			
<b>Gold Sponsors</b> Complimentary foursome, signage at registration, beverage cart, and BBQ; recognition during awards ceremony, on website and social media	\$1,000 <input type="checkbox"/>	Tee Box Sponsors (18 available) With signage on the tee	\$100 <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Silver Sponsors</b> Signage at registration, recognition during awards ceremony, on website and social media	\$750 <input type="checkbox"/>	Tee Box Sponsors with Foursome With signage on the tee (Discount of \$25)	\$575 <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Bronze Sponsors</b> Signage on beverage cart, recognition during awards ceremony, on website and social media	\$500 <input type="checkbox"/>	EARLY BIRD Individual Player (on/before Aug 26; discount of \$25)	\$100 <input type="checkbox"/>
Hole-In-One Sponsors (4 available)	\$300 <input type="checkbox"/>	REGULAR Individual Player (after Aug 26)	\$125 <input type="checkbox"/>
Driving Range Sponsors	\$200 <input type="checkbox"/>	Putting Contest Sponsors	\$250 <input type="checkbox"/>
Men's Closest to the Pin Sponsors	\$250 <input type="checkbox"/>	Women's Closest to the Pin Sponsors	\$250 <input type="checkbox"/>

## SPONSOR/INDIVIDUAL PLAYER PAYMENT

Company Name (as it should appear on signage, if applicable):			
Contact Name:		Mailing Address:	
Phone:		City:	
Email:		State:	
		Zip Code:	
Total Sponsor Fee:	\$ _____ (from above)	Payment Method:	<input type="checkbox"/> Check-payable to Our Lady of Mercy Academy <input type="checkbox"/> Visa/MasterCard/AMEX
EARLY BIRD (on/before Aug 26) Individual Player Fee(s):	\$100 each Quantity: _____	Name on Credit Card:	
REGULAR (after Aug 26) Individual Player Fee(s):	\$125 each Quantity: _____	Credit Card Number:	
		Expiration Date:	
<b>TOTAL PAYMENT AMOUNT:</b>	\$ _____	CVV/CVC (from back of card):	
		Signature:	

Mail completed form/payment to:  
 St. Joseph Regional School, ATTN: Golf, 92 Wilson St, Keene, NH 03431  
 Questions? Jen Marshall: 603/352-2720 x504 or [jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org)



**Don't forget to shop for SJRS through AmazonSmile!**

AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. For details go to:

[https://smile.amazon.com/charity/smile/about?ref\\_=smi\\_se\\_dshb\\_aas\\_saas](https://smile.amazon.com/charity/smile/about?ref_=smi_se_dshb_aas_saas)



[Unsubscribe jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data  
Notice](#)

Sent by [bycsmith@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:bycsmith@stjosephkeene.org)