

PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

St. Bernard, Keene

St. Margaret Mary, Keene

St Joseph, Hinsdale

Dear Parents and Guardians,

To assist parents who desire a Catholic education for their grade school children at St Joseph Regional School and/or Our Lady of Mercy Academy in Keene, the Parish of the Holy Spirit has established a *Tuition Assistance Program*. This program is intended for families who are active, registered, weekly Mass-attending parishioners of the Parish of the Holy Spirit. Our tuition assistance program is a needs-based assistance program and not a merit-based scholarship fund.

This tuition assistance is possible because of the generosity of the parishioners of the Parish of the Holy Spirit and is funded by the parish's general offertory and various other fundraising initiatives such as the parish's *Love for Life campaign* and fundraising dinners. The pastor of the Parish of the Holy Spirit, as steward of the parish resources, is committed to helping those parishioners, with children in our Catholic schools, in need of tuition assistance as resources allow. Eligibility for the parish tuition assistance program is limited to active, registered, weekly Mass-attending parishioners of the Parish of the Holy Spirit.

Each year the pastor, with the assistance of the parish finance council, determines a fixed amount set aside exclusively for tuition assistance at Saint Joseph Regional School and Our Lady of Mercy Academy in Keene. The set fund is divided into "units". Each unit represents a set dollar amount. Through this system we can establish an accurate number of units available and divide that into the total funds available to determine how much assistance each eligible family will receive. The application **deadline is May 1st, 2023**. Only when the application time frame has passed, and the parish has reviewed the applications will units be allotted to each family.

It is essential that you apply within the provided time frame. We ask also that you apply for the various state programs available such as the Education Freedom Accounts (EFAs) and the Education Tax Credit Scholarships if you are eligible for those. Both programs are managed by the NH Children's Scholarship Fund (nh.scholarshipfund.org) Information is available at St Joseph's and Our Lady of Mercy Academy. Taking advantage of the state assistance available will help the Parish of the Holy Spirit assist as many families as possible.

Please find the attached application form and return to the: Parish of the Holy Spirit
Tuition Assistance Program
173 Main St
Keene, NH 03431
Holyspirit.peace@gmail.com
603-352-3525

In Christ,

Rev. Alan Tremblay
Pastor, Parish of the Holy Spirit

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Parish Tuition Assistance for Families of St. Joseph School and

Our Lady of Mercy Academy

2023-2024 School Year

Application Form

Application Deadline: May 1st, 2023

PARENT(S) NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PARENT PHONE NUMBER: _____

PARENT EMAIL: _____

A. Parent(s)/ Guardian responsible for tuition: _____

Relationship to student: _____

B. Dependents: List the number of dependent children who will attend a tuition charging school including daycare, Pre-K, elementary school, secondary school in the fall of 2023

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>School</u> (SJRS or OLMA)
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1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

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C. Parish Information:

Which parish do you attend? _____

Are you a registered parishioner? y/n _____

Do you attend Mass weekly? y/n _____

Do you have children enrolled in Faith Formation? y/n _____

If so, where? _____

D. Please answer the following as a brief **separate** document and submit with application:

- a. Please indicate any other Tuition Assistance you have applied for.
- b. How much other assistance have you received?
- c. Have you applied for Education Freedom Accounts (EFA's)?
- d. Have you applied for the Education Tax Credit Scholarship?

E. Please describe your family circumstances and need for financial assistance from the parish. The funding for this assistance comes from direct donations from parishioners in the form of the weekly Mass collection, therefore; we must determine need to steward the parish generosity.