

St. Joseph School
25 Squire Street
New London, Connecticut 06320

"This is a holy place where we discover each other in God's love."

February 4, 2026

Dear St. Joseph School Families,

Monday was Candlemas Day. This day was set aside by the Church as a day to bless the candles used in celebrations throughout the year. It's a celebration of Jesus, the light of the world, and a remembrance of the time when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple to be dedicated to God. It seems reminiscent of our own Baptism when we receive a special candle and were called to bring the light of Jesus to the world.

Catholic Foundation Scholarship Applications are due by March 1st. Many of you received financial assistance from the fund last year. Please do not forget to apply this year. If you did not apply last year, you must apply this year or no additional assistance can be given. Please look for the flyer that went home yesterday and was emailed.

Once again, I want to thank all our parents, grandparents, teachers, and volunteers who made our **Catholic Schools Week celebration a success**. It was wonderful to see so many volunteers, families, alumni, and parishioners join us for our breakfast on Sunday, as it was rescheduled due to the snowstorm. Speaking of SNOW, we also thank Mr. Schepp for giving of his time to voluntarily plow all that snow from the playground and the driveway. Please know how much you are all appreciated!

As you are aware, we are in the planning stages for the renewal of our playground. A committee has been diligently working to make this happen, beginning in the spring. The school has received some very generous donations toward this project from former parents and friends of our school. We are grateful for their loyal support. The remaining expenses will be paid for with Home and School Association fundraising events. We ask that everyone take responsibility for this major undertaking through participation in fundraising.

Today we are sending chocolate bars home to be sold. This is a new batch of bars, and includes a "pretzel bar". As with all things (especially chocolate), the cost has increased to \$2.00 per bar. The cost per box is \$80. The money earned from the fundraiser will be set aside for the playground. We are in need of **everyone's help** to make this new playground a reality!

Our 8th graders understand this well and are planning an activity for the students to join in in the "raising" of the new playground. They have planned a spirit week. One of the activities is "Penny Wars", which is intended to help with the playground funding. An explanation being sent separately for next week which will culminate with "Donuts with Dads". Other activities will blend with the wearing of the

uniform such as “crazy sock day”, “colors day”, “sports day” and “wear red and “dress down day” on February 13th for Valentine’s Day.

Some reminders for this new year include the following:

- **On February 6th our School is sponsoring an adult event with a 4-course dinner and wine pairing at the Lighthouse Inn. Please look for the informational flyer.**
- **February 10th Paid chicken day.**
- **On February 12th Bishop Reidy will be visiting our classes.**
- **On February 13th at 7:30 a.m. our annual “Donuts with Dads” takes place. Please send in your reservation on the form provided.**
- **February 26 Paid pizza lunch.**
- **When school is closed due to a weather event, you will be notified through a text message, email, and on Channel 3 (WFSB) and 30. (WVIT) Please check your messages. Please do not call the school - no one will be in the building on those days for safety reasons.**

We continue to keep everyone in our prayers. May God bless everyone and keep us safe in this snowy and frigid weather.

Sincerely,

Marianne Cote, Principal