

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

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

January 7, 2026

Dear Saint Joseph School Families,

As we continue this Christmas season through Sunday (the Baptism of our Lord) and begin this year of 2026, we wish you a Happy New Year, one of health and happiness in your families, and of course, in our school. May this year bring many blessings to all and may the spirit that is Christmas live on in us throughout the year.

Yesterday, we celebrated the feast of Three Kings with the blessing of our school. 20 CMB 26 was inscribed with blessed chalk on the door jamb of the auditorium, reminding us of the kings who followed the Star to find Jesus and brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gold because Jesus was a king, frankincense because he was human and myrrh because he is God. The letters also represent the Latin words for "May Christ bless this home." We discussed with our students the traditions of gift giving on this day in many countries around the world, including those of Latino, Hispanic and Canadian heritage.

I wish to extend my thanks to our families for the many greetings, gifts and kindnesses sent in celebration of Christmas. All of these were much appreciated, as are all of you. You are in my prayers daily.

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, hopefully for 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.

Catholic Schools Week begins on Sunday, January 25th and so does our traditional Pancake and Scrambled Egg Breakfast. Please join us as we celebrate our school.

Regarding lunches, you will be receiving forms for chicken and fries, and starting this month grinders on a separate form for the 22nd.

Some reminders for this new year include the following.

- MAP testing begins this week.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is celebrated on **January 19th —No School.**

- Grade 4 Play, **January 23rd** at 1 p.m.
- Catholic Schools Week begins on **Sunday, January 25th** with a Sunday morning breakfast. A full calendar of events will be forthcoming. Volunteers are needed.
- *Planning ahead* - On **February 6th** our School will sponsor an adult event with a 4-course dinner and wine pairing at the Lighthouse Inn. Please look for the informational flyer.
- On **February 13th at 7:30 a.m.** will be our annual "Donuts with Dads".

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. Do not call the school, as 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 with a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year.

Marianne Cote, Principal