

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

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

November 12, 2025

I wish to remind all parents that if you are planning to volunteer in any way with the children this year, you must be approved by the Office for Safe Environments. This means completing the training online and submitting the necessary paperwork. Many of you have done this already. The Diocesan requirements must be completed by **November 15, 2025**, to qualify for any activities in the current school year through June 2026. I remind those who completed the training three or more years ago that you must now complete the online refresher training to remain qualified.

Dear St. Joseph School Families,

We are moving very quickly through the month of November, as we begin to think of this month as one of thanksgiving. We are all aware that many have less to be thankful for in this coming season, and we pray for all those who are lacking the food and resources they will need to survive the coming months. With this in mind, our casual day this week will once again be a food collection. Non-perishable food items of canned vegetables, fruit, meats, tuna, and soup as well as rice, pasta, and jars of sauce are needed. This will once again support those who are experiencing food insecurity. Please consider this as you plan your donation for casual day on November 14th. Students are asked to wear school colors (blue/yellow) or spirit wear.

Reminders: The St. Joseph School Spirit-Wear Store, through *Ink* Fathers, is ongoing. Just access the link (<https://sisnl.checkoutstores.com>) and shop. Christmas is coming! Thursday Masses begin at 8:45 a.m. As soon as the children have arrived, the doors are secured. Also, the students in Grades K-5 require a morning snack. It is our parents' responsibility to provide this, as well as lunch at the appropriate time. Grades 6-8 eat lunch at 11:30 a.m., grades 3-5 at 11:50 a.m. and grades K-2 at 12:10 p.m. Thank you for your assistance.

Thank you for supporting the pie fundraiser, sponsored by the Home and School Association (of which you are all members) and chaired by Alex Nocito. Pie delivery is for November, the week before Thanksgiving. Thank you for your help in raising money for our playground (planning in process) and field trip funds. The total amount raised through this fundraiser is yet to be determined.

Currently, Ms. Lawton is chairing a St. Joseph School Blanket sale. They make great Christmas gifts, but we need to order soon in order to receive them before Christmas. Order forms are due November 21st. The profit is 50%. This will help with expenses for our basketball teams, among other things.

The Christmas Wreath Sale is happening again this year. For those who are not aware, Home and School fundraising is ongoing and serves many purposes. The school has ongoing expenses to provide additional things for our students and families that cannot be provided for in the regular school budget. These include major projects such as the playground renewal and field trip assistance; as well as, Catholic Schools' Week and Games Day activities, gifts for special occasions, and extras for the classrooms, First Communion and Graduation. A more detailed report will be forthcoming in January.

While the New London Superintendent and Board of Education have agreed to provide us with a part time nurse's position, they seem to think that children become ill or injured only from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. We continue to ask you to contact the office of New London's Superintendent, the Members of the Board of Education, the City Council members, and Mayor Passero in any way possible to share your displeasure with this situation. These entities need to meet their legal and moral obligations to the children and families of St. Joseph School. Over 70% of our families reside in New London. We are confident that our persistence and perseverance will ultimately be successful.

Please continue to keep everyone in your prayers, as we keep you in ours.

God's Blessings to All,

Marianne Cote, Principal