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

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

September 30, 2026

Dear Parents,

We remind everyone that each child's success at St. Joseph is the responsibility of all in the school family. As the first educators of your children, this success is closely linked to all you do at home, as well as, to your continued support of our school's mission, its policies, teachers, staff, and administration. Your trust in us as Catholic School Educators is of the utmost importance, as we work together, for the success of our children. We take seriously our **AMEN**, our Mission, which states that we "**A**ccept each person as a unique creation in God's image; **M**odel Jesus as we make everyone feel welcome in this holy place; **E**ducate each person for life; and, **N**urture the diverse gifts and talents of the whole school family." May these words be uppermost in all our minds and hearts each day of this 2026-2027 school year.

The School Handbook is posted on our website at sjsnl.com. Please be sure you are familiar with the policies within it. A hard copy will be sent to each family in mid-October. You are asked to sign saying you have familiarized yourselves with the policies. Each student and adult is held accountable for these policies.

All students are expected to be in our usual formal uniform on Friday, October 2nd and following. **Class pictures will be taken on Monday, October 5th in the formal uniform**. **Individual pictures will be taken on Friday October 16th.** On this day, students who are ordering individual pictures may wear clothing of their parent's choice other than their uniform. Grade 8 students are expected to dress appropriately for their yearbook picture (All boys in dress shirt and tie. Girls in dress or appropriate skirt, slacks and top.). Students who are not ordering pictures are expected to be in school uniform. **Order forms will be sent home to be returned with order and payment By October 14th.**

We wish to remind everyone that special activities for our school can take place because of the fundraising we do each year. There are still some outstanding Chocolate Bar payments that need to be brought to school. We ask that you do so immediately. You have also received notification of the Lyman Orchard Pie Fundraiser. We realize that our

venders continue to raise their prices, but we ask that you do your best to support these efforts for the benefit of your children.

Progress reports will be coming home on October 16th with parent/teacher conferences the following week. Please look for both the progress report and the conference appointment slip, as they will be coming in hard copy. Progress reports must both be returned to school with your signature.

Important reminders and dates.

- Medication - may not be brought to school by students. It must be delivered by parents with the appropriate doctor's order.
- Dismissal - students have been instructed to wait at the steps until the person picking up comes for them. They may no longer meet you in the parking lot or in the street.
- Money - all payments for lunch, fundraisers, field trips, etc., must be sent in an envelope with the child's name, grade and reason for the payment.
- October 2 - Formal uniform, 9 a.m. Mass and 12:30 p.m. dismissal.
- October 5 - Formal uniform through the beginning of May. Class pictures.
- October 7 - Home School Meeting at 6 p.m.
- October 8 - 8:45 a.m. Mass
- October 9 - **No school**—Faculty Retreat
- October 10 - SJS Color Guard at East Lyme High School 6 p.m.
- October 12 - **No School**

We continue to hold you in our prayers and ask that you keep each of us in yours.

Marianne Cote, Principal