The Chargers' Voice

FALL 2025
INAUGURAL ISSUE

A STUDENT PUBLICATION OF
SAINT LAWRENCE SCHOOL
WEST HAVEN, CT

MEET THE NEWS CREW

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GOD'S BLESSINGS ON OUR TEACHERS NEW AND RETURNING

MISS JEN SASLAFSKY
VISUAL ART



Our new art teacher was a graphic designer before she tried teaching Art and loved it! Her favorite thing to do is paint. Miss S. is excited about helping students work with clay.

MISS EMILY EMERSON
GRADE 5



Miss Emerson moved here from Texas and loves teaching Math. Her favorite book is *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan. What she enjoys about teaching is her relationships she builds with students.

MRS. LINDA SMITH
GRADE 3

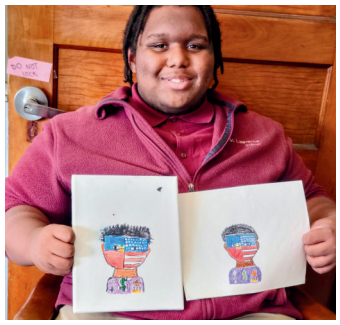


We are thrilled to welcome back Mrs. Linda Smith to our Saint Lawrence family. After teaching here previously she is excited to return to 3rd grade. She loves teaching Math because every problem has an answer. *Fun Fact* Mrs. Smith plays volleyball at the beach in the summer.

Student Art Showcase

Shafee Jones

Read more on page 3!



SPOTLIGHT TEACHER

TEACHING WITH HEART AND FAITH

MRS. TONI BOYNTON

Our fellow students were asked who inspires their learning and faith everyday at Saint Lawrence School. We have many wonderful teachers here at Saint Lawrence, but for this issue, our 4th Grade teacher, Mrs. Toni Boynton, stood out. She shared her views with us.

Continue reading on page 2!



Contributors:
Madison H , Ryan S
Christa O, Sebastian H

TEACHERS' IMPACT, THROUGH THE EYES OF STUDENTS

Lorenzo H and Santino A

A teacher can impact a student in many different ways. Some of these ways are giving support. They can let some people go to the back table so that the teacher can explain things more. Another reason is that they can help children enjoy school. One example could be that teachers give positive incentives for good behavior and getting good grades. To conclude, teachers can have various excellent impacts on students that they teach.

TEACHING WITH HEART AND FAITH: MRS. TONI BOYNTON

Madison H, Ryan S, Christa O, & Sebastian H

What is your favorite subject to teach and why?
My favorite subject is Religion because I love to share the rich and beautiful Catholic faith with my students.

How do you help your students grow in faith everyday?
I hope to help students grow by starting the day praying. We also discuss the lives of saints everyday who give us witnesses of what it means to be a follower of Christ.

What do you love most about teaching in a Catholic School?
I love the fact that we are a small community and the way we help and care for each other. There is a sense of family and team work within the school environment. Teaching is a privilege and one way to show gratitude to the Lord for His love and goodness to me. It is also a way to share in the mission of the Church.

Just for fun, if you could have a superpower as a teacher, what would it be?
My superpower as a teacher would be the ability to unleash students' superpowers.

THANK YOU, MRS. BOYNTON, FOR BEING AN AMAZING TEACHER!

A JOYFUL START

Brandon R

Mass



As a student, Mass is a time we need to think about God. Receiving the body of Christ is very important to Catholics. Having Mass in class time shows we all have dedication to Christ. The priest comes to our school, they take time out of their lives to share mass with us. We have Mass monthly and that makes it important to attend. For the 2025-2026 school year our theme is **T.E.A.M**. Togetherness means we come as a school family. Engagement means we engage with Christ, our classmates, and our community. Academics is taking work seriously and following the teachings Father José gives us, and Ministry is listening and learning and living what we are taught in our Religion classes.



Illustration by Christa O

Our School's Patron: **Saint Lawrence**

Brandon R, Sunnie M, Zerah N

Feast Day: August 10th

Patron Saint of: Deacons, The Poor, & Cooks

Saint Lawrence was one of the seven deacons of Rome during the 3rd century. As a deacon, his main duties were to help the poor and sick by presenting "treasures of the Church" to those in need. He was known for his deep faith, joyful spirit, and love for the poor.

Sacred Treasures From the Past

Gabe L & Lorenzo H



A relic is a physical item directly associated with a saint or Jesus. There are 3 relic classes. A *first class relic* is the body part of a saint such as bones, hair, or their blood. A *second class relic* is something worn by the saint or the Holy Family. A *third class relic* is any object touched to a first or second class relic. Relics are venerated but not worshipped. Venerated means to regard with great respect. Sacred objects are respected as instruments of worship, but not venerated as relics are. Sacred objects can become third class relics. Some examples would be the tabernacle, the altar, and the chalice. Therefore the main difference between sacred objects and relics is that relics are directly associated with a saint while sacred objects are instruments of worship but have not touched a saint or holy person. One relic in our parish is a body part of Saint Lawrence, which is a first class relic.

Little Voices of Faith

During their weekly Library period, Mrs. Collura spoke to the First and Second graders about their understanding of God. Here are some of their thoughts:

- God made the earth and trees!
- God heals us if we get sick!
- God is our Savior!
- God is friendly!
- God's hair is like a girl's!
- God's got brown eyes!
- God protects us!
- God wears white clothes, has a moustache, a beard, and long hair!
- God holds on to the earth!
- God made the water, sun, and moon!
- God loves people!

Spotlight Art Student



Shafee Jones has attended Saint Lawrence School from Kindergarten through 8th grade. He was recently honored with a Student of the Month award and has been chosen as this issue's spotlight Art Student. We are proud of his accomplishments during his years here! Students observed Frida Kahlo's *The Two Fridas* which depicts two versions of herself, and they were asked to create their own version of themselves.

8th Grade Points of View

Faith K & Isaac K



We interviewed 8th graders to learn more about their point of view. We asked them about advice, sports, and memories. Lina came here in the 7th grade. She shared that hanging out with friends is her favorite. Lina's advice to students is to do the best you can. Lina plays on the Varsity Girls Basketball Team.



Camdyn entered Saint Lawrence as a 1st grader. He will be graduating with the class of 2026. Camdyn's advice to students is to not complain about the work as it prepares you for your upcoming grade. Camdyn also plays basketball along with kickball.

We enjoyed interviewing and learning more about our fellow students!

After School Clubs

Ryan S

At Saint Lawrence School, we have many after school clubs. The ones we have right now are Newspaper, FinTech, Advanced Math and three different Art clubs. Cooking club, Irish dance, Chess club, Cand Kickball, all ended a little bit ago. During the rest of the school year we will have so many more clubs. The generous people that are helping the clubs take place: Mr. Courso for Chess, Vivian and Andie, two Hopkins School students for FinTech / Coding, Mrs. Grestini, Mr. DeFonce, and Ms. Emerson for Newspaper, Ms. Saslafsky for Art, Mrs. Hernandez for Cooking, Ms. Noyes for advanced math, and Mrs. Mulkerin-Carew, and her assistant, Barrett, for Irish dancing!

Club Spotlight

Cooking Club Serves Up Faith and Fun

One of the most popular clubs is the Cooking Club. Recently, the students rolled up their sleeves to make homemade pizza. They learned about the ingredients, worked together to create their own homemade pizza, and on Friday during lunch students took part in a poll to see which type was the most popular.

The clear favorite was plain cheese,
with pepperoni coming in a close second.

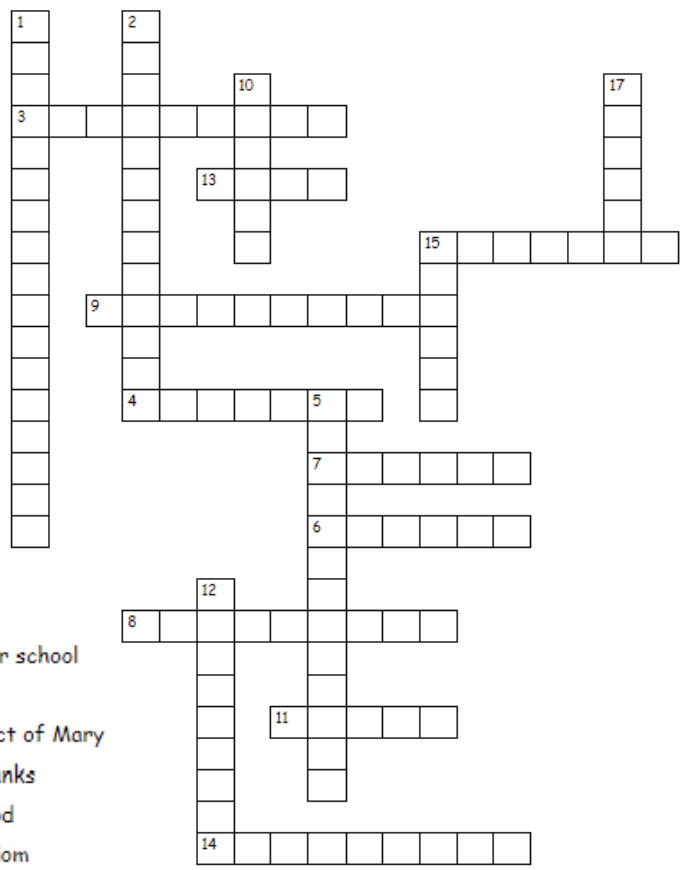
The club learned that pizza can remind us of our Catholic faith. The round shape of the pizza represents eternal life, just as God's love never ends. Pizza is also meant to be shared. It reminds us of unity and community. The pizza crust, made from bread, calls to mind the Bread of Life, Jesus, who blessed bread as His Body at the Last Supper. The cooking club is a wonderful way for students to learn, laugh, and grow together . . . one slice at a time!

Winter 2026
Digital Edition:
Saint Lawrence Sports & Science!
Email bgrestini@stlaw.eduk12.net
to be added to the mailing list!

With Contributions from

Sophia H, Lena D, Camdyn E, Ryan S, Isabella C, Sunnie M, Travis S, Madison H, Ishani J, Sophia B, Lesmari B, Dakota J, Anthony M, Sophia F

This Issue's Puzzle



Across

3 Jesus' cousin
4 language arts
6 Guardians of God
7 House of God
8 birthday of Jesus
9 "Blessed are the..."
11 scriptures and holy teachings
13 numbers and equations
14 the Body of Christ
15 getting older

Down

1 gym
2 Name of our school
5 history
10 Holy artifact of Mary
12 showing thanks
15 Word of God
17 God's kingdom

ALUMNI MEMORIES

From our Halls to your Hearts - *Happy Anniversary*!
1955: 70th 1965: 60th 1975: 50th 1985: 40th 1995: 30th 2005: 20th 2015: 10th

A Walk Down Memory Lane Saint Lawrence Class of 1965 Reunion



We were delighted to welcome the class of 1965 back to Saint Lawrence School as they celebrated their 60TH Reunion! It was a wonderful afternoon filled with laughter and memories of days past.

Class Colors: Blue & Gold
Class Motto: Truth is the proof of courage.

"Saint Lawrence was my home away from home. I was taught academics and a love for God. I'm forever grateful to the Order of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, our teachers, and my family and friends in the classroom." Billy Quinn, *Class of '65*

Students step back in time - *The year is 1965*



The skateboard and superball were the hottest toys
Top Song: WOOLY BULLY
Ed White was the first American to spacewalk
***Charlie Brown Christmas* debuted on CBS**
Average Prices
Gallon of Gas: $0.31
Gallon of Milk: $1.05
Dozen Eggs: $0.53
Loaf of bread: $0.21







A Journey to the Habit

Lorenzo H

A Catholic Sister is a woman who has taken public vows to live a life dedicated to God through prayer and service. There are many orders of Catholic Sisters, including The Sisters of Saint Joseph. Saint Lawrence was founded by The Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambery. Many of the Sisters wore black habits. A habit is what nuns call their clothing. Sisters do many different professions, including education, nursing, healthcare, and missionary work - among other things.

Saint Lawrence School, The Early Years

Lorenzo H



Saint Lawrence School was founded in 1917 by the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Chambery. In the 1920s, Saint Lawrence grew to have eight functioning classrooms, with four more added later. Seven sisters staffed the school. Mother Euphrasia served as administrative lead and taught 8th grade. By the 1930s, the school matured, and money was generated by *The Children of Mary* through playing community Bingo Games. In 1941, Saint Lawrence School Alumni served in the Armed Forces, along with many other Americans.

www.saintlawrenceschool.com