

As I reflect on my 25 years of teaching at Holy Family Catholic School, my heart is filled with gratitude. What a blessing it has been to teach Kindergarten and first grade students and walk alongside them during their formative years. These early stages of a child's education are pivotal, not only in shaping their academic skills but in nurturing their spirit. I have had the privilege of witnessing countless "a-ha" moments, watching the light in their eyes as they begin to grasp the wonders of reading, math, science and social studies, as well as the joy of learning about God's love and grace.

In these 25 years, I have seen so many little ones grow into confident, compassionate individuals, and I am continually amazed at the resilience, curiosity, and faith that each child brings to our classrooms. The relationships I've built with students, parents, and fellow educators have made this journey a hugely important part of my life.

One of the most rewarding aspects of teaching at Holy Family over the last 25 years has been seeing the students I have taught grow into wonderful adults who continue to carry the lessons they learned during their time in my classroom. One of my students from the first year at Holy Family is now a priest. It was a great honor to have him return to our school to celebrate Mass for us. To see a child, I once taught standing at the altar and leading us in prayer, was a powerful reminder of the importance of the foundation we laid together.

Another profound moment that filled me with joy was the experience of seeing a former student from that same first year come back to our school as a parent. Their children have now begun their journey at our school, continuing the legacy of learning and faith. It is humbling to see how the bond of this school community continues to grow across generations, with the values and lessons we impart still resonating in the hearts of these families.

These moments are a testament to the profound and lasting influence that Catholic education can have, not just academically, but also spiritually and personally. To have been part of these students' journeys from childhood to adulthood, and now to witness the next generation beginning their own, is a gift I will forever cherish.

I am forever grateful and have been blessed beyond measure to have been a part of Holy Family Catholic School these past 25 years. I look forward to what the next 25 years will bring!