



Hats Off to Our Wonderful Teachers!

During this Lenten Season we are called upon to walk with Jesus and strengthen our faith through sacrifice, prayer, and charity. What a wonderful opportunity our Catholic Schools provide our young people to experience Jesus' journey. Our Christ-centered learning environments, strong role models, and the opportunity to serve instill in our students a love and the importance of community.

Catholic School teachers are very special people. Their dedication and support are unlimited. In most cases they wear many hats – they not only provide wonderful, challenging learning environments for our students, but they also assume many other responsibilities – coaching, sponsoring clubs, helping in the cafeteria if needed, helping out with the day-to-day running of our schools – the list goes on and on! Our teachers have the opportunity to model their faith and to integrate the Gospel teachings into every aspect of the school day – thus fulfilling our schools' missions to nurture our students to become life-long learners and steadfast members of the faith community.

Deneane Nofplot
Principal, Holy Trinity School



Saint Patrick



Fides et Sapientia!

For the tireless work and steadfast dedication in creating Saint Patrick Catholic School dedicated to Christ, Church and children, we celebrate each staff member with great respect, joy and deep gratitude.

Christ the King

Bob Goodwin

He's referred to as "Grumpy" by other veteran teachers, "Old Salt" by Navy friends from a 30+ year Naval career, an "Angel" by the Diocese officials but the 300+ students at Christ the King simply and affectionately refer to him as "Mr. G." Bob Goodwin has become a fixture at our school, heading our Math department and teaching middle school for over 15 years. He's the first person to arrive in the morning and on most days he is the last person to leave as he lowers our flag and makes certain that all are safe as they make their way home. He is described by all who know him as the embodiment of honor, integrity, service to others and respect - the values we aspire to for all students. What makes him so special to CTK? "Bob exhibits the ultimate love for every student here....he makes an effort to know every child from kindergarten through eighth grade." And that affection is certainly returned by his students, "Mr. G is the greatest because he makes sure that every single student gets it - and that's because he gets us!" And despite his numerous Masters degrees, this seasoned Navy captain is learning new tricks all the time. Mr. G has been a pioneer in the use of technology in the classroom, embracing Smart board technology and incorporating this incredible tool in every lesson he teaches. Mr. G we salute you!



Holy Trinity

Theresa Sullivan

Each of the teachers at Holy Trinity School not only exemplifies the traits of a model teacher but also as a follower of Jesus Christ. We are proud of our dedicated and experienced faculty who go beyond their calling as a teacher.

The responsibility of molding young learners is an awesome one. Theresa Sullivan instills a joy and love for learning in each of her first grade students. She implements the most current trends in education to ensure that her students have a firm foundation. Her students leave first grade with the necessary skills to continue their journey as life-long learners.

In addition to her classroom responsibilities Theresa is the sponsor of the Ecology Club. The club has adopted West Government Avenue (our street) and has contributed to the Save the Bay Foundation and the Elizabeth River Project.

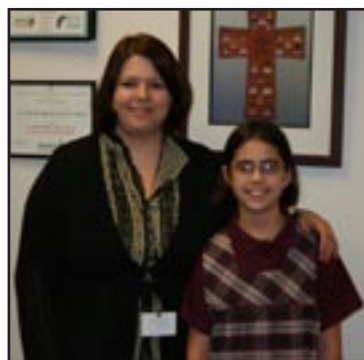
Theresa is a HTS parent with her daughters Cortney and Caitlin attending our school. She is an active member in the Holy Trinity School community.

In Mrs. Sullivan's own words: "I am delighted to be recognized by my principal. I thank God each day for the exciting opportunity to teach children. We as educators have only the positive effect on their spiritual growth and development. I love what I do and feel blessed to be teaching young children at Holy Trinity.



Teaching is an ever-changing and exciting profession. At Holy Trinity we as staff continually seek a variety of ways to bring each student to success. I am blessed to be teaching with a great staff that is dedicated to their students and their peers."

St. John the Apostle



Here at St. John the Apostle Catholic School we feel so blessed to have such a GREAT staff. Our teachers are dedicated and committed to Catholic education. This is evident in the passion with which they teach. There is one teacher on staff that is a catalyst to all our teachers. That is Jamie Snyder, our technology teacher. Mrs.

Snyder exudes enthusiasm and expertise that becomes contagious to our staff and students. With our integrated curriculum, Mrs. Snyder works with all our teachers to enhance the students academics through computers. Mrs. Snyder is in her 2nd year here and has a daughter in our 4th grade. She loves teaching, saying, "Teaching at SJA is a rewarding experience. I am able to educate each and every student on the importance and safety of technology, while sharing in their walk with God." Mrs. Snyder volunteers her time as our website master and yearbook coordinator. Kristen Dawson, 5th grader and yearbook editor says, "Mrs.Snyder has taught me skills on the computer that I would have never known. She works with all the kids until everyone understands it but she always makes her classes fun and entertaining! I always look forward to the classes I have with her!" It is truly teachers like this that help make SJA a great place to work and learn.

Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School



Joe Bousquet

Math teacher, sailing instructor, parent, cancer survivor, boat builder, lector, wanna-be comedian, cross country cyclist -- it's hard to classify Joe Bousquet, the head of the mathematics department at Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School. Joe, 52, has taught at Bishop Sullivan since 1998, but actually started his teaching career in 1978 at the old Norfolk Catholic High School. Joe is a graduate of Old Dominion University (BS in math)

where he also headed the school's sailing team. When he started at Norfolk Catholic, it was a bit of a "Welcome Back, Kotter" moment since he is also a graduate of NCHS (class of '72.)

He temporarily left teaching in June of 1980 for a position with the recreation department at the Norfolk Naval Station where he ran the base's sailing center and marina. Over the next 18 years he earned a master's degree at ODU. At the base he especially enjoyed teaching sailing, windsurfing and coastal navigation.

Joe and his wife, the former Susan Pearson, are active members of Christ the King where both have served as lectors for over two decades. Joe and Susan are both from large Catholic families and both of their parents have stressed Catholic education. Joe, the oldest of eight, and Susan the oldest of

four, have one child, Vincent. When Vincent was one year old Joe was diagnosed with stage 3 Hodgkin's disease and underwent 14 months of chemotherapy. Twenty-three years later Joe is cancer free and Vincent attends Harvard University where he is pursuing a master's degree in Divinity. Joe considers his bout with Hodgkin's to be a life defining experience. "Once you've been given a diagnosis of a potentially fatal disease, and have survived, it's hard not to joyful," explains Joe. Perhaps that explains his ever-present smile and his view on life.



In his spare time Joe enjoys building and sailing moth boats, a small one person racing dinghy. Joe still spends time on the water sailing and as the coach of the Bishop Sullivan rowing team. In the summer of 2003, just one day after coordinating graduation, Joe and Susan were winging their way to

Florence, Oregon to celebrate their 25th anniversary. What's in Florence, Oregon you ask? Only the beginning of the Trans-America Bicycle Trail, where they hopped on a tandem (two-person) bicycle and started pedaling east. Sixty nine days and four thousand and two hundred miles later they arrived in Virginia Beach. Both consider the trip a memory to cherish for the rest of their lives. Yes, Joe does have a lot to be happy about, even if his students don't appreciate his marvelous math puns.

Newsletter created by Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School.
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St. Gregory the Great

3 educators + 3rd grade students = 75 years of teaching



*Our 3rd grade team
Mrs. Caldwell, Mrs. Gray and Miss Donahue*

By the Numbers

1
God to worship
3
Dedicated teachers
75
Years at SGGS
450
Books donated in 2006 to the REACH
1700
Students educated

These humble women cannot believe they are being paid to have so much fun. Time has truly flown by and what fun they have had. Although it makes her feel old when she teaches children of former students, Miss Donahue admits that she may have to turn in her "Mickey Mouse badge" if she hears a student comment that their grandparents came here.

Looking back, Mrs. Gray can still remember how excited she was to greet her first class. She has dreamed of being a teacher since she was 8 years old. As teaching has changed over the years, so have these ladies. Technology has not only broadened the scope of learning for the students, but the teachers as well. Mrs. Gray is thrilled that "we don't have to use a calculator to average grades!"

Teaching is a ministry. Mrs. Caldwell, who joined us over 34 years ago, offers these words of advice for new teachers: "Love really is the name of the game. Without it, you will fail. With it, you can do anything."

St. Matthews



Mary Ziegenfuss, affectionately known as Mary "Z", is our school librarian and teaches students from Pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade. Mary is one of the most committed faculty members at St. Matthew's School. She is a tireless faculty member who works long hours during the school year and most of the summer.

Mary has worked to update our library collection, restore damaged books, and replace volumes when necessary. She continually seeks to acquire books and monies to replace outdated titles and to acquire new ones.

She enthusiastically promotes reading and the use of our library for research and course development. Freely sharing her ideas and resources with students and faculty is a testament to her desire that ensures their needs are met so they can succeed in the classroom. Mary creates themes and displays to excite the students about books and topics and introduces them to at least one book during each library class. She sponsors book fairs periodically throughout the school year and uses the proceeds to increase the library collection and make necessary book repairs. Mary freely gives of her time and expertise to make sure our library is well stocked, efficiently organized and up-to-date. She does this so quietly and well that most people are not even aware of the time and effort she invests in her job. Mary, we greatly appreciate your dedication and thank you for taking care of all of us over the years.

St. Pius X



Mrs. Mary Ryan
St. Pius X School
8th Grade Teacher



Education has always been the cornerstone of Mrs. Mary Ryan's life. Her mother and aunts were teachers. It is in her blood to teach.

Mrs. Ryan grew up in Providence, RI. She graduated from Salva Regina College in RI, an alma mater still dear to her heart. She married Commander James A. Ryan and had four children, two boys and two girls. Mr. and Mrs. Ryan believed that a strong Catholic education provided a foundation upon which their children could grow academically and spiritually. For this reason, all four children attended St. Pius and Catholic High School. Both Mrs. Ryan and her husband were active in the school and in other volunteer capacities.

Her tenure began at Pius in an unusual way. She was the room mother for one of her child's teachers. One day a faculty member had an unexpected emergency and knowing that Mrs. Ryan had a background in education, the principal asked her to "fill her shoes". That was 25 years ago...she has been teaching English and Religion to the students of St. Pius ever since.

She enjoys teaching today as much as she did many years ago. When asked what has changed over the years, she often replies that nothing has changed, "children are children". As with any teacher, Mrs. Ryan is always touched when she received a note or message from a former student who shares his/her success stories. Former student, Marisa Munoz, writes of Mrs. Ryan "The one and only who sees. The one and only who does not believe in failure but believes in accomplishments now and yet to come."

Star of the Sea

Meet Mrs. Socha
-- One of Star of the Sea's Great Teachers!

Star of the Sea Regional Catholic School is proud of all of its teachers, but would like to take this opportunity to introduce first grade teacher, Diana Socha. She is a dynamic role model and has taught both kindergarten and first grade since she came to Star of the Sea in 1989 with her husband. A graduate of Catholic schools', having attended Catholic school from first grade through graduation at Loyola University Chicago, and with her own children Stephanie in 8th grade and Paul in 6th grade at Star of the Sea, she offers perspective on being a Catholic school student, and parent, as well as being a teacher in Catholic schools for the past 25 years.

"It is meaningful to me to give to a new generation what was given to me," Mrs. Socha said. "A Catholic education is a great well-rounded education, providing strong spiritual development and love in a faith-filled environment. It is rewarding for me to teach a love for learning and exploring," she explained.

"A Catholic education supports a caring community of families who all share similar values and beliefs which form a strong foundation for children. When children are surrounded by love and faith, they will flourish in all they do - education and sports, as well as family life," she said.

In addition to teaching, Mrs. Socha serves on the School Board as the teacher representative and as the school's primary grades core leader when the principal is absent. Come meet Mrs. Socha when you visit Star of the Sea!



CHS Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School

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St. Gregory the Great
Holy Trinity
St. John the Apostle
St. Matthew

St. Patrick
St. Pius X
Portsmouth Catholic
Star of the Sea

The Catholic Education Community

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Portsmouth Catholic

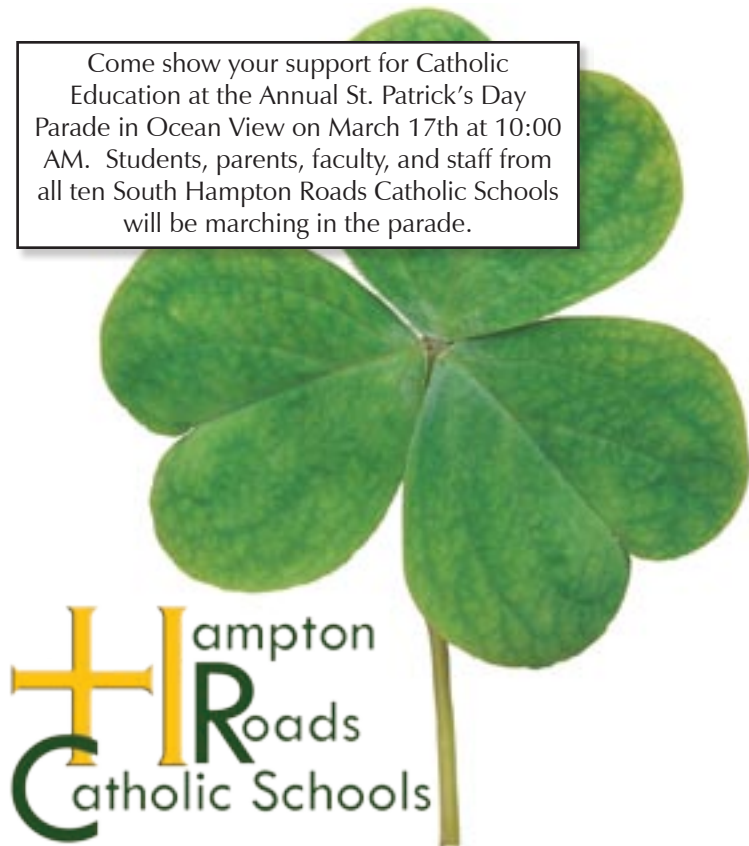


Mrs. Donna Henry is both a product of Portsmouth Catholic Schools and a great promoter of Portsmouth Catholic Elementary School (PCES). Mrs. Henry attended Little Flower School from first through sixth grades. She graduated from Portsmouth Catholic Elementary School after her seventh grade year when Little Flower and the other Catholic Schools in Portsmouth were consolidated into

PCES, a regional Diocesan school. She completed high school at Portsmouth Catholic High School and then attended the College of William, followed by the completion of a Master's degree in early childhood education at Old Dominion University (ODU).

In 1980, Mrs. Henry began teaching at PCES, "the only place I wanted to teach." Mrs. Henry has added another generation of three daughters who have graduated from PCES and have graduated from or are currently attending Peninsula Catholic High in Newport News. In her twenty years at PCES, Mrs. Henry has taught kindergarten for eight years, second grade for one year and first grade for eleven years. She continues to mentor graduate and undergraduate ODU students in early childhood education. The comment by a parent of one of her former first grade students sums up Mrs. Henry's classroom expertise, "Mrs. Henry is the kind of teacher you always dream about your child having."

Come show your support for Catholic Education at the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Ocean View on March 17th at 10:00 AM. Students, parents, faculty, and staff from all ten South Hampton Roads Catholic Schools will be marching in the parade.



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