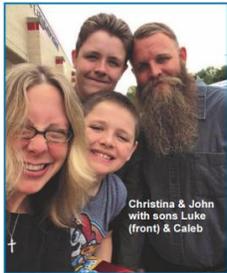


WHY TEACH RELIGION?



John and I were so happy to be given the opportunity to teach our 6th grade religious ed class last year. It was our first year teaching and we absolutely loved it! We often wondered who was getting more out of the class—our students, or us? Making connections with the kids was huge. We couldn't wait to see them each week, and we are so excited to be following our class as they enter 7th grade in the fall! They consistently asked the best (and hardest LOL) questions. They kept us on our toes and helped us learn as we taught them. Starting out we were hoping to become more involved and help in an area of need. We are continuing to teach

because we love every aspect of it. It's a great way to live out our faith and grow while helping a group of really awesome kids to do the same.

- Christina & John Norton

It's hard to believe I've been a catechist for four years. I recall my first year – I was afraid I didn't know enough about my own faith to teach others. I tried to avoid it but kept sensing God's signs – I knew part of my purpose was to teach. Thinking back, I remember when I first approached Robin Veronesi to tell her I wanted to teach. She looked at me and said, "God does provide." She added, "I've been praying on this because I unexpectedly need someone to teach a group of 8 year olds who are preparing for their First Reconciliation / First Communion sacraments." I shared with Robin my concerns. She told me I'd be fine and gave me words of wisdom. Each year, I basically teach the same group of inspiring young ones... It's hard to believe this fall they will begin middle school. As they have grown, so have I. I'm amazed how my faith and my knowledge of Catholicism has deepened – now when I listen to the Sunday readings I understand more of their significance and more of the history of our faith. I understand now why God wanted me to teach. The class materials and my students have taught me. My students know that this is "our" class – their insight is as important as mine. We grow as a Catholic family. We each deepen our relationships with God as we progress through our Catholic history. Understanding my purpose continues. It's a never ending journey...



-Sandra Roseth