

MRS. MARY BARTELT

Reading Instructor



A little bit about me...

I love to read, and I love teaching reading. As a little girl, I struggled to learn to read. In first grade, we were taught to memorize sight words (Dick and Jane Books). I couldn't remember them. In second grade, a kind and patient teacher, Mrs. Higgins, taught phonics. That empowered me. The day I brought a book home to my mom and asked to read it to her, she cried. That year, I read the most books of anyone in my class. Even though I never got the chance to officially thank Mrs. Higgins for the gift she gave me, I am eternally grateful!

A little bit more about Mrs. Bartelt...

I like to live in cities that start with the letter G. I grew up in Greendale, but now I live in Grafton with my husband and our two dogs. We also have a sand boa named Sammy. In my free time, I love to READ, watch movies, solve puzzles, and play word games. I also enjoy nurturing the growth of flowers and vegetables in my backyard during the warm weather. I am constantly amazed at God's goodness, creating beauty and nourishment for us from tiny little seeds.

What inspires you?

I admire children and adults who follow the Golden Rule of Life. Christ asks us to look out for one another, loving our neighbor as ourselves. We are supposed to treat each other with respect, kindness, and compassion. I am filled with great sadness when I observe self-centered people who haven't learned that we are all connected in ways we don't even realize. But I am always inspired when witnessing loving acts of mercy. It fills my heart with joy.

What is your favorite part about St. Joseph Parish School?

I have been teaching for a long time. I've been at a lot of different schools. St Joseph Parish School is not like any other school. It is one BIG family. The teachers challenge their students with high academic standards. Every student is paired with a buddy in a different grade. Older students make sure the younger students are safe and doing what is expected of them. I am always filled with pride when I observe our students interacting, preaching the Gospel, planning a service project, or extending compassion to others. The students understand the Golden Rule and that is what I like the most about St. Joseph Parish School. It is an exceptional place to teach, learn, and grow.

