

My name is Sheri Castellarin, and I have been the preschool director for Holy Cross Academy since 2018. I also have the privilege to wear the hat of a teacher to one of the three-year-old classes.

As a Navy brat, I was born in Brooklyn, New York but raised in Virginia. Most of my childhood years were spent in Virginia Beach. I have a sister and two brothers. My mother still lives in the house my siblings and I grew up in and it is a favorite place to visit for my family because my mother spoils my children rotten. (Ice cream and cookies for dinner? No problem)

My husband, John, and I have four children. Jacob is 28 and resides in Virginia Beach. Rachel is 21 and is attending college at the illustrious Howard University. Thomas, a St. Mary Preschool alumni, is 11 and attends Walker Grant Middle School. John Francis, another St. Mary Preschool alumni, is 9 and attends Hugh Mercer Elementary. We moved to Fredericksburg in 2007, when John took a job as an English Professor at Germanna Community College and we love it here!

I have been working in education a LONG time – 22 years. I received my bachelor’s and master’s degrees in speech language pathology from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. After graduating with my master’s, I worked in numerous public school systems in the state: Virginia Beach, Manassas Park, King George, and Prince William County. I was slated to head to Fredericksburg City Public Schools in 2018, but then God opened the door for me to come to Holy Cross. Coming to teach at Holy Cross from the public school setting has been LIFE CHANGING! Being able to teach children about our Faith means so much...and I definitely feel like teaching is not just my job, but my vocation.

The second best thing about my job is that I get to do another thing that I am passionate about all the time - PLAYING! My philosophy and mantras are “play the work of childhood,” and “you are never too old to play.” When I’m not at preschool or working at my awesome part time job at the Visitor Center on Caroline Street, some of my favorite things to play at are cheering on our family’s favorite sports teams (Notre Dame anything, the Chicago Bulls, and the Chicago White Sox), hiking, camping, exploring history, baking, and playing board games. I also love to hang out with my kids during their extracurricular activities like basketball, baseball, archery and walk my goofy Boxer named Oscar.

So this is me in a nutshell...I am so proud to be a part of Holy Cross Academy; and I am so proud of my staff whose diligence has earned our preschool the distinction of Best Preschool in the Best of the Burg competition for the last three years. Looking forward to another wonderful year!