

January 5, 2015

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Parishioners:

It is with deep regret and sadness that I must resign my position as Director of Faith Formation and Religious Education at Saint John the Evangelist (SJE). I have recently developed some major health issues that no longer permit me to continue to serve you. This decision is based on the advice of several of my doctors and supported by my family. I am truly sorry and sad to leave you, the children, and the RCIA group at the mid-point in our faith season. I feel like I am letting you down. This was definitely not my plan and is beyond my control.

I came to Saint John the Evangelist six years ago. My vision was to establish a more structured and lectionary based formal faith formation program. Our program has now grown to over 300 students in grade levels Pre-K through 10. Families in Christ, previously Families in Faith, has grown to an attendance of 500 parents and children. Our Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) Program has established a strong curriculum supported by PowerPoint presentations, weekly discussions, and an annual retreat. I believe our programs at SJE are strong, well organized, and among the best in the diocese. These programs are supported by 25 regular catechists and 5 alternate catechists who are fully qualified, caring, and giving. They are more than capable of continuing our efforts at SJE.

As most of you know, I live in Punta Gorda Isles which is 52 miles from SJE. As such, I originally took my position at SJE on a temporary basis. However, I fell in love with the church, the children, and you. The drive became short and my service became permanent while my heart grew to love you. I believe that I have received much more than I have given. It is with a tear in my eye that I must write this farewell. Thank you so much for allowing me to serve you.

We live in hope,



Margie Lynch