

Middle School Religion

Who am I? Well...

I am **Heather Connors** and am thrilled to begin an exciting new school year. I began teaching Middle School in January 2009, so the 2011-2012 school year marks my 2nd *full* year of teaching, and I have to tell you...this is a dream come true!!

So, what did I do before teaching at Presentation?

I always thought it would be interesting to be a teacher, but, at first I decided to pursue my **BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN MASS COMMUNICATIONS** from the University of Missouri – Kansas City, and spent the following years in the workforce in sales, providing professional training, and administration. Ironically, although I didn't **initially** follow **God's** "leading" towards getting my degree in education, I actually spent many years of my professional life teaching other people – **loving every minute of it!!**

Eventually, I came to the **Presentation Early Childhood Center** in 2003, after several years of staying home with my children, and finally felt as if I had found my "professional home". While at the **OLPECC**, I served as a preschool teacher, and later as the assistant director for 4 years. The entire time I was at the **ECC**, I met so many wonderful families and grew deeper in my **love** for the **PRESENTATION** community.

So...now what?

This year I have so many exciting lessons and activities planned! My goal is to "fuse" the teachings of the Catholic Church and the lives of our students, helping them to discover the relevance of the **Catholic faith** in their lives. Through these discoveries, my prayer is that they will fall even deeper in love with the **Lord!** I consider myself extremely blessed to be **OLP's** Middle School Religion teacher and I cannot wait to get this year started!! ~"Mrs. Connors"~

Where am I from?

I was born in St. Louis, moved to Kansas City in 1981, and Lee's Summit in 1993. I attended parochial schools from kindergarten through high school, and am thankful that my family chose a **Catholic** education for me – that foundation has served me so well throughout my life, and for that I am extremely thankful!

Anyway...my husband, **Mike**, and I have been married for 17 years. We have three children: **Ryan**, who is entering his freshman year of high school, and our girls, **Emilie** and **Elise**, who both attend **PRESENTATION**. We have been parishioners since 2003, and consider ourselves extremely blessed to be a part of this amazing community of both parishioners and school families.

What about my teacher "creds"?

I decided to begin pursuit of my **MASTER'S DEGREE IN TEACHING** through the University of Central Missouri in 2004, along with **Alternative Certification in Social Studies**; completing both programs in 2010. I completed **Catechesis of The Good Shepherd** training for ages 3-6 in 2009. I am currently pursuing the Bishop Helmsing Institute's **Catechetical Certification** through the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph and have found that I cannot wait for each following class to begin! Over the years, I have taken numerous professional development courses, Bible study classes, and cannot tell you how much I love learning!