



Personal Profiles

Learn more about the people who treat you like family.

Interview with Eddie Phillips

8th Grade Teacher

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WHAT WERE YOU LIKE AS A STUDENT?

I went to Quincy Notre Dame, a Catholic high school in Quincy, IL. While attending QND, I played football for two years, was president of our Key Club (a service organization) and German Club, and was photography editor for the yearbook. I also spent time working for the local grocery store, Niemann Foods, "Where you find good value and much more." My favorite subject in high school was a 'BASIC' programming class. It was cutting-edge back in the 1900s. After high school, I attended Northeast Missouri State University (now Truman State University). I earned my B.S. degree in mathematics and an M.A. degree in education. I filled my free time in college with intramural sports, playing basketball for hours, Nintendo, and walking to Quik Trip (a company 'down south!') for 44oz sodas.

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO BE A TEACHER?

My high school experience was definitely a huge factor in my desire to teach. I had a wonderful experience with amazing teachers. I started my own teaching career in the high school setting, but my wife and I moved around often with her job. This resulted in four different teaching jobs in five years. Once we moved to Wisconsin, the Holy Spirit led me to St. Bruno. You may ask me about it sometime. It was a big transition, going from teaching Trigonometry and Mathematical Analysis to juniors in high school, to becoming a 6th grade homeroom teacher. I quickly realized that it was a wonderful change and St. Bruno has been a huge influence in my faith life.

WHY DID YOU BECOME A WILDCAT?

I have always enjoyed the family atmosphere at St. Bruno. This is my **23rd year** (27th overall) of **teaching at St. Bruno**. I try to put the student first in my decisions, and this has seemed to work well for me. A student can look forward to many traditions once they get to middle school, including the Rake and Run, the middle school play, the trip to Washington D.C., the bike ride, and working with the yearbooks.



(Mr. Phillips and one of his 8th grade homerooms)

HOW WERE YOU CALLED TO CHRIST?

I am a member of St. Bruno Parish. We joined the parish at the time of our older daughter's baptism. It was a great decision. **St. Bruno Parish has been revitalizing my faith ever since!** The Mass is very important to me. I no longer see Mass a "requirement", but rather as a chance to refresh and rejuvenate my faith each week.

HOW DO YOU SPEND YOUR TIME OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL?

Outside of school, my time has been filled with a variety of things. Volleyball has been a big part of my family's life for a long time. Both my daughters played for many years, and even though that time is coming to a close, I have great memories to cherish. Besides spending time with my family, I volunteer for the school and parish, play Clash of Clans, read, play games, walk, and take photos.

WHAT DO YOU WANT PEOPLE TO REMEMBER?

I am hoping my students remember a few things from my teaching. Specifically, I hope that:

They think about the **importance** of God in their lives.

They believe that failure is **acceptable**, but you must learn from it.

They learn that continual **practice** results in improvement.

They can see benefits to being **calm** and **caring**.