

# Catholic Education...*Oh What a Gift!*

Jill, Janet, and Judy are the daughters of Mike and Ruth Shindler.



## **Jill Cheek**

Teacher at St. Veronica

Jill is married to Rob and they have four children.

School: St. Mary, PreK-6 (1976-1984)

Residence: Cincinnati, Ohio

My entire life has revolved around Catholic education. I am a proud member of three generations of Shindlers to attend St. Mary School. My love of education was nurtured in the classrooms of caring teachers such as Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Brown. The education I received was rooted in faith and filled with tradition.

Weekly masses, May Crowning, and other Sacramental Celebrations were part of my life like they were for my father and grandfather. The dedicated teachers at St. Mary's taught and emphasized the values so important to my family.

Why am I a Catholic educator today? St. Mary's is a large reason why. I learned there that a strong academic foundation and a good work ethic are crucial in a successful school. I learned the importance of daily prayer in developing a closer relationship with God. I am fortunate to be able to enjoy prayer with my students everyday. For this I am grateful to St. Mary's.

My husband and I are very fortunate to be able to send our children to a Catholic School. I feel very blessed to be able to attend mass every Friday at school with them. I am thankful that my children are able to receive an education today like I experienced at St. Mary's.



## **Janet Evers**

Stay at Home Mom

Janet is married to Mark and they have a son.

School: St. Mary, PreK-6 (1980-1988)

Residence: Worthington, OH

There is something really special about attending a Catholic School. I not only learned more about my faith, but I truly felt like a part of the church community at a very young age. I couldn't wait to go to Church on Fridays, to sing the songs, and to hear the stories the Priests would tell us during the Homily.

I stayed involved in the Church during Junior High School, High School, and College, and I continue my involvement as an adult. My Catholic education has helped me to keep my faith in the forefront of everything that I do.

I believe that a Catholic education gives children the tools they need to carry their faith into their adulthood.



## **Judy Shindler**

Accounts Payable @ Rettig Music, Inc.

Judy is engaged to Jason Schultz.

School: St. Mary, PreK-6 (1989-1997)

Residence: Defiance, OH

Attending St. Mary's not only made me study the basics, but made me understand my feelings towards my faith, and towards God. I don't think that I would be the person that I am today if I had not learned to live my religion and my life side by side.

My life has been influenced by my faith everyday, and having the opportunity to attend a Catholic school I learned that I can act on my faith and feel strong about it. Ever since leaving St. Mary's and attending High School and College I have always carried my religious beliefs with me and feel that understanding it has made me a better person. All because I was taught at an early age.

I think that going to a Catholic school not only gives a good education but gives you the positive attitude about letting you know that it is ok to live your faith and that it is ok to act on your feelings. It helped me make the transition to the Jr. High because it opened me up and I was able to adjust to the change and meet a lot of new people. I am proud of my religion and that's all because of St. Mary's.

*"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it"*

~Proverbs 22:6