

**Name** Ms. Carmelina Calabrese

**Grade Teaching** Director of Faith Formation

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***Tell how you became involved in Faith Formation***

I was given the option at the age of 18 if I wanted to join the religious order or meet with our parish pastor Fr. Joe... I chose Fr. Joe... Ask me about my story next time you see me

***Which Mass do you normally attend?***

I attend all the Masses because that is when my office hours are for the parish.

***You're a new addition to the crayon box. What color would you be and why?***

Yellow, because it shines like the sun. How can you not be happy when you have a ray of sun around you!!!

***What are you most passionate about professionally? Personally?***

Professionally, I am most passionate about the work I do at St. John the Evangelist church is planting the seed for the children of our future church. I have worked in the faith formation ministry for 33 years. For my entire life, I have used my skills to have the children of God learn about his loving Graces and the importance of Mary, the mother of Jesus. Personally, I am passionate about God in my life. In *Romans 12:11*; God wants Christians to be fervent in spirit. 2 of my favorite quotes are from Ferdinand Foch and William Ward. Ferdinand Foch, a French Military Strategist said, "The most powerful weapon on earth is the human soul on fire." William Ward wrote: "Enthusiasm and persistence can make an average person superior; indifference and lethargy can make a superior person average." In our spiritual journey, our passion can help provide the incentive to continue all the way to heaven. In our life we work hard and that beats talent, but talent doesn't work hard. Everyone knows Knowledge is valuable, but passion is invaluable; lastly, Passion often separates success and failure. Who wants to go through life average when we could be above average?

***Describe yourself in three words***

Persistent, Empathetic, Driven