

April 25, 2020

Dear parish and school family,

Greetings! My name is Miranda Chaplin. I am humbled and elated to join St. Mary School as the new Principal. My husband, Ryan, and I live on a farm in northern Bourbon County where we raise our three children, Beau, Reid, and Aubrey. Our son, Beau, is currently in Montessori kindergarten and our son, Reid, is in Montessori pre-school at St. Mary. While I may have met some members of our school and parish family, I look forward to getting to know each of you at a deeper level over the coming months and years.

My entire family is deeply rooted in Catholic education, with our sons blessed to be fifth generation Catholic school students. Through my twelve years of Catholic education at Sts. Peter and Paul School and Bishop Brossart High School in the Diocese of Covington, I developed a firm belief in the impact of Catholic education. I also personally understand the sacrifices families make to prioritize and provide a private, faith-based education for their children. While sending our children to St. Mary School is certainly a financial sacrifice, the investment made in our children has led to excitement about learning and provided an opportunity for our family to grow together in faith. Our children also have wonderful and loving relationships with their teachers and classmates. Christ's love and virtues are apparent in the actions of our school family.

Through my education experience at the University of Kentucky and from working over a decade with the National Association of Agricultural Educators, I developed extensive experience in the nonprofit sector. My past career allowed me to serve over 2,000 teachers in 46 states as they implemented a STEM-enhanced, inquiry-based curriculum after completing extensive professional development. My specific role as the Operations/Outreach Director combined nonprofit financial management, marketing, communications, and outreach to stakeholders. I also have experience with grant writing and cultivating relationships with potential sponsors. Last year alone, I fundraised and managed over \$450,000 to provide national scholarships and grants for teacher professional development.

Beyond my work experience, I love sharing the joy Christ brings to my heart with others. Our faith is an incredible gift that God wants us to share! There is no better way to do this than by providing a Christ-centered education to families in Bourbon County. Catholic education seamlessly provides students with opportunities for academic success, character development, and building a relationship with Jesus Christ. I believe so strongly in increasing accessibility to Catholic education and look forward to working with our school and parish community to continue growing the ministry of St. Mary School. My vision for St. Mary School is to not only grow the number of students in the existing classes, but to also expand our education offerings. In addition, I hope to work with local business and industry leaders to enhance our science lab with supplies and equipment, as well as find opportunities for our teachers to grow professionally in order to bring new and innovative instructional resources to their classrooms. Our school flourishes thanks to the stewardship of so many parents, grandparents, parish, and community members. I value the time, talent, and treasures you share with our school and look forward to working beside you.

I am proud of the impact St. Mary School is making while serving students, families, our parish, as well as our community throughout Bourbon County. Together and working towards a united vision for Catholic education, we can accomplish so much.

Wishing you good health and God's abundant blessings,

Miranda Chaplin, CAE