



*“St. Thomas is a great place to go to school.
I felt so much at home here as a student.
It is perfect that I am now teaching here.”*

Jennifer Secedi

Third Grade

Mrs. Secedi has been teaching at St. Thomas of Villanova since 2008. She has a Bachelor’s Degree from Eastern Illinois University and a Masters of Arts in Teaching from National Louis University. She assists with Catholic Schools Week and is the Intermediate Unit Leader.

“In Third grade the students develop study skills and learn how to be more organized and responsible. The class is structured in a calm environment and organized with patience. It is said by many parents that this is the year the children turn into students.”

About the Students

“I am enjoying every minute in my classroom. The kids are wonderful. Third grade is a great grade to teach, because the children are so excited to learn.”

“Their faith is important to them and they feel so proud when they can help someone else. Children learn best through doing—singing, acting out stories, choosing from hands-on math and reading centers. In science and social studies they work on cooperative projects and experiments. When children learn to compromise and share ideas, they again will have these skills for life.”

On St. Thomas of Villanova

“I love working in a school that has such a ‘family’ feel to it.”

Special Units and Projects

- Communities
- Earth Day
- Plants
- Life Cycles
- Extreme Weather
- Force & Motion
- Reading projects Squanto: Friend of the Pilgrims and Sarah Plain and Tall.
- Self-guided passion projects and project based learning activities.

Field Trips

- Visit to Spring Valley Nature Sanctuary to enhance Science class
- Enrichment speakers from Spring Valley (Naturalist)

Projects Related to Our Faith

- Advent and Christmas
- Lent and Easter
- We attend weekly Mass and prayer services, Communion and Reconciliation
- Advent and Lenten Promises

All School Activities

- Track-A-Thon
- Advent Craft
- Gifts of Love
- St. Joseph Table
- Field Day
- Pep Rally
- Santa Visit
- Spirit Chains
- Grandparents Day