



***“We learn using ‘hands on’ activities and varying the lessons depending on student abilities.”***

## **Liz Shepke**

### **Fourth Grade**

Mrs. Shepke started teaching at St.Thomas in 2012. She has a degree in Elementary Education from Eastern Illinois University and a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction from National Louis University. Prior to coming to St. Thomas she taught at two different schools in the Diocese of Joliet.

“I enjoy teaching 4th grade because students are becoming more independent. While I enjoy whole and group lessons, being able to allow the students to explore some on their own is also fun for me to observe.”

#### ***About the Students***

“From grade Pre-K through 8th, the students are the most friendly, kind, and respectful group towards each other and the faculty/staff. Walking through the halls, students are smiling and saying hello which exemplifies STV to possess a great sense of family.”

#### ***On St. Thomas of Villanova***

“I am fortunate to be teaching in the parish that I grew up being a part of. St. Thomas is a community filled with faithful people. I thank God for this amazing blessing every day.”

#### **Special Units and Projects**

- Regions of the United States: state floats, Powerpoint presentations, state luncheon
- Reading: book report presentations, novel study, small groups, enriched curriculum
- Wax Museum
- STEM Projects & Science Labs

#### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

- Springfield and Chicago trips
- Local bike trip to police station
- Mother’s Day Tea
- Father’s Day Softball

#### **Projects Related to Our Faith**

- Sacraments
- 10 Commandments
- We attend weekly Mass and prayer services, Communion and Reconciliation
- Stations of the Cross
- Advent and Lent Activities