



Star of the Sea School 309 15<sup>th</sup> Street Virginia Beach, VA 23451  
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## Parent Testimonials

My daughter has attended SOS three years now. PreK-3 through Kindergarten full day programs. The teachers are engaged, energetic and loving. The aftercare program is fantastic as well as affordable, and on-site which, truly helps working parents. The principal is always available, supportive, knowledgeable, and caring. As a non-Catholic family at this school I have felt perfectly comfortable with the age appropriate religious education. My daughter absolutely loves her teachers, classmates, and the school. When there has been a concern, the teacher or principal have returned my calls immediately. The tuition is affordable when compared to other private schools. They have a Spanish teacher, who is phenomenal, as well as a guidance counselor on staff. The many different after school programs as well, such as Basketball, Girl Scouts, dance, cheerleading, art etc. The school building itself is old, and could use some updating. Do not let that be a deal breaker. The kids do not care, and everything else makes up for it.

Starting at Star of the Sea felt like "coming home." After my own 12 years of Catholic education, I wanted to give our children the same faith tradition. We left a very good Virginia Beach public school program to begin middle school for my oldest and second grade for my youngest. Having them together at the same school is not only convenient, but it has kept their relationship intact through shared experiences. The pairing of middle school students with elementary students as Prayer Partners helps teenagers stay connected to youth and discourages self-centeredness. The brother/sister-like relationships among older students produce a nice camaraderie rather than exclusive couples. Even the uniforms contribute to a positive sense of identity and unity in belonging to a school that proudly represents its faith.

"This school has provided an excellent education for all 4 of our children ~ K-8th grade. We have been very happy with the education - academically, spiritually, and physically. Our oldest two children have already graduated from SOS and they are in honors/accelerated courses in the public high school and doing very well. The SOS middle schoolers do not have to experience all of the outside influences that are ever present in our public schools. Ages 12-14 are delicate ages and the 8th grade graduates leave SOS with confidence to face all that life can throw at them during the high school years... some of the students are going directly into Spanish 3 in 9th grade."

**"Fantastic learning environment for my children and a great community** of parents and volunteers. Super high level of academics for middle schoolers with great success for those looking to move on to public school academies or local private high schools. And good luck finding a better sports program for elementary schools... that's right elementary schools. My kids are both involved in seasonal sports teams that compete with other area Catholic schools to create a great sense of school identity and passion."

It's so nice having our children spend their day among students from families who share similar Christian values. Star of the Sea Catholic School reinforces these values as students learn about their faith, understand the importance of serving, and grow confident in moral decision making. In a Christ-centered environment, a teaching opportunity is never missed to consider "What Would Jesus Do?"

Today reaffirmed my belief that Star of the Sea is indeed the best school around. I watched as soaked teachers soothed soaked children, gave them the clothing off their backs, hugged them, danced with them, and smiled happily. I LOVE THIS SCHOOL! I love the teachers. I simply cannot say enough good things. I actually had

tears in my eyes and a smile on my face watching the teachers and students dance to the SOS song. Thank you for sharing your staff with my family! We are so very grateful.

We are a military family so when we got orders to Virginia Beach, I worried about finding the right school for our children. After finding Star of the Sea School and my kids attending for 2 years now, I know that I not only made the right choice, but would never send my kids anywhere else! They are exceptionally military friendly, have an awesome staff, a challenging curriculum, and fantastic athletics. We are very grateful to the school that our children have thrived so much both academically and socially.

"Let it be known to all who enter here that Jesus is the reason for this school". These are the words that greeted us when we first joined Star of the Sea parish over 35 years ago. These are the words that still greet everyone who enters the school today. These are the words that welcomed our children Anne (class of 2009) and Mary (class of 2010) to school every day from their first day of Pre-Kindergarten through Eighth Grade. Our family has found these words to be so true. Jesus is the reason for this little school by the big sea. Jesus is before every teacher and behind everything that happens in this dear school. This has been such a wonderful time of our lives.

God completely blessed our family when He sent us to Star of the Sea School over 15 years ago. In the school, we found a family of concerned and excellent educators. We found parents who loved God. These fellow parents wanted the best for our children and for their children. The faculty and staff have remained fantastic role models for our children. Our children have received the best education possible because they were nourished spiritually, educationally, and emotionally. We will always be so thankful to everyone at Star of the Sea for that.

God continues to bless us through the school. We have found a faith family at Star of the Sea. We have been blessed in so many ways. Our prayer is that generations of God's people will be blessed by this school in the days and years to come. We pray that they will know that God has brought them to the doors of this school for a reason. That Jesus is the reason for this school today, tomorrow, and always. Certainly, God has blessed us for all time."

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