

Mrs. Ellen Smith
2nd Grade Teacher
Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education

Mrs. Smith was born in Cebu, Philippines. She graduated in 1994 with a Bachelor of Elementary Education degree from the University of San Jose-Recoletos, a Catholic university founded by the Augustinian Recollect in Cebu. For nine years at Guadalupe Elementary School in Cebu, Mrs. Smith taught First Grade and Sixth Grade.

Mrs. Smith moved to the United States in 2006 and worked at Maryland Rural Development Corporation Head Start as an assistant, acting teacher, teacher, and center director. Mrs. Smith and her family (husband and three sons) moved to Florida due to her husband's job relocation. She joined St. Charles in 2016 and very blessed to have the opportunity to work with a great staff and community at St. Charles.

According to Mrs. Smith, teaching is not just a profession; it is a vocation because she gets to change lives on a day to day basis. She incorporated values and character development in her lesson because she firmly believed that students should have a strong foundation with values and character, so when they go out into the real world, they are well-equipped and face any challenges. Watching her students learn, grow, and apply what they have learned makes her happy and fulfilled. Her philosophy of education is based on the following theorists; Erickson, Piaget, and Maria Montessori. Children learn best when they are given opportunities to explore real things around them, using their senses and giving them the chance to do things by themselves "learning by doing" in a caring and nurturing environment. Mrs. Smith is so grateful for being a part of St. Charles, and for her, it is truly a blessing to guide each child and instill ethical values that reflect Jesus' love.