

**Mrs. Karen M. Novak, M.Ed.**  
**Middle School Language Arts Teacher - Grades 6-8, Homeroom Grade 7**  
**B.A. in Sociology and Education**  
**Masters in Special Education**  
**Professional Certificate in Elementary Education K through 6<sup>th</sup> and ESE grades K through 12**

Mrs. Novak feels blessed to be the language arts teacher for the wonderful middle school children at St. Charles Borromeo School. She also teaches religion class to her 7th-grade homeroom students.

Mrs. Novak received her B.A. in Sociology and Education from Rutgers College and a M.Ed. In Special Education from the University of Maine. With her husband, Stan, they moved to Florida from Maine in the summer of 2016. They lived there for over thirty years, and taught students in kindergarten through tenth grade, but mostly at the middle school level. Mr. Novak is a licensed home remodeler, their son, Joe is a social studies teacher at Bishop Verot High School, and their daughter, Nikki, teaches mathematics at a private high school in Bangor, Maine. Whenever they all get together, you can find them on bikes, kayaks, paddleboards, hikes, or spending long days at the beach.

Mrs. Novak loves the climate here in southwest Florida (except for hurricane season!) and treasure the warm breezes and forever sunsets. It is so easy to smile with the year-round sunshine and brilliantly blooming flowers! Mrs. Novak and her husband are also excited to be able to travel to lovely Italy often. Returning to our beloved Maine for a week in July will be an exhilarating adventure, too.

Growing up in New Jersey, California, and Pennsylvania, Mrs. Novak had always attended Catholic schools. As a student, she enjoyed reading, writing, reciting poetry, artwork, researching, and exchanging ideas with her peers. As a middle school teacher, she loves facilitating *their* reading, writing, and communicating. It is incredible to see students become stronger readers, more confident writers, and better communicators! Bringing God into the center of everything we do, however, is the best part!

Mrs. Novak am thrilled to be working here at St. Charles with its amazing faculty and staff, awesome students, beautiful weekly liturgies, and with our loving Lord infused into daily lessons. Under the bell tower, beginning our day together in prayer is how school should be!