

Maxine Bonneau - Art and Computers (biography updated)

After graduating from Stonehill College with a degree in art history, I began working as a part of the advertising staff for a discount department store. I continued to work there while raising my son, Peter, and my daughter, Danielle. I started teaching when my children began attending St. Mary's School in New Bedford. By volunteering to teach art to all of the grades, I realized that a long time dream had become real. I went back to college at UMass-Dartmouth to take the elementary education courses needed, as well as the testing, to be granted a provisional license with advanced standing. This is "certified" in the mass department of education and I received my license in December of 2000. I began teaching fourth grade at Holy Name School in the fall of 2001. Four years ago, Dr. Wardell offered me the position of art and computer teacher, which better fits my teaching abilities. When the new computer lab was donated to the school, I had to learn more about networks and servers, but I follow the diocesan technology outcomes curriculum.

My husband, Deacon Bruce Bonneau, was ordained for the permanent diaconate in 1993. He soon became the assistant director of religious education for the Diocese of Fall River. Three years ago, he was appointed assistant director of adult faith formation for the diocese. He is also assigned to St. Mary's Parish in Fairhaven.

My son, Peter (married to Heather Shepard) and my daughter, (married to Reinaldo Ferreira), had their weddings in the same year, four months apart, in 2005. My grandson, Jacob, was born the next year. He began attending pre-k class at Holy Name School when he turned four. Presently, my husband and I take care of Jacob during the school week, and he sees his parents on weekends and holidays.

Among all of this active living, my faith emerged like an opening rose, layers of understanding growing constantly. Yearly retreats and daily prayer bring me an awareness to seek out the joy and grace in the moment.