



*Yo soy Mrs. Rison (or Profesora Rison). Mucho gusto! I've been part of the St. Peter's familia playing piano at masses since 2013, but I'm very happy to have joined the school family to teach *Español* and now Music as well. I have a B.A. in Spanish Literature and a Business Administration minor from Chestnut Hill College, a small Catholic school just outside of Philadelphia. I have played piano for 20+ years, and also play the flute, oboe, saxophone, and the euphonium. In my free time I enjoy singing, reading, painting, watching movies, and spending time with my *esposo*, our *hijos*, Adam and Simon, and our *perro*, Slinkypup.*



Mrs. Rison

MUSIC

What a great way to end 2017! Our music classes did a phenomenal job preparing for the Christmas Program which went off without a hitch. Middle School students performed a Living Nativity with grades 1-5 singing accompanying Christmas tunes to match each scene. Special thanks to all the participants, especially my actors, narrators, soloists, handbell players, and Mrs. Beagley for jumping headfirst into the role of Stage Manager/Director. It couldn't have come together without your commitment and enthusiasm! Pre-K and Kindergarten also did awesomely at their own mini-Christmas Program during St. Peter's Breakfast with Santa event, singing a couple Christmas songs to kick off all the activities that morning.



8th Grade did an enlightening cross-curricular Art/Music project designing an album cover for a "Soundtrack of My Life" essay. I really enjoyed reading all their song choices and stories behind them. I made a Spotify playlist to represent moments in my own life, which you can find here if interested: <https://goo.gl/vGiVBM>

In the coming months, all classes will be learning some new hymns to sing during our weekly Masses. We'll also be doing a lot of listening exercises. What kinds of sounds or instruments might you associate with certain animals? What about emotions? Do different pitches or tones make you happy or sad or angry? What are some differences and similarities between different genres of music? These are some of the kinds of things we'll be exploring this winter.

ESPAÑOL

Middle school has been hard at work learning and practicing conjugations of regular verbs in the present tense in Spanish class. Elementary school classes have been enjoying presenting information about themselves to classmates using vocabulary words for their birthdays, favorite months, seasons, and even sharing about family member birthdays too. Spanish electives have begun expanding their vocabulary reading Spanish translations of well-known songs and fairy tales. We especially love learning Spanish versions of our favorite Disney songs!

Most classes have mastered the "Padre Nuestro" or "Our Father" prayer by now. 6th grade will be tested on their ability to recite it from memory in February. 7th and 8th grades have begun learning the "Ave María" and will need to recite it from memory in February as well.

*Dios te salve, María,
Llena eres de gracia,
El Señor es contigo!*

*Bendita tú eres entre todas las mujeres,
Y bendito es el fruto de tu vientre, Jesús.*

*Santa María, madre de Dios,
Ruega por nosotros pecadores
Ahora y en la hora de nuestra muerte.
Amen.*

Teacher tip:

Students can always get some extra practice outside of Spanish class by creating accounts on Duolingo.com and testing their skills there. Game on!

Spanish Vocabulary / Vocabulario

<i>Yo soy – I am</i>	<i>Familia – Family</i>	<i>Esposo – Spouse</i>
<i>Invierno – Winter</i>	<i>Mucho gusto – Nice to meet you</i>	<i>Hijos – Sons</i>
	<i>La clase de Español – Spanish class</i>	<i>Perro – Dog</i>