

**CHERYL JAMES**

I have been blessed to call OLG my home for almost 40 years. Both the church and school community provide a sense of security, commitment, and respect for Catholic values.

I have always felt called to serve and my faith and work life have run parallel. Over the past 20 years, I have worked with individuals who have experienced some form of trauma. I hold a professional social work license and have worked for almost 10 years as a Trauma psychotherapist at Rady's Children's Hospital and continue this work now in my psychotherapy private practice. In addition, I am the MSW Admissions Director and a lecturer for the School of Social Work at SDSU.

A positive partnership between parish and school is important to me. I have taught CCD, served as an RCIA Sponsor and Eucharistic Minister. As parents of a 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grader at OLG School, we encourage service with our children. My son is currently an altar server and my husband and I volunteer throughout the year at various school functions.

Being a member of the parent advisory council offers the opportunity to be a part of a community that allows one to work hard to effect positive change within their parish and child's school alongside equally dedicated parents and teachers who share the same common goals. I believe that I can offer energy, insight, enthusiasm and a desire to continue to expand the great foundation that is already established.

I appreciate the opportunity to be considered.

**RYAN SANDLER**

Our Lady of Grace has provided a community of love, respect, and friendship for my family and me since 2009. This community is something I hadn't experienced, or expected to experience, when our family joined the parish. Growing up in the public school system and continuing my education at San Diego State University and University of Phoenix, I have usually tackled life challenges on my own without much input from others. Since joining OLG I have come to realize and appreciate the valuable life lessons being taught to our children at school, in the parish and at home. The OLG family has given me tremendous opportunities to be a part of this faith-based community.

Coaching the girls' soccer team since kindergarten through sixth grade has truly been an invaluable experience and I feel that I have learned a lot from these girls about faithfulness, perseverance, humility and friendly competition. Additionally, watching my older daughter herself become involved in the community, by way of altar serving, has made me proud of what both the school and parish can offer our children in their faith formation.

I look forward to my nomination to the OLG Advisory Council. I believe I possess insight and experience that would be valuable to both the parish and school community. I also feel I would personally benefit from this opportunity to grow as a parent and member of the community. I thank you for your time and consideration.

**STEVE SHAMOUN**

I am interested in serving on the Our Lady of Grace Advisory Council. I believe I have the talents and experience to be a strong contributor to the council. For the past 15 years I have been a financial professional in San Diego and I am currently a Chief Financial Officer at a local technology company. My educational background focused in finance. I have received an MBA from Columbia University, a BS Degree in Management Science, and a Certificate in Accounting from the University of California at San Diego.

OLG is an important institution for my family and myself. I believe we need to continue to foster a strong, tight knit community that allows for spiritual, moral and character development for our students. I also believe we should strive for academic excellence and that investment from parents and faculty will lead to the best outcome for our children.

I have three children at OLG School and I have been a member of the parish for the past seven years. I have volunteered as both a soccer coach and a basketball coach and have enjoyed my time working with the children to develop their sportsmanship as well as their skill set. I am currently serving as an appointee on the Advisory Council, serving also on the finance sub-committee. Having served in this capacity for most of this past year to complete the outgoing member's term, I hope to continue to serve this three year term to assist the OLG community.

**BRIAN STEELE**

I am originally from New York, where I completed my degree in Marketing at Niagara University. After relocating to Los Angeles, I completed a Master's in Communication Management at USC while working as the Assistant Director of Admissions and Student Affairs. Currently I work at UC San Diego in Graduate Medical Education as an analyst for program compliance and reconciliation of the Federal dollars for training reimbursement.

My wife and I were married by Monsignor Gallagher in June 2004 and have attended Mass here while visiting family over the past decade as guest parishioners. Officially we have been members of OLG since 2012 when we moved to San Diego. Our youngest daughters were baptized at OLG. My wife is an alumna of OLG Class of 1995.

Our daughter Marcella is in the first grade with her sisters starting kindergarten in fall of 2017 and 2019. My involvement with the school is limited due to my work schedule, but I try to participate when/where I can. We have hosted a few unofficial social functions at our house for the class.

Catholic education has certainly been a cornerstone in our family and we had always planned on providing the same opportunity for our children. I have been impressed with how the school community has made a positive social and religious impact on our family. My hope is that by being a member of the Advisory Council I can impart a similar change to the community.

**AUBREY TAFT**

My name is Aubrey Taft and my family and I have been members of the Parish for over a year. Our son Griffin is in Kindergarten, and I am proud to be a part of the OLG community. Growing up, I was not fortunate enough to have a Catholic education and because of that, it was important for me to give my child that gift. The emphasis on education, work ethic, Catholic values and sense of community are why we chose OLG. My dreams for OLG are to ensure the advancement of educational growth, open new opportunities and experiences for all of our children to continue on a path to success in high school, college, and career while maintaining their core Catholic values. Becoming a member of the Advisory Council would give me the opportunity to contribute my time and experience to help support and implement the values, goals and fiscal goals for the future of the school. I am the Vice President of Business Development for one of San Diego's oldest and largest mechanical contracting firms in San Diego. In my sixteen years with the company, I have managed over \$100 million dollars in contracts, taking special consideration of budgets, while keeping the bottom line in sight, maintaining the profitability of the company and ensuring the high quality of the work. I look forward to the opportunity to be a part of this council and thank you in advance for your consideration.