

## **Lara Talsky Approved Profile**

### **Living Our Faith**

#### **Meet Lara**

*I've been a parishioner for:* four years. My husband Joe and I joined the parish in the fall of 2019 soon after our move from Alton, Illinois. There are seven of us Talskys, including our five kids: Gabriel, Stella, Eva, Lydia and Julia.

*Living my faith:* I serve on the Youth Faith Formation Commission and in the past have assisted with CGS, which stands for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, SFX's religious education program for children from preschool through sixth grade. This year, I'm part of the SFX Gala Committee. (Note: The Gala will be held on Nov. 17 at The Coronado to benefit our youth faith formation programs, among other ministries.)

*Why I'm involved:* Before SFX, I had never heard of CGS, and am moved by how powerfully effective it is for some of our very youngest Catholics. The program is Montessori-based and encourages children to grow in their faith through individual experience and service.

Overall, SFX has improved my life because it has created a space to meet wonderful people and form relationships that would not have happened otherwise. It's fulfilling a desire I have deep down to meet faithful folks concerned about social justice.

*Three words that describe SFX:* Open, Sincere, Innovative

*My neighborhood:* We live in Davis Place, just south of downtown Clayton. I love the walkability, parks, schools and neighbors. There aren't many (or any that I know of) large Catholic families in our neighborhood. When people see we have five children they (jokingly) ask if we are Catholic. I'm proud to say we are and share information about SFX with them.

*Fun Fact:* I am a stay-at-home mom who daydreams her way through folding laundry and sweeping the kitchen floor. My undergraduate degree is in Theatre, and I have an MFA degree in Creative Writing. After all of the kids are in school, one of my ambitions is to bring to life a story that has been brewing in my head for the last five years by writing and producing a play.