

FACULTY/STAFF AWARD

LEONA CHIANELLO



A mainstay at Guerin Catholic, Leona Chianello has been a friendly face to students and staff since the school opened her doors in 2004. Serving as Registrar and Administrative Assistant in the Guidance Department for 14 years, Leona warmly greeted the students and made them feel welcomed as they waited to speak with their counselor. Treating all the students as if they were her own earned her the nickname “Mama Chi.”



In 2019, Leona transferred to the role of Administrative Assistant to Principal Mr. James McNeany, and she continues to go above and beyond by tending to the needs of students, faculty and staff.

Whether it’s planning a baby shower, helping a new student find a uniform, greeting guests for an event, or chaperoning student retreats, Leona has long taken on the role of GC Concierge!

As one colleague puts it, “Leona considers all who enter the doors of the school to be under her care and she has sought and found ways to love and serve us all. Leona truly exemplifies the vision statement of Guerin Catholic by Leading with Humility, Serving with Love, and Trusting in Providence.”



Leona’s favorite part of her current role is planning Commencement and watching the students “walk across the stage capping a fabulous high school career at Guerin Catholic.” Even with the challenges of the pandemic, she was determined to give the graduating Class of 2020 a beautiful Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremony, which set a new outdoor tradition that will continue with the Class of 2021.

Leona and her husband Jeff were married for 37 years before he passed away in 2014. They have three wonderful children, Dana (Brent) Phillips, Jeffery II (Courtney), and Zac (Molly), and six grandchildren, Francis and Veronica Phillips, Jeffery III, Patrick and Blake Chianello, and Samuel Chianello.