



OLC

1911 – 2014

Very Rev. Thomas J. Ciba, V.F.
Pastor

Rev. Anthony Azzarto, S.J.
Weekend Assistant

Rev. Michael Braden, S.J.
Weekend Assistant

Rev. David Stump, S.J.
Weekend Assistant

Mrs. Anna Mae Stefanelli
Principal

Mr. Jonathan Blevis
Pastoral Associate

Mr. Ben Rauch
Director of Music

Parish Office
201-434-0798

Fax
201-985-0918

Email
pastor@olcjc.org
bulletin@olcjc.org

Websites
www.olcjc.org
www.olcschool.org

The OLC School
201-434-2405

Little Harbor Academy
201-434-6708

Counseling, Ann Tedeschi,
LCSW,*
(201) 339-3372, (201) 725-8154

Counseling, Relief & Solutions
Counseling,* (201) 666-2400

*Not affiliated with OLC

Our Lady of Czestochowa Catholic Church

120 Sussex Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302

Our Mission

The mission of our Parish is to reach out to all people and encourage them to join us in joyfully giving praise and glory to God; to build a Christian community that, with trust in God, embraces the future, and in doing so, is a beacon of faith, hope and love on the Jersey City waterfront.

Our History

Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, or OLC, was founded in 1911 to serve Polish immigrants in Jersey City. Today, OLC is growing and changing as it seeks to serve all those who now live in our neighborhood. The Church takes its name from a city in Poland that houses a cherished icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary. A copy of that icon is centrally located in our historic Church.

Mass Schedule

Monday – Friday: 12:30 pm (Church open from 12:00 noon to 1:15 pm)

Saturday: 5:00 pm, Sunday Vigil Mass

Sunday: 10:00 am, 12:30 pm and 7:00 pm

Note: St. Anthony of Padua, 330 Sixth Street, Jersey City, the Center for Polish Ministry in Jersey City, offers a Polish Language Mass at OLC, Sundays at 8:00 am.

Faith Formation during 10:00 am Mass

We provide a Faith Formation program called “Children’s Liturgy of the Word” for children 2½ years of age and up during the Sunday Mass. We dismiss the children from Mass after the Opening Prayer to the church hall, returning before the Offertory. Parents are welcome to accompany their child if they wish.

Confessions/Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 pm to 4:30 pm in the church and at other times by appointment with the pastor.

Weddings

Those interested in celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage should contact the parish office **one year** in advance of their proposed date of marriage.

Infant Baptisms

Preparation for Baptism should ideally begin before the birth of the child. Expectant parents should visit the parish website for more information.

The OLC School – Quality Education on the Waterfront

248 Luis Marin Blvd., Jersey City, NJ 07302

Grades 1 - 8

Accredited by the Middle States Commission on Elementary and Secondary Schools

The Little Harbor Academy – The Early Childhood Division of the OLC School

186 Grand Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302

Programs: Kindergarten; Pre-Kindergarten Program for 3- & 4-year-olds; Montessori Toddler Program for 2-year-olds

To Register and Be Part of OLC

We welcome you to register and to be part of our parish family. Please contact the parish office to arrange an informal appointment with the pastor.

Saints Peter and Paul Church, Hoboken and OLC Church, Jersey City

We work together to proclaim and live the Gospel on the Hudson River Waterfront by sharing our time, energy, and resources, and in doing so, we more powerfully witness the presence of Christ.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord – April 5, 2015

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate the greatest and most important feast in Christianity. As such, the Resurrection of Jesus from death is the foundation of our faith. St. Paul states this fact very directly when he writes to the Corinthians, "If Jesus has not been raised, then empty is our preaching, empty too is our faith. Then we are also false witnesses to God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ" (1 Cor 15:14-15).

There have been those throughout history who have disbelieved and have been skeptical. Heretics have distorted its reality. Such attempts only serve to destroy all that we believe. To deny or mitigate the resurrection is to deny all that we believe as if it were an unreliable fabrication. However, the Resurrection is not an unreliable fabrication; it is a fact.

The Resurrection is central to Jesus' message. Christ's rising from the dead is pivotal to the testimony of the Church about who Jesus is, what He taught and what He did. It is the seal that authenticates everything about him and his identity. It authenticates all of his works and all of his teachings and gives definite proof of his divine authority.

The Resurrection of Jesus fulfills the promises of both the Old and New Testaments. It also becomes the foundation of our present life with God. By virtue of the Paschal Mystery, Christ liberates us from sin by his death, and by his resurrection he opens for us the way to new life...and a participation in Grace (Catechism, no. 654).

Additionally, the Resurrection of Jesus verifies our future resurrection. St. Paul will write, "Christ, 'the first-born from the dead' (Col. 1:18), is the principle of our own resurrection, even now by the justification of our souls (Rom 6:4), and one day by the new life He will impart to our bodies (Rom 8:11)."

Utilize your celebration of Easter and the Resurrection as your inspiration for a deeper faith and a compelling motivation to live more fully the teachings of Christ.

Happy Easter



BAPTISM



GATHERING TO REJOICE is the first component of our Baptism Program for those preparing for the birth of their child. You must **pre-register** for this program. Register online at olcjc.org and reference "Formation and Sacraments." Follow the link to "Baptism of Children," or call the rectory. Upcoming dates are:

May 3, 2015, July 5, 2015

GATHERING TO UNDERSTAND is the second part of our Baptism program. If you are preparing for the baptism of your child, this program is **required**. It addresses theology, the responsibilities and requirements of parents and Godparents, etc.

You can register online, by phone, or you can just walk in (**however, preregistration is extremely helpful**). Upcoming dates are:

April 12, 2015, June 7, 2015

Please register as parishioners before attending the baptism classes. You can register in the rectory Monday through Friday from 9:30 am until 5:00 pm.

LECTURE SERIES

Our ten-part lecture/study group program came to an end Monday, March 23. However, there is a second component to this program which I am offering. The second component is entitled "50 Theological and Spiritual Questions about the Catholic Faith." Topics in part 1 entitled "God" include: Why do we believe in God? How do

we know we are encountering God? What images of God are present in the Old Testament? So what about God? Why is there so much disorder in the universe? What are the most common views of God?

Topics in part 2 entitled "The Trinity" include: What is the Trinity? Is the truth of the Trinity found in Scripture? Can we completely understand the Trinity? How else is the mystery of the Trinity revealed to us? How does the Church fit into and serve the Trinity? Can God really be both one and many? How can Jesus be both God and human?

This program is designed for both Catholics and non-Catholics wishing to learn more about Catholicism. This program will offer new insights into our faith and a deeper understanding about theology and spirituality.

Please follow the bulletin for the exact start date of this program. We anticipate it to start Monday, April 13, 7:30 pm, in the rectory.



THANKS TO OUR CHURCH VOLUNTEERS!



Thank you for helping to decorate the church for Easter. It was no small feat and would not have been possible without the assistance of the volunteers who took time off from their busy lives to assist. Thank you also for your generosity during the Easter Flower Collection. God bless you all!

MASS INTENTIONS

It is a long standing tradition in many different faiths and cultures to remember, and even venerate, someone's deceased relatives and friends. We keep alive the memory of our deceased relatives and friends by remembering them in our prayers. Through our prayers, we can also continue that spiritual and loving connection we had when they walked this earth.

Remembering someone in our prayers (whether alive or deceased) is particularly important to us as Catholics. Because the celebration of the Mass is the highest form of worship, the practice of having a Mass "offered" for an individual, deceased or living, or for a particular intention, is an excellent way of bringing our intentions to God. This is a long standing tradition in the church. It is also a devotional practice whereby we keep alive the memory of our loved ones. Through this practice we can maintain that loving bond between ourselves and those whom we love. A Mass can be offered on the anniversary of death or on a person's birthday, or at any time. You may also have a Mass celebrated for someone who is ill, in thanksgiving and for special intentions for family and/or friends.

Take the time to have a Mass celebrated for your loved-ones. Simply stop by the rectory, call us at **201-434-0798** or send an e-mail to: secretary@olcj.org.

2015 EVENTS AT OLC

The Drawing Rooms: Paper Constructions exhibit through May 3rd. Using handmade and recycled paper, ten artists create abstract and narrative works in sculpture, installation, drawing and collage. Come visit us at 180 Grand Street, Thurs.-Fri. 4-7 pm and Sat.-Sun. 2-6 pm. Website: www.drawingrooms.org.

OLC Seniors: The April 8 Easter Celebration meeting will be in the Church Hall at 1 pm. Lunch will be served; cost TBD. April 20 trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse to see "Abie's Irish Rose"; \$55 per person fee due by April 13. For more information, call Dorothy Bromirski, (201) 333-4888.

The OLC Adult Choir: The regular choir rehearsal will take place Sundays, 11:15 am. The choir will sing at the 12:30 pm Mass on Sundays. If you have musical ability, please contact our music director Ben Rauch at: Directorofmusic@olcj.org.

Children's Liturgy: Every Sunday during 10:00 am Mass for 20 minutes. Ages 2 and older. Parents are welcome. No registration required – join in!

Coffee & Donuts: Every Sunday after the 10:00 am Mass. This event may be held in the church hall. Please call the rectory if you wish to volunteer.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Reflect on today's readings. Prepare for next Sunday

Sunday, April 5, 2015

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Col. 3:1-4; Jn. 20:1-9

Sunday, April 12, 2015

Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn. 5:1-6; Jn. 20:19-31

WEEKLY OFFERING



Thank you so much for your financial support and for living your financial commitment to your parish. We are grateful for those who generously support the parish. **We need your support** to achieve our weekly collection goal of \$6,000 per Sunday which is essential to the financial health of your parish.

Due to the early publication date for the Easter weekend bulletin, collection information for the week-end of March 28/29 is unavailable.

If you have been away from church traveling, please help make up our revenue by being extra generous in the collection when you return. Thank you.

ANNUAL MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION BY ARCHDIOCESE

The Archdiocese is preparing for the annual tradition of honoring couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Christian marriage in the year 2015. These anniversary liturgies will be celebrated by Archbishop John Myers in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

Marriage



April 19, 2015	3:00 pm	50 years (All counties)
May 3, 2015	3:00 pm	25 years & 5 years (All counties)

If you wish to participate in these liturgies, please contact the rectory to register.

DOWNTOWN HARVEST COMMUNITY (CSA)

Our CSA, Downtown Harvest is now preparing for their upcoming season. Enjoy fresh, organic produce while helping to support sustainable agriculture. During the 24-week season, the farmer brings the members' weekly share to the OLC Church garage. Members share in the risks and rewards of the farmer. For membership information, please go to their website <http://www.downtown-harvest.org> or email: downtownharvest@yahoo.com.



WIDOWS RETREAT WEEKEND AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER

Widows Retreat Weekend: If you are recently widowed, it may feel like no one will understand your grief. Join us April 10-12 and be with other widows who will share their stories of loss and eventual hope. Cost is \$130 per person and includes accommodations, meals and activities. For more information, please call Madge at 856-848-5346 or Pam at 856-783-0218, or email: mfrcc@capemaymarianists.org.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 8:00 pm	April 4, 2015 People of the Parish
Sunday 10:00 am	April 5, 2015 Francis Ciba (11 th Ann.) From <i>Family</i>
12:30 pm	Thomas Eckert From <i>Kathy Eckert</i>
Monday 12:30 pm	April 6, 2015 Antonia Penaga From <i>Vangie Campomanes</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	April 7, 2015 Intentions of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Buechel From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	April 8, 2015 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	April 9, 2015 Anna Kuklasinski From <i>daughter Josephine</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	April 10, 2015 Deceased Members of Siwik Family From <i>Donna and Mark Simon</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	April 11, 2015 Frances (23 rd Ann.) and Michael Krupa Sr. From <i>Children and Grandchildren</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	April 12, 2015 Henry Dwulet From <i>Wife and Children</i>
12:30 pm	Henry and Margaret Heiser From <i>Laura Cysz and Ken Heiser</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

Attend daily Mass. It will make a difference in your life!

STEWARDSHIP



"He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him." - Acts 10:38

As we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord, we must realize that in rising from the dead, Jesus declares to us that He is truly God and His way is the real way. His commands are real. We cannot ignore them any longer. We must throw off our chains of greed, materialism and selfishness and rise to a new level of giving and doing good, just as Jesus called us to do.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

Launched in 1998, this Appeal strengthens the Catholic Church in the United States and its territories in 87 Latin and Eastern Catholic dioceses. The Subcommittee on the Catholic Home Missions funds a

wide range of pastoral services, including evangelization, religious education, and the maintenance of mission parishes, the training of seminarians and lay ministers, and ministry with ethnic groups. OLC will take up this collection on April 12.

JOIN A PARISH MINISTRY IN 2015!



Please consider joining one of our parish ministries, which are always in need of new members. Schedules for Masses are flexible and take your preferences and availability into account. For information, call the rectory, speak to Fr. Tom after Mass, or contact one of the following persons:

Altar Servers or Eucharistic Ministers – Fr.

Tom, OLC rectory, **201-434-0798**

Choir – Ben Rauch, email:

Directorofmusic@olcj.org.

Lectors – Pat Duemig, **201-955-1495**

Serve Donuts After 10:00 am Mass –

call OLC rectory

TALENTED MUSICIANS!



Can you play a musical instrument or are blessed with a wonderful singing voice? If so, we are in need of your musical ability here at our parish. Please contact Ben Rauch, the OLC Music Director, at: Directorofmusic@olcj.org.

REGISTER WITH YOUR PARISH

All Catholics should register with a parish. If you have been attending OLC, come to the OLC Rectory any time between the hours of 9:30 am – 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday, and fill out a registration card. If you are currently a parishioner and have changed your address or name within the past year, please notify the office by calling 201-434-0798 or email bulletin@olcj.org.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER



Spring is a time for new beginnings; how about a new beginning with your spouse? Take some time to enrich your Marriage by attending a Marriage Encounter. It's a great way to rekindle communication and enjoy a weekend away. For more information call Mike and Eileen Morgan at 973-827-9606 or email njwme@peoplepc.com.

FAITH WORKS

Please remember to make a donation of non-perishable food items this weekend to support our "Faith Works Program." This is a very important work of charity that has benefited many in our community. Thank you for your contributions!



ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal **Who does the Annual Appeal serve?**

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you to the many parishioners that have already participated in the 2015 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal, which began last month. This year's Appeal, *Sharing God's Blessings* is a perfect opportunity for us to reflect on God's generosity to us and to share the blessings we have been given with those around us.

This year's Appeal will continue to support the many good works of the ministries throughout the Archdiocese. Our Holy Father Pope Francis shared: "What counts above all else is 'faith working through love' (Gal 5:6). Works of love directed to one's neighbor are the most perfect external manifestation of the interior grace of the Spirit." We are called to similarly share what is granted to us by God and direct our love to our neighbors so that not one of our brothers and sisters goes without; without the gift of faith, without the essential human needs, and without a personal relationship with Our Lord.

The Annual Appeal provides the poor with food, shelter and clothing; makes religious education, spiritual guidance and CYO programs available for the young; insures the future leadership of the Church with seminarian education and training; and most important, brings Christ's Good News to the people of the Archdiocese. **Our parish also benefits by receiving a rebate from the appeal if it exceeds its goal.**

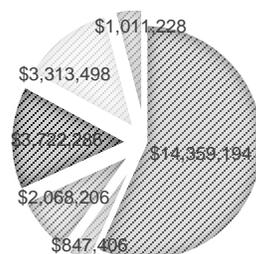
FISCAL YEAR 2015

This chart represents the total expenses for the services/programs listed below (excluding Catholic Charities). The Annual Appeal funds nearly 40 percent of the budget shown below. Other resources, such as parish assessments, fund the remaining balances.

The Annual Appeal rebates received by parishes that exceeded their Annual Appeal goal and funds raised through the Annual Appeal designated for Seton Hall University are included in the "Parish and School Subsidies."

Catholic Charities receives a gift in the amount indicated on the right from the Archdiocese of Newark.

- Parish and School Subsidies
- Youth and Young Adult Ministry
- Catholic Charities
- Priest Retirement Residences and Health Care Costs
- Seminarian Education and Formation
- Campus Ministry



*Your gift to Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal funds vital ministries and programs in the Archdiocese of Newark, including YOUR parish and local Church services. The Annual Appeal provides funding for the following essential programs and ministries: **Parishes, Catholic Education, Seminarian Education & Formation, Priest Retirement and Health Care Costs, Catholic Charities,***

Campus Ministry and Youth Ministry.

Our Lady of Czestochowa parish has a goal of \$37,000. When we surpass this goal, the Archdiocese returns a rebate to the parish. Please, help us achieve this goal by making a pledge or donation. Literature and pledge envelopes are in the pew. No donation is too small.

ANNUAL EASTER GIFT APPEAL

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for your continued financial support of Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish. Your contributions have helped the Parish get started on important projects and we appreciate your generosity.



As we celebrate Easter, the Parish Finance Committee asks parishioners to make a special contribution to help the Parish meet its "ordinary operating expenses." This is our traditional "Easter Gift Appeal."

As a Parish, we are facing significant challenges. In addition to paying for the Parish's rising expenses, the Parish was also faced with the unexpected expense of replacing the church boiler which cost north of \$32,000; and additional work remains as a result of frozen pipes. There is never a good time for heating related expenses, especially the middle of winter. We appreciated everyone's understanding during this emergency.

To help us meet these challenges, we are asking you to make a one-time donation as part of the Easter Appeal. We are hoping to raise at least \$30,000. To achieve our goal, we are suggesting an offering of at least \$200 per family. This amount is not to be taken as a floor or a ceiling. No gift is too large or too small. We also welcome families to make a pledge making their donations over a series of payments.

Lastly, we ask each of you to seriously consider either signing-up for ParishPay, or reviewing your Parish Pay account. Parish Pay is a service that allows Parishioners to make regular, tax-deductible contributions to the Parish from your credit card or checking account. If you have any questions about Parish Pay, please inquire with the rectory.

Thank you for your support. Although our Parish faces challenges, we can never forget that we are blessed with a historic church and a vibrant church community.

May you have a Blessed Easter!

Sincerely in Christ,

*Parish Finance Committee
Rev. Thomas J. Ciba, Pastor*