



OLC

1911 – 2015

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.

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 23, 2015

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

“When the going gets tough, the tough get going.” We’ve all heard this saying before. Do you persevere despite difficulties or do you give up when things become too hard? How do you handle hearing a difficult truth? Do you reject the idea or do you take the trouble to try and understand it? Jesus’ disciples in this week’s gospel reading had to make a difficult choice on whether or not to accept His words. Some chose to stay; most deserted Him. Jesus claims of His divine origins as well as his exhortation that a person must eat the “...bread that is my flesh...,” proved difficult for many to comprehend. The disciples, on hearing it, said, “This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?” John 6:60 Who can blame them? Sometimes, it is hard to believe in God’s goodness when bad things are happening or difficult choices must be made. During those moments, take comfort in the following post by Pastor Dave Willis entitled “Four Things God Wants You to Remember When Life is Hard” (www.patheos.com, May 7, 2013):

1. Remember that your Character should always be stronger than your Circumstances.

We can’t always control what happens to us, but we can always control how we choose to respond. In those moments when I choose to stop complaining and instead give thanks to God for the good in my life, the parts that seem bad start to seem much less significant. Choose to keep a positive attitude and thankful heart regardless of what you’re going through.

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

2. Remember that your Struggles always lead to Strength.

Every difficulty in your life, whether big or small, is something God will use to produce more strength, faith and perseverance in you if you let Him! All your pain has a purpose.

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28

3. Remember that God’s timing is always perfect.

God’s plans are almost always different from our plans, but His plans are always perfect! Have the patience to wait on His timing instead of forcing your own.

“For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord; plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

4. Remember that God will never leave your side.

You may feel like you’re going through this struggle all alone, but from the moment you ask Jesus to bring you into God’s family, He will be by your side to the end so never lose hope!

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.” Deuteronomy 31:6

With love,

LECTURE SERIES



Our ten-part lecture/study group program came to an end on March 23. However, there is a second component to this program which is being offered. The second component is entitled

“50 Theological and Spiritual Questions about the Catholic Faith.” We covered “Prayer” in June.

The series will start up again soon. More information will be forthcoming in future issues of the bulletin. We meet on Mondays at 7:30 pm in the rectory.

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.

JOIN A PARISH MINISTRY

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, **201-434-0798**.

MASS INTENTIONS

WHOEVER
EATS THIS
BREAD
WILL LIVE
FOREVER



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

Drawing Rooms: The galleries are closed until September 11, 2015.

OLC Seniors: The group is on break for the summer; meetings will resume in the fall. 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.

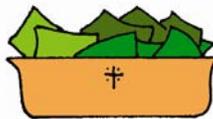
Sunday, August 23, 2015

Jos. 24:1-2a, 15-18; Eph. 5:2a, 25-32;
Jn. 6:60-69

Sunday, August 30, 2015

Dt. 4:1-2, 6-8; Jas. 1:17-18, 21-22, 27;
Mk. 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

WEEKLY OFFERING



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.

Collection data is unavailable at press time for the weekend of August 15-16.

If you have been away from church traveling for any reason, we encourage you to "make up" your contributions. A very important way in which you can support your parish is to enroll in ParishPay. To sign up, go to www.parishpay.com and follow the prompts. Thank you.

JERSEY CITY MOMS MEETUP

Have kids? New in town? Want to meet other families? Check out Jersey City Moms Meetup at: www.meetup.com/jersecitymoms. The group's overall goal is to foster friendships for moms and their families. They host a variety of family-friendly events that include husbands, partners and extended family members. They help many families connect to the greater JC community by providing opportunities to get together with other moms and families in the neighborhood by setting up play dates, exchanging information, sharing experiences and providing support, as well as connecting to other moms on their message boards.



CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE RETREAT WEEKEND

Come celebrate your special commitment to one another! The Marianist Family Retreat Center in Cape



May Point is offering a special weekend retreat September 18-20, 2015. The program is intended for couples married at least 10 years. Liturgies will be offered, in addition to time for reflection, socials and plenty of couple time.

Cost is \$130 per person; financial aid is available. Accommodations, meals and all activities are included. For more information, please call 609-884-3829 or visit their website at: www.capemaymarianists.org.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	August 22, 2015 William Bromirski From <i>Terri and Ted Gradowski</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	August 23, 2015 Teresa and Ronald Piatkowski From <i>Maggie and Lenny Englese</i>
12:30 pm	Jimmy Woods From <i>Nancy and Peggy Bennett</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	August 24, 2015 Deceased Members of Siwik Family From <i>Donna and Mark Simon</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	August 25, 2015 Intentions of Kelsey Burke and Tyler From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	August 26, 2015 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	August 27, 2015 Leticia Asuzano From <i>Gloria Gutierrez</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	August 28, 2015 Richard Paladino From <i>David Hopkins</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	August 29, 2015 Dennis Piatkowski From <i>Pat and Tom Duemig</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	August 30, 2015 Charles & Mary Czysz and Family From <i>Laura Czysz; Cathy, Fred and Allie Savage</i>
12:30 pm	Thomas and Abigail Bennett From <i>Bennett Family</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

STEWARDSHIP



"If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve...As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." - Joshua 24:15

When we commit to serve the Lord, we must be willing to become a partner in the work of the Lord. A partner is a person who invests their time, talent and treasure. If we say we serve God, we must actually do something and not merely talk about it!

WIDOWS BUTTERFLY RETREAT AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER

You are invited to renew and relax at our mid-week retreat with our community of widows. Event is



scheduled September 22-24, 2015 (Tuesday through Thursday).

Cost is \$120 per person. Accommodations, meals and all activities are included. Financial aid available. For

more information on this program, please call Madge Hempsey at 856-848-5346 or visit their website at: www.capemaymarianists.org.

2015 COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

On September 6, OLC will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports Catholic organizations that provide affordable shelter and train seminarians in a region that still struggles from the effects of Soviet rule. By providing pastoral care, catechesis, and funding for building renovations, your donations help to restore the Church and build the future in the region. Please give generously to the collection next month. Visit www.usccb.org (search "Church in Central and Eastern Europe") to learn more.



BETHLEHEM HANDICRAFTS



Bethlehem Handicrafts will be at OLC next month on September 27. The company sells handcrafted religious articles made in Jerusalem and Bethlehem to support the Catholic Community in the Holy Land. This is the perfect opportunity to purchase one-of-a-kind religious items to give as special gifts or at Christmas.

TALENTED MUSICIANS!

Calling All Parishioners at OLC who can play a musical instrument, or are blessed with a wonderful singing voice! We are in need of your musical ability here at our parish. Please contact Ben Rauch, the OLC Music Director at: Directorofmusic@olcj.org.



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 www.olcjc.org and reference "Formation and Sacraments." Follow the link to "Baptism of Children," or call the rectory. Upcoming dates are:

September 13, 2015; November 1, 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:

October 4, 2015; December 6, 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.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

We are now enrolling children for the reception of their sacraments (First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation) for 2016. Registration will take place in the rectory between 10:00 am and 4:45 pm.



When you register, we will require a copy of your child's baptismal certificate. The offering for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion is \$120. The offering for Confirmation is \$60.

If your child is receiving Confirmation in 8th grade, 7th graders must register for our two-year program.

Should you have any questions, please call the rectory at 201-434-0798.

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS APPEAL



Please take the time to make a pledge or donation to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Your contribution is used to conduct charitable, spiritual and ministerial programs that benefit many throughout the Archdiocese. Your contributions are not used to pay bills or any other expenses associated with the operation of the Archdiocese.

To date, we have reached 42% of our goal of \$38,076.00. With your help, we can realize our total parish goal and receive a rebate. Remember, it is only through your commitment that we can provide

the services and necessities for the needy in our community. Please be as generous as possible. For those who have already made a contribution, thank you for your support. If you made a pledge and have not received monthly reminders, please call 973-497-4043.

COOPERATIVE (COOP) ADMISSION EXAM FOR INCOMING EIGHTH-GRADERS

The Cooperative Admissions Examination for 2015 for Eighth-grade students will be offered on Friday, November 6, 2015. The COOP is for students applying for fall 2016 admission to Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese of Newark and the Diocese of Paterson. The test will be conducted at established test sites in the Archdiocese of Newark (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Union, and Rockland counties) and the Diocese of Paterson (Passaic, Morris, and Sussex counties). The COOP is designed to measure scholastic aptitude in verbal and non-verbal abilities, and achievement in reading, mathematics, and language. Beginning September 1, you may obtain an application and handbook from a Catholic elementary or high school. You may also write to the Cooperative Admissions Examination Office at the address below. To apply online, visit the COOP web page at www.coopexam.org or call 1-888-921-2667 (888-921-COOP) weekdays between 8:30 am and 8:30 pm. The examination fee of \$60.00 will include reporting scores to three high schools of your choice. Applications and fees will be processed from September 1, 2015 through October 13, 2015. By applying early, you will have a much better chance of being assigned to a test site of your choice. For more information, please email: support@coopexam.org. You may also contact the Archdiocese of Newark at: www.rcan.org or the Diocese of Paterson at: www.patersondiocese.org. The Cooperative Admissions Examination Office address is: MCS Scoring Center, 4603 Middle Country Road, Calverton, NY 11933.



WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES SEPTEMBER 22-25, 2015

Held every three years and sponsored by the Holy See's Pontifical Council for the Family, the World Meeting of Families is the world's largest Catholic gathering of families. Each World Meeting of Families has a theme that energizes and enlivens the event while adding great depth of meaning to our understanding of families. The theme of the World Meeting of Families – Philadelphia 2015 is "Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive," emphasizing the impact of the love and life of families on our society. Although the Holy Father will not be at the event, he will be in Philadelphia that week. For more information on the World Meeting, please visit: www.worldmeeting2015.org.

