

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.

1911 – 2017

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

Rev. Gerard J. Sudol
In Residence

Rev. Anthony Azzarto, 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

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 on 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 27, 2017

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Even if you can't remember all 10 of the Commandments Moses brought down from the mountain, Christians should know the two "Great Commandments" Jesus outlined clearly in Luke 10:27: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and "Love your neighbor as yourself." If we are to call ourselves true followers of Christ, we cannot forget or ignore these teachings, especially when our brothers and sisters around the world and at home confront hatred, bigotry and violence on a daily basis, whether these are displayed in word, action or attitude. Love and acceptance must be the shield we carry, Grace will be our armor, and God's Truth will be the justice we must seek for all. The recent events in Virginia and in Barcelona, and in many other places in recent history, call to mind the insidious evil of bigotry and hatred perpetrated against others. We are all created by God and God loves each and every one. To live and act contrary to this basic tenant of religious belief reduces us as human beings to being amoral and despicable. In the Beatitudes, Jesus says that the peacemakers are children of God, and we cannot turn away from this message if we are to follow Jesus. Even though Jesus instructed us "to turn the other cheek" should an enemy strike us, theologians write that it is not that we bow down to an aggressor, but rather display our resolve to stand righteously against the aggressor, showing that the ignorance of their hatred only reflects on them.

There are so many good, holy and righteous people in our country and throughout the world who abhor such bigotry, hatred and violence. All of us need to be proactive in resisting the violence and hatred that we witness in our society. We must never fall prey to the false ideologies of bigots and forget that God created each and every one of us in His image and likeness. We must be proactive in living this. As Edmund Burke said, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." (*Edmund Burke, Thoughts on the Cause of the Present Discontents 82-83 (1770) in: Select Works of Edmund Burke, vol. 1, p. 146 [Liberty Funded. 1999]*).

With Love,



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

September 10, 2017; November 5, 2017

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, pre-registration is extremely helpful**). Upcoming dates are:

October 1, 2017; December 3, 2017

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. The application is free and only takes a few minutes.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Our RCIA program (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is now beginning. This program is intended for adults who desire to become Catholic. It is also intended for adults who desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

If you wish to join in the program, please contact the rectory. After completing the program, an unbaptized candidate will be baptized during the Easter Vigil, 2018. All others will receive their appropriate sacraments during the Easter season 2018.



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

We are enrolling children for the reception of their sacraments (First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation) for 2018. 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**.

BETHLEHEM HANDICRAFTS

Bethlehem Handicrafts will be at OLC the weekend of September 16-17 after each mass. 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.



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@olcjc.org.

2017 EVENTS AT OLC

OLC Seniors: Next meeting is on September 13, 1 pm with a guest speaker (lunch will be served). For more information, please contact Dorothy Bromirski: 201-333-4888.

The OLC Adult Choir: The choir rehearsal takes place Sundays, 11:15 am and then sing at the 12:30 pm Mass. For additional information please contact our music director Ben Rauch at: Directorofmusic@olcjc.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 is usually outside church, but may be held in the church hall depending on weather. Please call the rectory if you wish to volunteer to bring donuts.

Newport Half Marathon: On Sunday, September 17, street closures: 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM. Refer to map on page 5 or the web-site below for details of street closures: www.newporthalfmarathon.com/race-info/course-map/

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Reflect on today's readings. Prepare for next Sunday.

Sunday, August 27, 2017

Is. 22:19-23; Rom. 11:33-36; Mt. 16:13-20

Sunday, September 3, 2017

Jer. 20:7-9; Rom. 12:1-2; Mt. 16:21-27

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.

OLC continues to face a financial crisis. While our collections were up during the Easter Season, they have been dropping below our \$6,000 weekly goal again. Therefore, we still expect financial difficulties as we go forward. We ask a few things of you:

1. Use Parishpay if you cannot attend Mass each weekend.
2. Increase your weekly donation. We really need people to be as generous as possible each week to support the parish.
3. If you do not use Parishpay, please "make up" your regular donation the next time you attend Mass. To sign up for ParishPay, go to www.parishpay.com and follow the prompts.

For the weekend of August 19/20, 353 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$3,308. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$1,812 contributing to a weekend collection of \$5,120. This is \$880 **below** our weekly goal of \$6,000.

If you have been away from church traveling for any reason, we encourage you to "make up" your contributions. Remember that although it is important to support your parish financially, your donation is ultimately a gift back to God for his blessings.

2017 COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Next weekend, on September 2 and 3, 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. Visit www.usccb.org (search "Church in Central and Eastern Europe") to learn more.



PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE IN MEXICO

St. Cecilia Parish is hosting a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico this December 9-14, 2017, over the feast day, as well as the beautiful Mass of Roses on December 12th. Cost is \$2,049 per person including air from Newark. Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. Mass every day. For a flyer or more information, please call Cathie or Michael Milano at 1-800-773-2660.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	August 26, 2017 Charles and Mary Czysz & Family From <i>Laura Czysz; Cathy, Fred and Allie Savage</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	August 27, 2017 Chester J. Sienkiewicz From <i>Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Englese</i>
12:30 pm	Celebration of the 50 th Wedding Anniversary of Paul & Mary Donnelly From <i>Monica Donnelly</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	August 28, 2017 Frigga Fitzpatrick From <i>Nancy Bennett</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	August 29, 2017 Intentions of Jeannie Erato and Family From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	August 30, 2017 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	August 31, 2017 Intention of Noreen Feehan From <i>Kim Mom</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	September 1, 2017 Mimi Elbarody From <i>Virginia</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	September 2, 2017 Frank DeNicola From <i>Constance Piatkowski</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	September 3, 2017 Deceased Members of the Siwik Family (grandparents Katherine and Alexander & Aunt Helen and Uncle Charlie) From <i>Donna Simon</i>
12:30 pm	Edward Bauch From <i>Ramos Family</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

STEWARDSHIP



"Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid?" - Romans 11:35

St. Paul reminds us of a central fact of stewardship. We cannot **give** the Lord anything, because God already

owns it all. God made everything. All that we can do is **return** a portion of God's many gifts back to Him. Sincere gratitude for our gifts opens our hearts to joyful generosity!

RETREATS AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER



Spirituality of Knitting Retreat (September 12-15, 2017). Come explore how the work of your hands is also the work of our Creator's hands! Through shared prayer services, presentations, daily Mass and plenty of time to craft in community, we will explore the Spirituality of Knitting. All who knit, crochet or needle-craft with some experience are welcome! Cost is \$150 per person.

Widows Butterfly Retreat (September 19-21, 2017). You are invited to renew and relax at our mid-week retreat with our community of widows. For more information on this program, please call Madge Hempsey at 856-848-5346. Cost is \$125 per person.

Fall Spiritual Getaway Days (September 19-21 and October 3-5, 2017). Get away from the stresses of every day life! There's no required program to follow. You're invited to join in the daily Eucharist, morning and evening prayer, and meals with the Marianist Community members. Sacrament of Reconciliation and/or spiritual direction are usually available.

Accommodations, meals and all activities are included. Financial aid is available for these programs. For more information on these retreats, please call 609-884-3829 or visit their website at: www.capemary-marianists.org.

HOUSING COUNSELING SERVICES

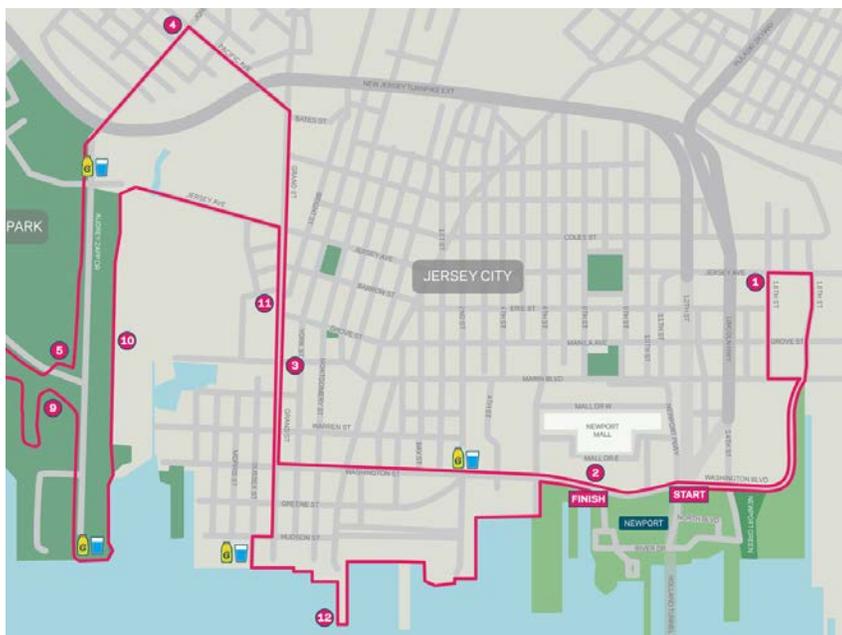


If you have lived, worked or attended school in Hudson, Essex or Union Counties for the past four years, you may be eligible for free Housing Counseling Services. Assistance is available for foreclosure/homelessness prevention, fair housing education, pre- and post-purchase counseling and more. Translators versed in several languages are available to assist. Sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark and the DCA of ReNew Jersey. For more information, please call the following:

Hudson County 1-973-424-7616
Essex County 1-862-229-4464
Union County 1-862-229-4468

*Need a new life?
God accepts trade-ins.*

2017 NEWPORT LIBERTY HALF-MARATHON



The 17th Annual Newport Liberty Half-Marathon will take place Sunday, September 17 beginning 8:30 am to 11:30 am. Runners will start the course at Newport. The course of their run will include Washington Blvd. to Washington Avenue turning onto Grand Street. Their return leg will be along Grand Street again. ***This will disrupt traffic in these areas. If you are planning to drive across Grand Street or Washington, you may encounter significant delays at this time. Perhaps, you can park outside the race course and walk the remaining distance.*** For more information about the marathon, please go to <http://www.newporthalfmarathon.com/about-newport/>.

In order to facilitate parking, we will leave our school parking lot open. It is a two-block walk from there to the church. A partial map of the marathon route that affects our area is presented. Please make plans accordingly if you will be driving to the 10:00 am Sunday Mass.

OLC SENIORS - UPCOMING EVENTS

The OLC Seniors have organized several trips for this fall (open to all seniors 50 and over):

Baltimore and Annapolis, Maryland (September 19-21, 2017). Cost is \$375 per person/double occupancy and \$500 per person/single occupancy. Package includes motor-coach transportation, lodging, breakfasts and dinners, guided tours of Baltimore, Annapolis and the Naval Academy, harbor cruise, taxes, driver and guide gratuities. Payment is due ASAP.

Oktoberfest at the Mansion at Mountain Lakes (October 24, 2017). Fee will cover transportation, lunch and entertainment.

“Miracle of Christmas” at the Millennium Theater in Pennsylvania (November 15, 2017). Package includes motor coach transportation, meal at Shady Maple, taxes and meal gratuities.

Virginia Beach, Virginia (December 4-6, 2017). Cost is \$355 per person/double occupancy and \$455 per person/single occupancy. Package includes motorcoach transportation, lodging, breakfasts and dinners, Christmas lights at Newport News Park and Virginia Beach, museums, Imax movie, guided tour of Colonial Williamsburg, and much more. A \$25 deposit is due by September 1. Final payment is due by October 1.

The next meeting is Wednesday, September 13, 2017 in the Church Hall at 1 pm. There will be a guest speaker. Lunch will be served. **New members are welcome!** For more information, please call Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888.

KATYN FOREST MASSACRE MEMORIAL

The Katyn Forest Massacre Memorial Committee, Inc., Polish Army Veterans Association and Polish

American Congress cordially invites all of Polonia and general community to participate in a memorial service to be held on Sunday, September 17 at 4:00 pm at the Katyn 1940 Monument in Exchange Place, Jersey City NJ. The service will commemorate the 78th anniversary of World War II, 77th anniversary of the Katyn Forest Massacre of 1940, and the 16th anniversary of the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks. There is no charge for this event. For more information, please contact the Katyn Forest Massacre Memorial Committee at 609-580-0232.

ST. PETER'S PREP FALL OPEN HOUSE

Saint Peter's Preparatory School is holding its 2017 Fall Open House on Sunday, October 1 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. at the school's campus, Jersey City. Faculty and staff as well as coaches, students and parents, will be present to answer questions about the school, and tours of the campus will be provided. Founded in 1872, Saint Peter's Prep is an independent, college preparatory school for boys and it remains New Jersey's only Jesuit high school. For more information on the Fall Open House, please call 201-547-6389.

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. We accept all canned and jarred non-perishable foods (vegetables, soups, tuna, canned meats, gravies, etc.). We also accept toiletries. Thank you for your contributions! **However, we must ask that only food be left on the back table as we cannot accept clothing at this time.**