



# 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 – 2015

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

*Pastor*

**Rev. Gerard J. Sudol**

*In Residence*

**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*

### 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.

### Parish Office

201-434-0798

### Fax

201-985-0918

### Email

[pastor@olcjc.org](mailto:pastor@olcjc.org)

[bulletin@olcjc.org](mailto:bulletin@olcjc.org)

### Websites

[www.olcjc.org](http://www.olcjc.org)

[www.olcschool.org](http://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

**Second Sunday of Advent – December 6, 2015**

## BAPTISM AT OLC

*We congratulate the following parents who celebrated the baptism of their children on Sunday, November 22. May the Lord watch over and protect these children always.*



*Cruz George A. Craigmyle  
the son of Carrie  
with Godparents  
Carolyn & William  
Martocci*



*Jax Francis  
Kocubinski  
the son of  
Heather & Peter*



*April Nan Elizabeth  
Murphy  
the daughter of  
Karen & William*



*Charlotte Grace  
Schuster  
the daughter of  
Heather & Joseph*



*Nicolas Adam Stakhiv  
the son of  
Suzanne & Timothy*

### LECTURE SERIES

Our ten-part lecture/study group will continue on Monday, December 14, 7:00 pm. We will meet in the rectory. The subject will be "Catholicism." It will be based upon a video presentation with



speaker Fr. Robert Barron. This presentation promises to be informative, inspirational and spiritual. The group setting will also be informal. We will view a video, discuss it, learn from it and also socialize. All are welcome to attend.

Our sixth topic will be "A Body Both Suffering and Glorious, The Mystical Union of Christ and the Church." Our presentation also explores the Catholic conviction that the life and presence of Christ continues to embrace humanity in all its joys and sorrows through the presence of the Church.

We anticipate that our seventh meeting will be on Monday, December 28. We will announce any changes in scheduling.

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.

### THE BIG SMALL SHOW 2015 FUNDRAISER GALA

On Saturday, December 12, the Drawing Rooms will host a fundraiser gala from 6:00-9:00 pm. Preview sales evening on Friday, December 12 from 4:00-8:00 pm. For more information, call 201-823-9393 or email: [vic-toryhall1@msn.com](mailto:vic-toryhall1@msn.com). We hope you



will join us! The Drawing Rooms are located at the OLC Convent on 180 Grand Street.

### FAITH WORKS Food for Those in Need Winter Coat Drive



"Food for Those in Need." We are asking all parishioners to be especially generous this time of the year by making donations of non-perishable food items. Leave your donations on the table in the rear of the church. Suggested donations include: canned coffee, tea, jelly, peanut butter, canned vegetables, canned and dried

soups, cereals, pastas and noodles, brown gravies, Italian gravies, toiletries (soaps, shampoos, body washes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.), canned meats and tuna fish, and condiments (mayo, mustard, ketchup, salt, pepper, sugar, etc.). Thanks again for your generosity to the neediest of our community.

OLC will also have a "Winter Coat Drive." There are many in Jersey City who need winter coats to stay warm. If you have an extra winter coat (men's, women's or children's) please leave them in the rear of the church. We have local charities that can dispense them to those in need.



### OLC'S FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS SONG

Fa la la la! OLC is looking for enthusiastic singers for its 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Christmas Song scheduled for Sunday, December 13, 4:00 pm. Beginners and non-parishioners are welcome! If interested, please contact Ben Rauch at: [Directorofmusic@olcjc.org](mailto:Directorofmusic@olcjc.org)



## 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](mailto:secretary@olcjc.org).

## 2015 EVENTS AT OLC

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception:** December 8  
Masses will be on Tuesday at 12:30 pm and 7:00 pm.

**OLC Seniors:** Christmas Party at Jacques Reception Center in Middletown, NJ on December 9. Cost is \$35. Trip to Radio City Music Hall to see the Christmas show is on December 16.

**Drawing Rooms:** "The Big Small Show" Fundraiser Gala will be on December 13. Please see page 2 for more information.

**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. Please contact our music director Ben Rauch at: [Directorofmusic@olcjc.org](mailto: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 may be held in the church hall. Please call the rectory if you wish to volunteer.

**Lecture Series:** Part Six will be covered on December 14. See page 2 for details.

## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

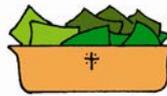
**Sunday, December 6, 2015**

Bar. 5:1-9; Phil. 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk. 3:1-6

**Sunday, December 13, 2015**

Zep. 3:14-18; Phil. 4:4-7; Lk. 3:10-18

## WEEKLY OFFERING



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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.

OLC is starting to face a financial crises. This past year many families have relocated out of Jersey City. This has adversely effected our Sunday collections. Collections are down and Parishpay contributions have dropped by 30% to less than \$1,900 per week. A very important way in which you can support your parish is to enroll in ParishPay. Please, be more generous in the Sunday collection and please help by using Parishpay. To sign up, go to [www.parishpay.com](http://www.parishpay.com) and follow the prompts. Thank you.

For the weekend of November 22, 494 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$3,263. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$1,836, contributing to a weekend collection of \$5,099. This is \$901 below our weekly goal of \$6,000.

For the weekend of November 29, 334 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$2,910. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$1,836, contributing to a weekend collection of \$4,746. This is \$1,254 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.

## THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Elder sisters, brothers, and religious order priests dedicated their lives to service and prayer. Many worked for years for small stipends. As a result, their religious communities now lack



adequate retirement savings. You can help by giving during the annual collection at your local Catholic parish. Our parish will take up the annual collection on December 13. For more information, please go to: <http://www.retiredreligious.org>.

## 2016 OLC WALL CALENDARS



Don't forget to pick up your free 2016 OLC Calendar after you leave Mass! They are on the tables in the back of the church. Many thanks to the Bromirski Funeral Home for donating them.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 5, 2015</b> Dennis Piatkowski From <i>Valerie and Sal Piccarillo</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>December 6, 2015</b> Pablo Ramon Perdomo Alfonso From <i>Perdomo and Curiel Families</i>
12:30 pm	Nancy and Sam Singer (50 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Ann.) From <i>Laura Halstead</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
<b>Monday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 7, 2015</b> Intentions of Christine and Daniel Gerard From <i>Kim Mom</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 8, 2015</b> Intentions of George and Marita Burke From <i>Michael Burke</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
<b>Wednesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 9, 2015</b> Communion Service
<b>Thursday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 10, 2015</b> David Penaga From <i>Vangie Campomanes</i>
<b>Friday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>December 11, 2015</b> Aniela Ciba (31 <sup>st</sup> Ann.) From <i>Family</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 12, 2015</b> William Bromirski From <i>Constance Piatkowski</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>December 13, 2015</b> Frank, Helen and Buddy Dwulet From <i>Family</i>
12:30 pm	Bishop Thomas A. Donato From <i>Barbara Rzaski</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

## STEWARDSHIP



*“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...”*

*- Philippians 1:9-10*

Glittery holiday

ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need.

## OLC CHURCH ADVENT GIVING TREE



Our parish is once again participating in its annual Advent Giving Tree Program. A Christmas tree has been set up and decorated with “ornaments,” each of which will list the name of an organization or individual, and specific item(s) that you are asked to purchase for a person in need.

If you are participating in the Giving Tree Program, take one or more ornaments from the tree, purchase the item(s) listed, and attach the “ornament” to the UNWRAPPED package. Bring the gift(s) to church and place them under the Giving Tree **no later than Sunday, December 13**. All gifts will be delivered during the week of December 14.

For further information, you may call Pat Duemig (201-955-1495) or Maggie Englese (201-963-8761). Thank you in advance for your generosity!

## PROGRAMS AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER



**Advent Family Retreat Weekends (December 11-13 and 18-20, 2015).** Come prepare for the Liturgical Season! Special Advent Weekend themes focus on family activities and preparations related to the season, emphasizing the significance of bringing Jesus to others. Cost is \$120 (8 years to adult)/\$85 (2-7 years). Under 2 are free.

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.capemarymarianists.org](http://www.capemarymarianists.org).

## OLC JUNIOR CHOIR

Here is another wonderful music education opportunity for children ages 7-14! If you have kids in this age range or if you know people who do, they can just show up at rehearsals. Rehearsals are Sundays from 1:30-2:00 pm in the church. The choir will sing December 13, 4:00 pm at the Festival of Christmas Song. There will be a social in the church hall immediately following the Festival of Christmas Song. For more information please contact Ben Rauch, the OLC Music Director: [Directorofmusic@olcj.org](mailto: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](http://www.olcjc.org) and reference "Formation and Sacraments." Follow the link to "Baptism of Children," or call the rectory. Upcoming dates are:

**January 3, 2016; March 6, 2016**

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:

**February 7, 2016; April 10, 2016**

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.

## 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@olcjc.org](mailto:Directorofmusic@olcjc.org).

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

**Serve Donuts After 10:00 am Mass** – call OLC rectory, 201-434-0798.

## REGISTER WITH YOUR PARISH/ REQUEST FOR PARISHIONER INFORMATION UPDATE



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@olcjc.org](mailto:bulletin@olcjc.org).

Proof of parish registration is necessary should you require a "sponsor certificate" to be a godparent.

## MUSICAL EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN



If you are seeking an experienced piano and/or voice teacher, OLC Director of Music, Ben Rauch, currently has some availability for music lessons for your children. They will have the opportunity to play on a professional Yamaha baby grand piano and sometimes the organ at the church. Recital performance opportunities will happen on a yearly basis. Lesson availability is for children ages five and up, and the lessons are 30 minutes each. Please contact Ben to inquire about rates at: [directorofmusic@olcjc.org](mailto:directorofmusic@olcjc.org).

## CHRISTMAS FLOWER COLLECTION

Our special collection for Christmas flowers and holiday decorations is this weekend (December 5 and 6). Your generosity helps us pay for our many poinsettias, wreaths, the Christmas tree and other miscellaneous supplies. You can also make a special donation in memory of a loved-one.



## MOMMY & ME CLASSES AT OLC SCHOOL



Fun for you and your little ones! Mommy & Me classes are available at Little Harbor Academy at OLC School. Classes

are for children 18 - 30 months. The 10-week sessions run from 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm, and cost \$250 (plus a one-time \$25 registration fee). "Cooking" is on Tuesdays, "Storytelling & Creative Arts" are on Wednesdays, and "Montessori Time" will be held on Thursdays. Registration for Session 2 beginning January 2016 is open. LHA teachers facilitate all programs. Please contact Mrs. Murduca at [MommyandMe@olcschool.org](mailto:MommyandMe@olcschool.org) for more information.

## FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrates the solemn belief in the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is universally celebrated on December 8, nine months before the feast of the Nativity of Mary, which is celebrated on September 8. It is a celebration of Mary as both the image of the Church and the model of the perfect disciple of Christ. In 2015, it is a holy day of obligation and the OLC masses will be at 12:30 and 7:00 pm.

