

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
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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 2 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.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 15, 2015

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

This week's gospel of Jesus healing the leper, appears on the surface to be another of the Lord's miracles. Perhaps it can be interpreted as a suggestion to us that the best way to earn the Lord's favor is to beg on our knees, as the leper did, "...beseeching Jesus, and kneeling said to Him, 'If you will, you can make me clean.'" Mark 1:40. If you look closer, it's a lesson in how **not** to approach Jesus. Although the leper appeared humble when he makes his request, he has doubts. "He asks Jesus to heal him **if** He were truly willing and able to help him. Jesus was 'moved with pity' and healed the man's body anyway, because Jesus saw the value of the leper's soul. Jesus then instructs the man to say nothing but to give the appropriate offerings, as a proof to the people." Mark 1:43-44. The leper disobeys and tells everyone anyway.

As Christ calls us to be faithful, the actions of this leper appear to address a concern on the depth of faith that we may face. If we seek solace or healing in something, and it works, we may go back to it again whenever we are in need of the same comfort. The leper may be trying a "see what works" approach rather than making a firm commitment to the teachings of Christ. God calls us to build our faith and maintain our faith throughout our lives. The healing and comfort may come in different forms, but God will be constant in our lives. By spreading the word to the people as the leper did, he caught the attention of the suffering bodies of the people, but Christ came to heal our hearts and souls and to free us from the pain of mortality. It is hard to share the teachings of God, often requiring prayerful consideration, when the people only sought the immediate fix rather than the eternal truth and grace.

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

March 1, 2015, May 3, 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 5, 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 continues on Monday, February 23, 7:30 pm, in the rectory.

Our eighth topic will be "A Vast Company of Witnesses, the Communion of Saints." The story of the Church is told in the examples of those men and women who dedicated their lives to knowing and serving Jesus Christ. The Catholic Faith is made visible in real human lives. Our presentation gives consideration to some of the Church's greatest heroes, and demonstrates how their extraordinary examples display both the passion and creative potential of the Catholic Church.

Highlighting Katharine Drexel, Therese of Lisieux, Edith Stein, and Mother Teresa of Calcutta, this presentation tells the story of the Church as a vast company of witnesses who are called by Christ to be a Communion of Saints.

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.

ANNUAL FISH & CHIPS NIGHT

We are hosting our annual Fish & Chips dinner on Saturday, March 21, 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Prep dining hall.



The Prep is also having a Fish and Chips dinner on March 6. They are charging \$15 per ticket while we are selling our tickets for \$13. These are two separate events. Please make certain you purchase tickets for the OLC Fish and Chips dinner. Our dinner will also include fries, coleslaw and a dessert. We feature an excellent deal for your money.

BAPTISM AT OLC

We are very happy to announce that on Sunday, February 8, OLC Church welcomed another member to our faith community. We congratulate our proud parents.



Lilliana Mae Molina

the daughter of

Maggie and Michael

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 Big Small Show 2015: The Victory Drawing Rooms is hosting the Big Small Show through February. See page 5 for details.

OLC Seniors: The March 11 St. Patrick/St. Joseph meeting will be in the Church Hall. A corned beef lunch will be served for \$15.00. For more information, call Dorothy Bromirski, (201) 333-4888.

Concert: We will be featuring a quartet concert of classical music Sunday, March 1, 3 pm, in the church. The concert will be free. Details are on page 4.

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, February 15, 2015

Lv. 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor. 10:31-11:1; Mk. 1:40-45

Sunday, February 22, 2015

Gn. 9:8-15; 1 Pt. 3:18-22; Mk. 1:12-15

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.

For the weekend of February 8, 419 people attended Mass. The collection is church amounted to \$3,983. Parishpay donations for the past week were \$2,507 contributing to a weekend collection of \$6,490. This is \$ 490 above our weekly goal of \$6,000.

Please be generous supporting the parish's Annual Christmas Appeal. 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.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES AND SERVICES

Ash Wednesday is February 18. As we know, it marks the beginning of Lent. We will distribute ashes during our three Masses:

7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Additionally, we will conduct prayer services during which we will distribute ashes. The times are:

8:30 am, 11:00 a.m., 4:15 pm and 5:15 p.m.

We encourage everyone to take advantage of the Lenten season to make it spiritually fruitful. Attend Mass daily. Take advantage of the sacrament of reconciliation. Read the sacred scripture and performs works of sacrifice and charity.

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:

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. Early bird discount is available before March 1. For membership information, please go to their website <http://www.downtownharvest.org> or email: downtownharvest@yahoo.com.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	February 14, 2015 William Bromirski From <i>Kathy Eckert</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	February 15, 2015 George Anthony Koch (19 th Ann.) From <i>Mom and Eddie</i>
12:30 pm	Tanios Kerbaj From <i>Kerbaj Family</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	February 16, 2015 Gregoria Garcia From <i>Kim Mom</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	February 17, 2015 Intentions of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Muller From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 7:30 am	February 18, 2015 William L. Bromirski From <i>Susan Rydwin</i>
12:30 pm	Barbara Speck From <i>Susan Rydwin</i>
7:00 pm	Barbara Speck From <i>Rose Rokosz</i>
Thursday 12:30 pm	February 19, 2015 Robert Grabowski Sr. From <i>Shirley & Michael Niemira</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	February 20, 2015 Rev. Walter Niedzwiecki (21 st Ann.) 5 th Pastor
Saturday 5:00 pm	February 21, 2015 Joseph Ciba (5 th Ann.) From <i>Family</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	February 22, 2015 Deceased Members of Siwik Family From <i>Donna and Mark Simon</i>
12:30 pm	James Winstarlex From <i>Elizabeth Vega</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

STEWARDSHIP



“Brothers and sisters, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.” – 1 Corinthians 10:31

Do a quick check of your priorities. Where does God rank in that list? If He’s not first, you have some work to do. Putting God first in everything helps develop the attitude of “I am grateful for the gifts God gave me” instead of “I want more”. For most people, gratitude leads to generosity.

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK 2015 MEN’S AND WOMEN’S CONFERENCES

The Archdiocese is sponsoring their annual

Women’s Commission Day of Reflection on Saturday, March 7 and the Annual Catholic Men’s Conference on March 14. Both events will take place at Seton Hall University at 400 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, NJ. These are perfect opportunities to share Faith and personal experiences through friendship, prayer, and fellowship with other Catholics from around the Archdiocese. Lunch will be provided. You may register online for both events at: www.rcan.org/womcom (Women’s) www.rcanmens-commission.org (Men’s). Fees are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$15 for students (with Student ID). For more information, please call 973-497-4545 or email: catholic-women@rcan.org or catholicmen@rcan.org.

PARISH CONCERT

We are hosting a classical concert, Sunday, March 1, 3 pm, in the church. The program includes:



Richard Strauss – Duet Concertino for Clarinet and Bassoon

Gleb Kavasevich, Clarinet
Sarah McKittrick Sethi, Bassoon
Marina Korsakova-Kreyn, Piano
Nicolò Paganini – Three Duetti Concertanti
Peter Borten, Violin

Sarah McKittrick Sethi, Bassoon
Gioacchino Rossini/Rene-Francois Gebauer – Selections from *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*
Sarah McKittrick Sethi, Bassoon
Rémy Taghavi, Bassoon

Ludwig van Beethoven – Piano Trio No. 5 in D Major, “Ghost,” Op. 70, No. 1
Peter Borten, Violin
Sarah McKittrick Sethi, Bassoon
Marina Korsakova-Kreyn, Piano

Our program will feature very talented individuals: **Sarah McKittrick Sethi** received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Bassoon Performance from the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University in 2013.

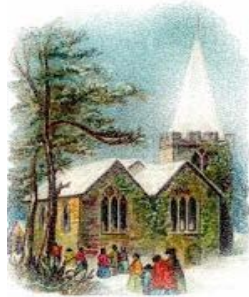
Marina Korsakova-Kreyn is a pianist and researcher in music perception. A graduate of Nizhny Novgorod State Conservatory, Russia, Marina has a Ph.D. in Cognition and Neuroscience from the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas.

Peter Borten performed extensively in Europe from 1979 to 1985 with the Orchestra del Teatro La Fenice in Venice and the orchestra of the Dutch National Ballet.

Gleb Kavasevich has made solo, chamber, and/or composition feature appearances on stages of Spoleto Festival USA, PARMAfest, Festival Leonardo de Lorenzo, Bellagio Chamber Music Festival, Atlantic Music Festival, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival.

CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

We are continuing to accept donations to our Christmas Gift Appeal. Your contributions will enable us to complete work on our last bell tower. Exterior work was completed eight years ago, however, for lack of money the work on our west tower needed to be put off until now.



Your financial assistance will also allow us to re-build our church doors which are in serious need of replacement/repair. Actually, replacing them will be more cost-effective than repairing them. This could be a \$39,000 expense for which we are now receiving estimates. We plan to move ahead with this work in the spring.



Contribute whatever you can afford.

We have consistently set our Christmas gift goal for \$75,000. With additional donations, so far this year, our Christmas Gift total has risen to \$55,567. If you have not contributed, we still need you gift. Even though we make a suggested \$400 "Gift," you may contribute whatever you can afford.

Sincerely,
The Parish Finance Committee

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal

This week our parish is kicking off the 2015 *Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal*. Before we begin the new appeal, let's look at how we did in 2014:

Our Parish Goal for 2014 was \$ 37,000

Total Given in 2014 was \$ 18,250

We did not receive any rebate.



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.

Our parish goal for 2015 is \$37,000.

This year's Appeal will continue to support the many good works of the ministries throughout the Archdiocese. We are often reminded by our Holy Father Pope Francis and

sacred scripture that in order to love one another we must share the blessings which God has provided to us. In Acts 4:32-33, we learn that the early church shared all possessions with one another so that the Apostles and early Christian communities could fully proclaim "the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. There was no needy person among them."

We are called to similarly share what is granted to us by God and return it to Him 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 our youth; 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.***

Please come prepared to make as generous a pledge as you are able. Thank you in advance for your support of the Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal.

To learn more about the ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark, please visit www.rcan.org/sharing or like them on face book at 'Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark' or tweet them at [@NwkArchdiocese!](https://twitter.com/NwkArchdiocese)

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:

ing 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

MEET THE ARTISTS FROM THE BIG SMALL SHOW 2015

The Victory Drawing Rooms is hosting the Big Small Show at the Drawing Rooms through February. The exhibit features over 90 talented painters, collage artists, print makers and 3D constructors from New Jersey and New York City. Please join us at the Drawing Rooms, OLC Convent, 180 Grand Street. The galleries are open Thursday – Friday, 4-7 pm, and Saturday – Sunday, 2-6 pm. Call (201) 823-9393 or email: victoryhall1@msn.com for more information.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

OLC's Peter's Pence Collection will be on March 8. Peter's Pence unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and its works of charity to those in need. Its purpose is to provide the Holy Father with the financial means to respond to those who are suffering as a result of war, oppression, natural disaster, and disease. Please contribute to this worthy endeavor.