

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 – 2016

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

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

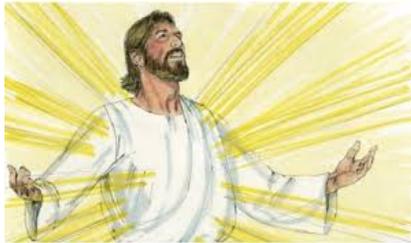
We work together to proclaim and live the Gospel on the Hudson River Waterfront by sharing our time, energy, and resources, and in doing so, we more powerfully witness the presence of Christ.

Second Sunday of Lent – February 21, 2016

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

“About eight days after Jesus told His disciples that He would suffer, be killed, and be raised to life, He took Peter, John and James, and went up a mountain to pray. While He was praying, the appearance of His face changed, and His clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly, the disciples saw Moses and Elijah talking to Him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of His departure, which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.” (Luke 9:28-31) This event is known as “The Transfiguration.”



The Transfiguration was a special event in which God allowed certain apostles to have a privileged spiritual experience that was meant to strengthen their faith for the challenges they would later endure. God further clarifies the important role that Jesus is to play: Jesus is His son, He is the One, He is the Savior. “This is My Son, my Chosen; listen to Him!” (Luke 9:33-35) Moses and Elijah represent the old ways; they are the Law and the Prophets. God is saying that that

Jesus, the Chosen one is the new way replacing the old. He is the fulfillment of the Law and the countless prophecies in the Old Testament. (National Catholic Register, February 7, 2016, Blogs: Jimmy Akin)

It should be noted that Peter, James, and John were initially asleep and awakened to discover the transfiguration of Jesus in the company of Moses and Elijah. Are you awake spiritually? How much do we miss of God's glory because we are “asleep”? There are many things which can keep our minds asleep to the things of God: Mental lethargy and the “unexamined life” can keep us from thinking things through and facing our doubts and questions. Peter, James, and John were privileged witnesses of the glory of Christ. They saw the light of God shining through Jesus. We, too, as disciples of Christ are called to be witnesses of his glory. We all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being changed into His likeness from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:18)

With love,

LECTURE SERIES

Our ten-part lecture/study group will conclude on Monday, February 22 at 7:00 pm.

The subject of our lecture series is “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 be informal. We will

view a video, discuss it, learn from it and also socialize. All are welcome to attend.

Our tenth and final topic will be, “World Without End – The Last Things.” We will explore the Church’s conviction that life here and now is preparation for an extraordinary world that is yet to come: a supernatural destiny. We will explore the Catholic vision of death, judgment, heaven, hell and purgatory as our video takes us to Florence, Ireland and Rome.

The vision of the Church sees beyond this world and invites us to consider a world without end. Our presentation shows how this vision is supported by the mystery and truth of the Resurrection of Jesus.

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.

Women’s Commission Day of Reflection

Celebrating the Jubilee Year of Mercy, “Alive in Christ” on Saturday, February 27, 2016, 9:00 am to 1:30 pm at Seton Hall University, 400 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, NJ. Speakers, Leah Darrow, Catholic Speaker/author and Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT (Society of our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity). Cost \$20 includes Continental Breakfast. Clergy/Religious Free. For information & registration visit: www.rcan.org/womcom or call 973-497-4545

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

Have you and your family been impacted by tough economic times? The LIHEAP may be able to help you pay your winter heating bills. Applications will be accepted until April 30, 2016. For those falling behind on their electric and gas bill who are not eligible for low income programs, moderate income programs, such as the TRUE Grant, PAGE Grant and/or New Jersey SHARES programs, may provide the help you need. For more information, or to find out how to apply, call 1-800-510-3102, visit pseg.com/help or pseg.com/ayuda (Spanish).

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@olcjc.org.

2016 EVENTS AT OLC

Drawing Rooms: New "Project Rooms" exhibit is open through March 27. Free artist reception will be held on February 21 from 3:00-7:00 pm. The Drawing Rooms are located at 180 Grand Street, Jersey City NJ. For more information, go to www.thedrawingrooms.com.

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.

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 Ten will be covered on February 22. See page 2 for details.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

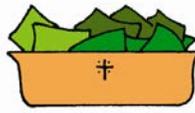
Sunday, February 21, 2016

Gn. 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil. 3:17-4:1; Lk. 9:28-36

Sunday, February 28, 2016

Ex. 3:1-8, 13-15; 1 Cor. 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk. 13:1-9

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.

OLC is facing a financial crisis. 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 an average of less than \$1,900 per week. A very important way in which you can support your parish is to enroll in ParishPay and by being more generous in the Sunday collection. To sign up, go to www.parishpay.com and follow the prompts.

For the weekend of February 14, 341 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$2,596. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$1,884, contributing to a weekend collection of \$4,480. This is \$1,520 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.

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:

March 6, 2016; May 1, 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:

April 10, 2016; June 5, 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.

2016 and 2017 MASS BOOKS

Both the 2016 and 2017 Mass Books are currently open for mass intentions. Please call 201-434-0798 or stop by the rectory Monday-Friday from 9:30 am-5:00 pm to arrange a mass intention.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	February 20, 2016 Dennis Piatkowski From <i>the Ostrowski Family</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	February 21, 2016 Joseph Ciba (6 th Ann.) From <i>Family</i>
12:30 pm	Barbara and Nick Sorrentino From <i>Mary Minkowski</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	February 22, 2016 Joshua Glen Fletcher From <i>Cerwinski Family</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	February 23, 2016 Bridget Cleary From <i>Nicola</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	February 24, 2016 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	February 25, 2016 Angelo DiGiavonni From <i>Erick</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	February 26, 2016 Dennis Piatkowski From <i>Wife and Children</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	February 27, 2016 William Bromirski From <i>Christine Hyjek</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	February 28, 2016 Helen McDermott From <i>Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Englese</i>
12:30 pm	Theodore Gradowski From <i>Stephen Nowatkowski and Family</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

STEWARDSHIP



*"I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession."
- Genesis 15:7*

Just as the Lord gave Abraham, Moses and the Israelites a land to possess, He has also given each of us a home. Whether our home is grand or humble, it is a gift from God. Abraham prepared a great sacrifice to the Lord in gratitude for the home God gave him. How do we show our gratitude to God for the home He has given us? Do we make a sacrifice of any kind? Do we return any of our finances to God, investing equally in our eternal home just as we invest in our earthly home?

CATHOLIC FUNERAL RITES

The Archdiocese of Newark has introduced a short video highlighting the significance of the Church's meaningful funeral rituals to guide our Catholic community. The six-minute video, titled "Many Travelers, One Journey," weaves together the stories of multiple individuals describing how family, friends and Church community come together to pray and comfort each other, celebrate the faith and life of their loved one, and share in the three principal parts of the Catholic funeral liturgy - the Vigil, Funeral Mass and Committal Service - known as the Order of Christian Funerals.

Produced by Catholic Cemeteries, a ministry of the Archdiocese of Newark, the video accompanies a comprehensive planning guide, titled *Continuing the Journey, Preparing a Catholic Funeral*, to assist Catholics during their time of loss or when pre-planning. It includes information on coping with the death of a loved one, ministry resources at a time of loss, Scripture Readings for Funerals, practical preparations, and more.

The video and booklet are available online at: www.rcancem.org/ocf.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR GRIEVING FATHERS

The needs of fathers who have suffered the loss of a child are unique. The office of Family Life Ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark invites all grieving fathers to a morning of prayer, sharing and discussion, away from societal expectation, in the hope it will provide a special place of understanding and healing. The group will meet on Saturday, March 5, 2016 at the rectory of Notre Dame RC Church, 359 Central Avenue, North Caldwell NJ at 10:00 am. Pre-registration is requested. Please call the Office of Family Life Ministries at 973-497-4327 for more information, registration and directions.

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. Please contact Ben Rauch, the OLC Music Director, at: Directorofmusic@olcjc.org for more information.

PROGRAM AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER

Women's Spirituality Retreat Weekend (March 11-13, 2016). Join with other women in a creative exploration of your own story and stories of women in faith. Come alone, or with a relative or friend. A team of Marianist women has prepared this weekend of rest and renewal. Eucharist, other prayer experiences, socials and fun are included. Cost is \$130 per person. For more information on this retreat, please call 609-884-3829 or visit their website at: www.cape-maymarianists.org.

WE ARE LIVING STONES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



WE ARE
LIVING
STONES

The **We Are Living Stones Capital Campaign** has begun in the Archdiocese of Newark. Two thirds of the parishes in the Archdiocese have implemented the Appeal. We, Our Lady of Czestochowa parish, are in the third group to introduce the Ap-

peal this spring.

Financial resources are essential to enable our parishes, particularly Our Lady of Czestochowa, to continue supporting the journey of faith, spirituality and ministry of our expanding Catholic community. The Appeal's goal is to raise more than \$90 million in pledges to support six priorities: *A Parish Share, Tuition Assistance Endowment, Works of Mercy, Parish Renewal Fund, Seminarian Support Endowment, and Retired Priest Care and Medical Needs Endowment.*

Parish Share: The physical needs of Our Lady of Czestochowa, now and into the future, are of great concern. It is projected that the parishes of the Archdiocese will need almost \$125 million over the next ten years to ensure that the 1,100 church, school and rectory buildings, parish centers, ministry offices and other buildings within the Archdiocese where we engage in the work of the Church are kept in good condition. Once a parish reaches its "Parish Share" target, then 50% of all funds raised return back to the parish while simultaneously funding additional case elements that both directly and indirectly benefit our parishes.

Each year OLC conducts its Annual Christmas Gift Appeal. This money is targeted to parish projects and improvements. Parishioners have been very generous supporting the Christmas Appeal, however with the anticipated expenses of our up-coming projects, we will need to raise additional money. With your whole hearted support of the **We Are Living Stones Capital Campaign**, the parish can supplement our Christmas Gift Appeal to help with our projects.

DOWNTOWN HARVEST COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (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.downtownharvest.org> or email: downtownharvest@yahoo.com

ANNUAL FISH & CHIPS NIGHT

Lent will be coming early this year, and with the coming of Lent we will have our annual "Fish & Chips"



night. Set the date now. We will have it Saturday, March 19, after the 5 pm Vigil Mass.

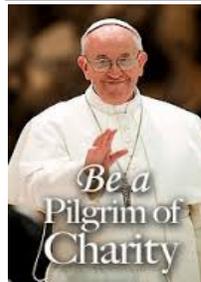
The location remains the same, St. Peter's Prep dining hall on the corner of Van Vorst and Grand.

Ticket prices will remain the same as last year, \$13 each, 4/\$50. Our dinner will also include fries, coleslaw and a dessert. We feature an excellent deal for your money.

VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE OF LOURDES, FRANCE AT HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

The next best thing to visiting Lourdes itself is a Pilgrimage journey without the travel! North American Lourdes Volunteers will present a 90-minute prayerful virtual pilgrimage to Lourdes, France, at Holy Rosary Church on Tuesday, March 15 at 7:00 pm. You will immerse yourself in the Gospel Message of Lourdes as given by Our Lady to St. Bernadette. Touch the Grotto Rock and experience the healing grace of Lourdes Water. Participants will receive a Eucharistic blessing and pray the Rosary. A Plenary Indulgence is granted to all the faithful, under the usual conditions, who attend a Virtual Pilgrimage with North American Lourdes Volunteers. Come experience the healing grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ through His Immaculate Mother. Invite your family, children and friends. Holy Rosary Church is located at 344 6th Street in Jersey City. For more information, please contact the Parish office at 201-795-0120 or go to: www.LourdesVolunteers.org.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION



OLC's Peter's Pence Collection will be taken on March 5 and 6. 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.

LUCIE GOOSIE TODDLER ENRICHMENT

Lucie Goose Toddler Enrichment is now at OLC Church! Lucie Goose is a toddler drop-off for children 18 months to 3½ years old. Drop off your little ones in a safe and nurturing environment Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 12 noon. They offer play-based learning, featuring creative movement, music, and literacy development in a social environment. Please check us out on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/luciegoosieplayspace>. To register, please email us at: info@luciegoosie.com.

