

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.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 24, 2016

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Perhaps the best explanation of the relationship between Christ and the Church can be found in 1 Corinthians 12:12-14. It reads "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many..."

The analogy of the human body shows that the spiritual Body (the Church) is not a collection of independent parts, but a living organism consisting of mutually interdependent members. Everybody is somebody because we're all in this together, "Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it..." (1 Corinthians 12:27) As members of Christ's Church, we are a part of it. Everyone is equally important and has a supporting role and specific responsibilities, according to each person's own abilities. Though Jesus, we are all one, "...you in me, and I in you." (John 14:20)

With love,



SPECIAL VISITOR



Coadjutor Bernard A. Hebda graced Our Lady of Czestochowa parish as the principal celebrant of our Saturday Vigil Mass this weekend.

Bishop Bernard Hebda, the former bishop of Gaylord, Michigan, was appointed to assist Archbishop John Myers in running New Jersey's largest diocese, which has more than 1.3 million Roman Catholics in Essex, Union, Hudson and Bergen counties.

"Bishop Hebda brings with him a wealth of talent and experience, both nationally and internationally, that will be of tremendous support to Archbishop John Myers as he shepherds the Archdiocese of Newark," said Trenton Bishop David M. O'Connell, who came to know Hebda during a bishops' gathering in Rome in 2010. "He is blessed with a warm and gracious personality and a great sense of humor that the people of Newark will come quickly to enjoy."

LECTURE SERIES



Our ten-part lecture/study group will continue on Monday, January 25.

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

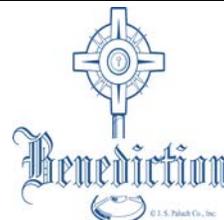
Our eighth topic will be "A Vast Company of Witnesses, the Communion of Saints." The story of the Church is told in the examples of those men and women who dedicated their lives to knowing and serving Jesus Christ. The Catholic Faith is made visible in real human lives. Our presentation gives consideration 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.

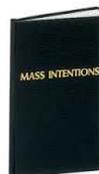
This program is designed for both Catholics and non-Catholics wishing to learn more about Catholicism. This program will offer new insights into our faith and a deeper understanding about theology and spirituality.

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS & HOLY HOUR

We will celebrate our next *First Friday Devotions*, on Friday, February 5, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. This hour will afford you a perfect opportunity for prayerful reflection and a time for spiritual sustenance. Take a little time for yourself for peaceful reflection and meditation. It is only one hour, but it can take you away from your personal cares.



2016 and 2017 MASS BOOKS



The 2016 Mass Book is currently open for mass intentions. The 2017 Mass Book will be available in a few weeks. 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

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: "The Big Small Show" exhibit is open through February 6, 2016. Artist "Meet and Greets" on January 24 & 31, February 6 from 3-5 pm. Silent auctions and light refreshments. Admission is free. 180 Grand Street, Jersey City NJ.

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 Eight will be covered on January 25. See page 2 for details.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

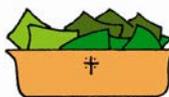
Sunday, January 24, 2016

Neh. 8:2-6, 8-10; 1 Cor. 12:12-30; Lk. 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Sunday, January 31, 2016

Jer. 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor. 12:31--13-13; Lk. 4:21-30

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.

For the weekend of January 17, 350 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$2,715. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$2,466, contributing to a weekend collection of \$5,181. This is \$819 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.

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. Thank you.

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:

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.

ARCHDIOCESAN PRIESTS RETIREMENT COLLECTION

The Retired Priests' Collection for the priests of the Archdiocese of Newark will be on Ash Wednesday, February 10. This Collection is not to be confused with last month's collection for Retired Religious.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	January 23, 2016 Dennis Piatkowski From <i>Raquel and Kipp Leland</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	January 24, 2016 Joseph Feris From <i>Boyle-Feris Family</i>
12:30 pm	Elizabeth Skok From <i>Barbara A. Bromirski</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	January 25, 2016 Mr. and Mrs. Lysaght From <i>Nicola</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	January 26, 2016 Intentions of the Anthony Marinello and Bob O'Connor Families From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	January 27, 2016 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	January 28, 2016 Josephine Rose Angelini From <i>Jessica and Sean Hablitz</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	January 29, 2016 Teresa Wynne From <i>Nicola</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	January 30, 2016 William Bromirski From <i>Michele Hyjek</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	January 31, 2016 Theodore Gradowski From <i>Julia Nowatkowski</i>
12:30 pm	People of the Parish
7:00 pm	Charles S. Walewski From <i>OLC Parish</i>

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

STEWARDSHIP



"Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared..."
- Nehemiah 8:10

Ezra's instructions to the people show us that God does not forbid us from enjoying the good things in life, he wants us to be happy! However, He expects us to generously share our blessings with those who are in need, without expecting anything in return.

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@olcic.org.

BLESSING OF HOMES



If you would like to have your home/apartment blessed for the New Year, please call the parish office 201-434-0798 to leave your name, address, and phone number. Also, please mention a convenient time for one of our priests to return your call so a mutually convenient date and time can be arranged for this blessing. Ideally, all members of your family presently living at home should be present at the time of the blessing, but we know this may not be possible due to each family's work and school schedules. Please call by January 27. We look forward to hearing from you!

ADVENT GIVING TREE 2015

Thank you for your generosity. May you be rewarded with the gifts of peace, joy and the happiness that comes from helping others. 171 tags were placed on the Giving Tree; 148 gifts were returned and distributed to the following organizations:

Organization	Tree Tags	Gifts Received
Hope House	43	40
JC Family	12	11
Kenmare H.S.	25	17
OLC School Family	4	4
OLS Food Pantry	16	13 (\$756)
Project Home	18	14
St. Ann's Home	16	15
St. Lucy's Shelter	16	16
Several Sources	12	11 (\$440)
Seniors	9	7

PROGRAM AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER

Latino Family Retreat Weekend (March 4-6, 2016). This retreat is open to families who wish to experience a family retreat in the Latino Community and culture. Along with traditional Marianist Family Retreat elements (Communication, Affirmation, Forgiveness & Commitment), Spanish language and Latino cultural foods will be part of this experience. Cost is \$120 per adult; \$85 per child.

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.

WE ARE LIVING STONES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



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 Appeal 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.

Tuition Assistance Endowment: The Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Newark are faith-filled learning communities of parents, students, teachers, and administrators who foster the development of our children spiritually, morally and intellectually. Our students love, learn, and live their faith in service to others. One of the objectives of this campaign will be to establish a Tuition Assistance Endowment Fund of \$18 million that will increase our ability to help more students attend our elementary schools. The earnings from this fund will be available to help defray the costs of tuition for financially deserving children.

Works of Mercy: As Christians, we are called to love our brothers and sisters in Christ by sharing the blessings entrusted to each one of us, trusting that the Lord will provide for our needs. We can do this by giving alms and contributing to programs, organizations

and ministries committed to the spiritual and corporal "Works of Mercy" and thereby supporting the evangelical mission of the Church. The ***We Are Living Stones Capital Campaign*** will contribute help instruct, advise, console, comfort and support those in need, both physically and spiritually.

Parish Renewal Fund: While we work to strengthen our parish infrastructure, we must simultaneously provide opportunities for our parish leaders to spread the Gospel message and serve the people of our great Archdiocese. Evangelizing and educating our people in our rapidly-changing world will require creative programs and initiatives that address our modern realities and challenges. This new Parish Renewal fund will provide grants to parishes to aid in their evangelization and religious education efforts.

Seminarian Support Endowment: Central to our lives as Catholics is the sacramental life of the Church. Our Priests pastor our parishes and encourage us on the journey of faith. The Church of Newark is committed to providing the necessary resources for our future Priests. The three seminaries operated by the Archdiocese of Newark continue to attract men answering the call to dedicate their lives to the Church. In this campaign, the Archdiocese would like to add \$8 million to the current endowment to provide for the formation and education of seminarians preparing to serve in the Archdiocese of Newark. The grants will enable our Priests and laity to get the continuing education and training that today's Church requires. It will also provide funding for evangelization and religious education programs.

Retired Priest Care and Medical Needs Endowment: Presently, there are nearly 200 retired Priests of the Archdiocese. These men have selflessly offered decades of service to the faithful. As our Priests age and retire, they often experience ongoing challenges that require our continuing care and attention. The goal through ***We Are Living Stones*** is to add \$6 million to the existing restricted endowment to assist with the mounting healthcare costs of our aged and retired Priests. With the growing number of retired clergy in our Archdiocese, the number of priests who will have to rely in part on this fund will continue to increase.

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**.