



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
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

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.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 25, 2015

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

"After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 'The time has come,' he said. 'The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!' As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for people.' At once they left their nets and followed him. When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him." Mark 1:14-20

We can only imagine how Jesus felt on hearing the news of John. We only know that Jesus continued his ministry, creating disciples and converts wherever he went. The fishermen left their families and livelihoods behind to follow Jesus. His disciples in turn, created converts and miracles in Jesus' name. The imprisonment and subsequent execution of Jesus' kinsman John did not stop Jesus from continuing his work on earth. The silencing of his ministers does not suppress Jesus' gospel. French President Francois Hollande, in the wake of recent tragic events in France, said, "You can assassinate men and women but you will never kill their ideas."

Wishing you a blessed New Year,



BAPTISM



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:

February 1, 2015, April 5, 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 Monday, January 26, 7:30 pm, in the rectory.

Our seventh topic will be "Word Made Flesh, True Bread of Heaven The Mystery of The Church's Sacrament And Worship". This presentation explores the ancient practices of the Church's worship that endure to this very day, and the notion that all value is summed up in the liturgy, the supreme act by which we commune with God.

Considered by the Catholic Faith to be the source and summit of its identity and mission, the Eucharist is



the central practice of the Church's culture. Father Baron describes all the parts of the Mass, and shows how the Sacred Liturgy embodies the whole of the Faith in such diverse places as Jerusalem, Rome, Chicago, Orvieto and Mexico City.

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.

WANTED: USED OR NEW COMMUNION DRESSES AND SUITS

The Archdiocese of Newark will be organizing their second annual collection of gently used and new communion outfits. Last year, over 400 dresses and suits were donated! A child's First Communion is a special day for any family and the Archdiocese wants to ensure that financial hardship does not pose a problem. The OLC School will collect dresses, veils, suits and shoes for families in need. Please make sure donations are clean and stain-free. All items can be dropped off at OLC School at 248 Luis Munoz Marin Blvd. through March 24. Contact Barbara Peters at 201-434-0798 or email bulletin@olcjc.org



FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS & HOLY HOUR

We will celebrate our next *First Friday Devotions*, on Friday, February 6 from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. This hour will afford you a perfect opportunity for prayerful reflection and a time for peaceful 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.



Benediction
© U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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.

2015 EVENTS AT OLC

The Big Small Show 2015: The Drawing Rooms hosts the exhibit of over 100 talented painters, collage artists, print makers and sculptors from NJ and NYC. Call (201) 823-9393 or email: victoryhall1@msn.com for more information.

OLC Seniors: The February 11 meeting will be a Valentine Celebration. Popeye's Chicken will be served for \$10.00. The \$25 deposit for Nashville, TN trip in May is due on February 16. For more information, call Dorothy Bromirski, (201) 333-4888.

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@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.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Reflect on today's readings. Prepare for next Sunday

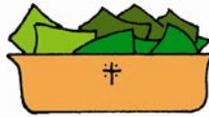
Sunday, January 25, 2015

Jon. 3:1-5, 10; 1 Cor. 7:29-31; Mk. 1:14-20

Sunday, February 1, 2015

Dt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 7:32-35; Mk. 1:21-28

WEEKLY OFFERING



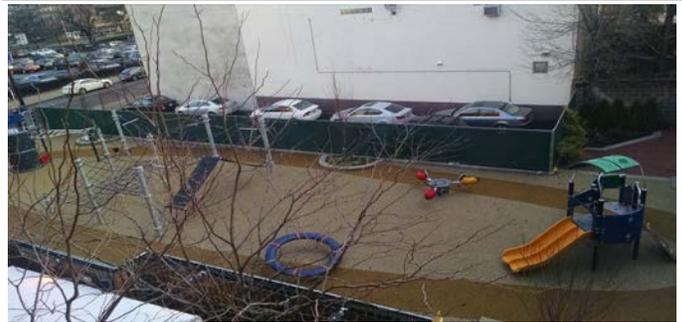
Weekly
OFFERING

Thank you so much for your financial support and for living your financial commitment to your parish. We are grateful for those who are 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 18, 290 people attended Mass. The collection amounted to \$4,887 of which \$2,507 was contributed by those using Parish-Pay. This is \$1,113 below our weekly goal.

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.

OPERATION PLAYGROUND UPDATE



The playground is nearly complete! Just a few more finishing touches are needed before it will be officially opened. You will be able to become a permanent part of the new space by purchasing personalized paver stones to be used in the courtyard. Pricing information will be available soon.

2014 PARISHIONER CONTRIBUTION SUMMARY STATEMENTS

Be on the lookout for parishioner contribution summary statements for 2014. They were mailed out earlier this week, in time for tax season.

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.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	January 24, 2015 Dennis Piatkowski From <i>Michele Hyjek</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	January 25, 2015 Deceased Members of the Siwik Family From <i>Donna and Mark Simon</i>
12:30 pm	Kyc Family From <i>Family</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	January 26, 2015 Sally Zidiak From <i>Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Englese</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	January 27, 2015 Intention of Marita Veronica Burke From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	January 28, 2015 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	January 29, 2015 Linda Sundmark From <i>Family</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	January 30, 2015 Lourdes Lim Morton From <i>Antonio Lim</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	January 31, 2015 Dennis Piatkowski From <i>Christine Hyjek</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	February 1, 2015 Ronald Romanski From <i>Mr. & Mrs. Ray Madej</i>
12:30 pm	Wilhemina Vander Meule From <i>Marie Yandolino</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

STEWARDSHIP



"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." - Mark 1:17

Jesus' call to "Follow me" is a call to all Christians! Jesus asks us to help him build his church on earth by generously sharing all our gifts of prayer, talent and treasure. Remember, Jesus calls us to generously develop and share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose.

ENRICHMENT DAY: THEOLOGY OF THE BODY FOR TEENS

A presentation on the "Theology of the Body" followed by an opportunity for questions and discussion will be offered on February 26, 2015 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark. Topic will

be facilitated by David Hajduk, Director of Campus Ministry at Delbarton High School, and author of "Theology of the Body for Teens." Please call Cheryl Riley at 973-497-4350 for more information. Admission is free.

ANNUAL MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION BY ARCHDIOCESE

Marriage



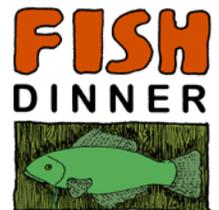
The Archdiocese is preparing for the annual tradition of honoring those couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Christian marriage in the year 2015. These anniversary liturgies will be celebrated by Archbishop John J. Myers in the Cathedral Basilica of 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.

ANNUAL FISH & CHIPS NIGHT

The Christmas Season has just come to an end. However, Lent will be upon us before you know it. Lent comes early this year, and at the end of Lent we will have our annual Fish and Chips Night. It is not too soon to plan ahead. Set the date in your calendar. The date will be Saturday, March 21, 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Prep dining hall. It's not too early to start planning!



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). "Creative Arts & Cooking" are on Tuesdays, "Storytelling & Music/Movement" are on Wednesdays, and "Montessori Time" will be held on Thursdays. LHA teachers facilitate all programs. Please contact Mrs. Murduca: MommyandMe@olcschool.org for more information.



MANGER PURCHASE



As you may have noticed, we replaced our manger scene. The new set is undoubtedly beautiful and well made. It will last us for years to come. It is made in Italy by a very reputable company.

Be one of those individuals who will "memorialize" one or more figures in the manger scene. If you wish to memorialize a statue, the offering is as low as \$264.00. If you wish to contribute, please call the rectory to obtain more information.

CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

Members of our Parish Finance Committee spoke about our "Christmas Gift Appeal" at different masses before Christmas. The Christmas Gift is essential in maintaining our facilities. It has allowed the parish to make significant improvement to the church along with making necessary repairs to our church that is over 150 years old.



We do not ask for money during the year, but in the spirit of Christmas giving, we ask our parishioners to make a special "Christmas Gift" to their parish. Your Christmas Gift will allow us to make needed improvements and necessary repairs.

Prior to 2009, the parish was faced with a serious structural problem with the church towers. The mortar between the stones in the church towers had deteriorated to the point that they were in danger of falling. In order to save the towers, the parish spent over a half million dollars to repair the towers. The Christmas Gift paid for half of this. The parish paid the remainder of the bill. This drained the parish's financial resources.

The repairs to the church towers involved exterior work only. While this work solved the exterior problems, it did not remedy necessary masonry work on the interior of the towers. In 2012 we made the necessary repairs to the interior of the east tower. This expense was \$36,000. Now we have started to make the same repairs to the west tower. Work has begun.

Your "Christmas Gift" has allowed us to make these repairs to the church towers. It has helped us recover the deficit of the original repairs allowing us to move on with other projects. Your "Gift" has allowed us to construct the church ramp at the cost of \$125,000 and add additional air conditioning in the church.

We have consistently set our Christmas gift goal for \$75,000. So far this year, our Christmas Gift has totaled \$54,027. For the past few years, our Christmas Gift response has been about this same amount, consequently it has taken us more time to pay for these improvements and repairs.

However, not everyone has contributed and more parishioners can give. If you haven't made your "Gift," please do so. Even though we make a suggestion that you make a \$400 "Gift," contribute whatever you can afford.



Your gift will allow us to make the necessary repairs to the interior of the west bell tower. There is nothing glamorous about this but it is necessary. We will be able to move ahead replacing the church doors. We are also planning to renovate the kitchen in the church hall. These will be a major expenses.

This year's Christmas Gift is even more important since our regular weekly collections are trending downward while the cost of maintaining the parish is trending upward. As of mid-summer, our collections have fallen about \$11,000 compared to the same time last year

and there is no evidence that we will make up the difference before the end of the fiscal year. This is due to the fact that several generous families, some of whom used the Parish Pay system, have moved from Jersey City and out of the parish.

People of great spiritual insight have consistently discovered that sacrificial giving brings joy to one's heart. It contributes to fulfillment in life, personal pride and satisfaction. It also contributes to a sense of peace and security before God. We appreciate your generosity in the past and anticipate your generous response to our "Christmas Gift" appeal this year. May God bless you always.

Sincerely,
The Parish Finance Committee

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:

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

THE BIG SMALL SHOW 2015 AT THE DRAWING ROOMS

The Victory Drawing Rooms is hosting the Big Small Show at the Drawing Rooms in January. The exhibit will feature over 90 talented painters, collage artists, print makers and 3D constructors from New Jersey and New York City. 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. Please join us at the Drawing Rooms, OLC Convent, 180 Grand Street.



FAITH WORKS



Please, remember to make a donation of non-perishable food items to support our "Faith Works Program." This is a very important work of charity that has benefited many in our community.

ARCHDIOCESAN PRIESTS RETIREMENT COLLECTION

The Retired Priests' Collection for the priests of the Archdiocese of Newark will be on February 18. This Collection is not to be confused with last month's collection for Retired Religious.