

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.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 31, 2016

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

There's a "Peanuts" cartoon that shows an angry Lucy standing with her arms folded. Charlie Brown pleads, "Lucy, you must be more loving. This world really needs love. You have to let yourself love to make this world a better place." Lucy whirls around and knocks Charlie Brown to the ground. She screams at him, "Look, Blockhead, the world I love. It's people I can't stand!"

We've all felt this way at one time or another. Loving the world in general isn't that difficult; it's loving the people around us that can be a major challenge. In 1 Corinthians 13, we find one of the most beautiful and familiar chapters in the Bible. Though often read at weddings because it is about love, this letter isn't actually targeted specifically towards couples. It's Saint Paul's ideal code of conduct for all God's people. "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends..." (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

How do you make the world a better place? By exercising that which Paul considers to be the greatest gift of all, love. Greater even than the gifts of healing, prophecy, teaching or speaking in tongues. More importantly, everyone has the ability to love. Cultivate a more loving relationship with God. Second, become a more loving person and love those nearest to you (partner, spouse, children, family, friends). When you have done this, you will be able to better love the world around you. Serve others out of love and not as an obligation or a need for public recognition. For without love, even the most helpful acts can become meaningless gestures. Let us share our gifts in ways that will strengthen and unite the community and give glory to God. Jesus said that all people will know we are His disciples by the love that we have for one another. (John 13:34-35)

With love,



BISHOP HEBDA'S VISIT RESCHEDULED

Due to inclement weather, Coadjutor Bernard A. Hebda's visit to Our Lady of Czestochowa parish has been rescheduled for February 20. He will be the primary celebrant at the 5:00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass.

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.



LECTURE SERIES

Our ten-part lecture/study group will continue on Monday, February 8.

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 ninth topic will be "The Fire of His Love - Prayer and the Life of the Spirit." In this lesson, this presentation will explore Catholic spirituality, which is

centered on prayer. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states: "Prayer is the lifting up of the mind and the heart to God."

On pilgrimage to the places where the great saints and spiritual masters lived, this presentation explores the different types of prayer: contemplation; adoration; petition; and intercession. In telling the stories of Catholics like Thomas Merton, St. Theresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross, it is demonstrated how the human person can be transformed through prayer that manifests a deep, spiritual commitment centered in Christ.

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.

RELIEF FOR SOUTH AND MIDWEST FLOOD VICTIMS



Terrible floods have affected people in the South and Midwest regions of the country. As rivers continue to rise and temperatures get colder, conditions will worsen, making life even harder for everyone. Catholic Charities USA is responding to the challenges with emergency food, shelter and clothing. Your financial support can help them meet this important need. Anyone interested in assisting in this effort to help our brothers and sisters in need may make a contribution directly to the organization via the agency's website: <https://support.catholiccharitiesusa.org>.

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 31 and 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 Nine will be covered on February 8. See page 2 for details.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

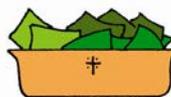
Sunday, January 31, 2016

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

Sunday, February 7, 2016

Is. 6:1-8; 1 Cor. 15:1-11; Lk. 5:1-11

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 24, 296 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$2,918. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$2,466, contributing to a weekend collection of \$5,384. This is \$534 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.paritypay.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 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>
Monday 12:30 pm	February 1, 2016 Charlie Garavan From <i>Nicola</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	February 2, 2016 Intentions of the DeSalvo and Betts Families From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	February 3, 2016 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	February 4, 2016 Luke Halligan From <i>Gemma Garcia and Family</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	February 5, 2016 Jimmy Newman From <i>Gemma Garcia and Family</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	February 6, 2016 Helen and Bruno Ruskowski Jr. From <i>Bruno Ruskowski</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	February 7, 2016 Magalis McNally From <i>Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Englese</i>
12:30 pm	Peter Walsh From <i>Joan and Peter Vicente</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

STEWARDSHIP



*"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous."
- 1 Corinthians 13:4*

Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more humility. Pray to become less self-centered and more God-centered.

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.

FAITH WORKS

Please remember to make a donation of non-perishable food items next weekend to support our "Faith Works Program." This is a very important work of charity that has benefited many in our community. Thank you for your contributions!



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.

PROGRAMS AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER

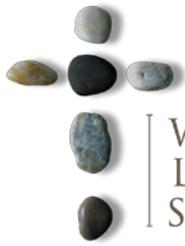
Latino Family Retreat Weekend (March 4-6, 2016). This retreat is open to families who wish to experience a family retreat in the Latino Community and culture. Along with traditional Marianist Family Retreat elements (Communication, Affirmation, Forgiveness & Commitment), Spanish language and Latino cultural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

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.

Caregivers Retreat Weekend (April 1-3, 2016). Open to primary caregivers for medically fragile or special needs family members, and to those adult children who are now caring for their aging parents. Led by caregivers, there will be daily Eucharist, prayer services, individual and group reflection time, and special liturgies. Cost is \$135 per person.

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



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 Appeal this spring.

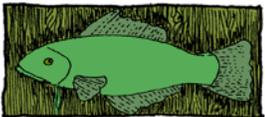
Financial resources are essential to enable our parishes, particularly Our Lady of Czestochowa, to continue supporting the journey of faith, spirituality and ministry of our expanding Catholic community. The Appeal's goal is to raise more than \$90 million in pledges to support six priorities: *A Parish 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.

ANNUAL FISH & CHIPS NIGHT

**FISH
DINNER**



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.

WOMEN'S COMMISSION DAY OF REFLECTION

All women are invited to the 2016 Day of Reflection, February 27 from 9:00 am – 1:30 pm, at Seton Hall University. Become "Alive in Christ" as we celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Leah Darrow and Sr. Miriam James Heidland are key note speakers. We are glad to share the stories of these women – stories of mercy, healing, freedom and Real Love. Registration begins at 8:00 am; \$20 admission/free to clergy and religious. Continental breakfast; English and Spanish track available. For more information, go to their website on www.rcan.org/womcom, email CatholicWomen@rcan.org or call 973-497-4545.

TALENTED MUSICIANS!

Can you play a musical instrument or are blessed with a wonderful singing voice? If so, we are in need of your musical ability here at our parish. Please contact Ben Rauch, the OLC Music Director, at: Directorofmusic@olcj.org.



REGISTER WITH YOUR PARISH/ REQUEST FOR PARISHIONER INFORMATION UPDATE



Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family

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@olcj.org.

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

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**.