



# 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.

## 1911 – 2017

**Very Rev. Thomas J. Ciba, V.F.**  
*Pastor*

**Rev. Gerard J. Sudol**  
*In Residence*

**Rev. Anthony Azzarto, 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.

**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 16, 2017**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Do you remember doing seed-growing experiments back in school? Seeds were planted in a variety of different conditions to see how—or if—they would grow. You learned that seeds needed proper conditions to develop into strong and healthy plants. Similarly, the “sower” of this week’s gospel reading plants seeds under four different conditions: he drops some on a path, plants some seeds in rocky soil, others among thorns, and still more in good soil. Not surprisingly, the seeds dropped on the road are promptly eaten by birds and will never grow. Meanwhile, both the seeds planted in rocky soil and under thorny conditions struggle and ultimately fail. Only the ones planted in good soil grow and flourish.

Essentially, a person’s reception of God’s Word “seed” is determined by the condition of his heart or “soil.” Salvation is more than a superficial, though joyful, hearing of the gospel. Sadly, there will always be people who dismiss Jesus’ message. Others may initially accept His teachings but ultimately reject them should their beliefs interfere with worldly concerns. Someone who is truly saved will go on to prove it, in word and deed. Inspired, they grow in faith, disseminating the gospel and caring for others. As Pastor Tony Evans explains, “Jesus is not looking for fans. He is looking for followers.” May our faith and our lives exemplify the “good soil” in the Parable of the Sower.

With Love,



### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION



We are enrolling children for the reception of their sacraments (First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation) for 2018. Registration will take place in the rectory between 10:00 am and 4:45 pm.

When you register, we will require a copy of your child’s baptismal certificate. The offering for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion is \$120. The offering for Confirmation is \$60.

If your child is receiving Confirmation in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, 7<sup>th</sup> graders must register for our two-year program. Should you have any questions, please call the rectory at **201-434-0798**.



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, pre-registration is extremely helpful**). Upcoming dates are:

**August 6, 2017; October 1, 2017**

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. The application is free and only takes a few minutes.

### MARRIAGE AT OLC



*We congratulate  
Eric Grodeck and Juliette Geary  
who celebrated their wedding ceremony at  
OLC Church on  
Friday, June 30, 2017  
May the Lord bless them with many happy  
years of marital bliss!*

### 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](http://www.olcjc.org) and reference “Formation and Sacraments.” Follow the link to “Baptism of Children,” or call the rectory. Upcoming dates are:

**September 10, 2017; November 5, 2017**

GATHERING TO UNDERSTAND is the second part of our Baptism program. If you are preparing for the

## 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](mailto:secretary@olcjc.org).

## 2017 EVENTS AT OLC

**OLC Seniors:** Meetings will resume in September. For more information, please contact Dorothy Bromirski at 201-333-4888.

**The OLC Adult Choir:** The choir rehearsal takes place on Sundays, 11:15 am and then sing at the 12:30 pm Mass. Please contact our music director Ben Rauch at: [Directorofmusic@olcjc.org](mailto: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, July 16, 2017

Is. 55:10-11; Rom. 8:18-23; Mt.13:1-23

### Sunday, July 23, 2017

Wis. 12:13, 16-19; Rom. 8:26-27; Mt. 13:24-43

## 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.

## OLC continues to face a financial crisis.

While our collections were up during the Easter Season, they have been dropping below our \$6,000 weekly goal again. Therefore, we still expect financial difficulties as we go forward. We ask a few things of you:



1. Use Parishpay if you cannot attend Mass each weekend.
2. Increase your weekly donation. We really need people to be as generous as possible each week to support the parish.
3. If you do not use Parishpay, please "make up" your regular donation the next time you attend Mass. To sign up for ParishPay, go to [www.paritypay.com](http://www.paritypay.com) and follow the prompts.

For the weekend of July 1/2, 385 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$3,484. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$2,318 contributing to a weekend collection of \$5,746. This is \$254 below our weekly goal of \$6,000.

For the weekend of July 8/9, 316 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$4,403. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$1,995 contributing to a weekend collection of \$6,398. This is \$398 above 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. Remember that although it is important to support your parish financially, your donation is ultimately a gift back to God for his blessings.

## LOW-COST WELLNESS CLINIC FOR PETS



Liberty Humane Society

We want to help you keep your pet healthy! Liberty Humane Society offers low-cost preventative pet health services to the public every

Wednesday from 4:00 pm-6:00 pm. Pets are seen on a first-come, first-served basis. The Liberty Humane Society is located at 235 Jersey City Blvd. Jersey City, NJ 07305 (across from the Liberty Science Center).

## CATHOLIC HOMESCHOOL CONFERENCE



The Immaculate Heart of Mary New York Homeschool Conference will be held at Ramapo College (at the Student Center) in Mahwah, NJ on Friday, July 28 (12:00

pm – 6:00 pm) and on Saturday, July 29 (9:30 am – 3:30 pm). This is the perfect event for those who are curious and want to discover more about Catholic homeschooling. Admission is free and pre-registration is not required. For more information, please visit: [www.ihmconference.org](http://www.ihmconference.org) or email: [info@ihmconference.org](mailto:info@ihmconference.org).

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>July 15, 2017</b> Diane Wisniewski From <i>Julia Nowatkowski</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>July 16, 2017</b> Walter and Victoria Czysz & Family From <i>Laura Czysz; Cathy, Fred and Allie Savage</i>
12:30 pm	Rev. Constantine Ferdyn, 1 <sup>st</sup> Pastor (106 <sup>th</sup> Ann.)
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
<b>Monday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>July 17, 2017</b> Kathy Belloise From <i>Anna Mae Stefanelli and OLC School Staff</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>July 18, 2017</b> Rev. Roy De Leo From <i>Friend</i>
<b>Wednesday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>July 19, 2017</b> Communion Service
<b>Thursday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>July 20, 2017</b> Bill and Barbara Burns & Family From <i>Michael Burke</i>
<b>Friday</b> 12:30 pm	<b>July 21, 2017</b> All Souls in Purgatory From <i>Jeff and Dan</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 pm	<b>July 22, 2017</b> Ricky Ramos From <i>Marta Galarza</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 10:00 am	<b>July 23, 2017</b> Benjamin Paz From <i>Pilar Paz and Children</i>
12:30 pm	Peter Zampella From <i>Dan and Jeff</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

## STEWARDSHIP



*“The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then the cares of the world and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit.”*  
- Matthew 13:22

Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in worldly activities that you have no time for God? Stewardship is a lifestyle to be lived every day. It affects all the decisions we make. What we receive at Mass every Sunday should be shared with others all the other days of the week.

## WORLD YOUTH DAY UNITE FESTIVAL

On Saturday, July 22, join other young adults (18 to 39 years of age) and young families for a day of inspiring talks, amazing worship, a unity walk with Mary, dinner, entertainment and an incredible experience of Eucharistic Adoration. The festival will be held at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, D.C. Register at [www.wydunde.com](http://www.wydunde.com). To learn more about the day or to inquire about the **FREE** transportation being provided by the Archdiocese of Newark, please go to [www.newarkoym.com](http://www.newarkoym.com) or contact Rich Donovan at 201-998-0088 ext. 4150 for more information.



## BE A BLOOD OR PLATELETS DONOR

Thanks to the commitment and generosity of its donors, Community Blood Services has been serving our community's transfusion medicine needs for more than 60 years. They provide life-saving blood and blood products to hospitals in New Jersey and New York, bone marrow registration and donor services, and public and private umbilical cord blood collection and storage. The New Jersey Cord Blood Bank is the only public cord blood bank for the State of New Jersey. Community Blood Services needs donors to help seriously ill patients in our community hospitals. Anyone interested in scheduling an appointment to become a donor can call 201-444-3900, or visit their website at [www.communitybloodservices.org](http://www.communitybloodservices.org) for times and locations.

## MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER JERSEY CITY KICKOFF

The American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk unites communities to support each other by honoring those touched by the disease and raising awareness and funds to fight for a world without breast cancer. There will be a kickoff event Thursday, August 17 at the Best Western-Robert Treat Hotel at 50 Park Place, Newark, N.J. As the largest network of breast cancer events across the nation, more than one million passionate participants support Making Strides events each year. Dollars raised by Making Strides supporters help the American Cancer Society ensure no one faces breast cancer alone by funding innovative breast cancer research; promoting education and risk reduction; and providing comprehensive patient support to those who need it most. To attend the kickoff event, please RSVP via email [Theodore.Eldracher@cancer.org](mailto:Theodore.Eldracher@cancer.org) or phone 973-232-2566 no later than August 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you can't attend the kickoff but would like to be involved, please contact Theodore Eldracher at the information above. This year's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer will take place on Sunday, October 22, 2017.

## NEW EXHIBIT AT THE DRAWING ROOMS - "CAN-MAN SHOW"



Now through July 22, come and see Outsider Art by artists from our Rainbow Thursdays Artists group. Rainbow Thursdays Artists create out of their own personal vision and inner drive and are not professionally trained. They work "outside" the professional art and scholastic world.

Rainbow Thursdays is our community-based art education program connecting disabled adults with professional artists who provide them with materials, training and encouragement to express themselves through art. Rainbow Thursdays classes are presented free of charge, and are funded in part by a CDBG grant from the City of Bayonne. This weekly outreach art program in cooperation with Windmill Alliance, is now in its fourth full year of operation and many of our participants are advancing in their creativity and skills and are developing an identity as an artist. The Drawing Rooms are located at 180 Grand Street, Jersey City. For more information, go to [www.drawing-rooms.org](http://www.drawing-rooms.org). We hope to see you there!

## TEEN CHALLENGE NEW JERSEY FAITH-BASED DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT PROGRAM

Teen Challenge is a 15-month Christian residential drug and alcohol recovery program for men and women 18 years and older. There are eight centers across the New England states and New Jersey. The program has a strong, faith-based approach and offers spiritual, academic, and vocational training that equips



individuals to return to society as responsible citizens. It is the organization's mission that every student who graduates the

program leaves with a GED or HiSet diploma. They offer Aftercare Planning and Development with five different track options to help the student's transition back into society with success. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older, demonstrate a sincere desire to change, and willing to consider a Christian treatment approach. For more information, please go to their website: [www.tcnewjersey.org](http://www.tcnewjersey.org), call 973-374-226 or email [director@tcnewjersey.org](mailto:director@tcnewjersey.org).

## JERSEY CITY MOMS MEETUP

Have kids? New in town? Want to meet other families? Check out Jersey City Moms Meetup at: [www.meetup.com/jerseycitymoms](http://www.meetup.com/jerseycitymoms). The group's overall goal is to foster friendships for moms and their families. They host a variety of family-friendly events that in-

clude husbands, partners and extended family members. They help many families connect to the greater JC community by providing opportunities to get together with other moms and families in the neighborhood by setting up play dates, exchanging information, sharing experiences and providing support, as well as connecting to other moms on their message boards.



## FAMILY BEACH RETREATS AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER

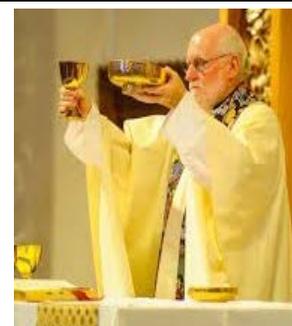


**Summer Family Retreat Weeks (One-Week Sessions available now through August 26, 2017).** Join other families (grandparents welcome) for a week of liturgies, presentations, peer group discussions, family sharing, fun activities and swimming in Cape May, NJ. All join in community tasks such as meal clean-up. Cost is \$215 per person (8 years to adults) and \$140 per person (2-7 years). Maximum family fee is \$1,250 per family/\$950 per single-parent family.

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.capemay-marianists.org](http://www.capemay-marianists.org).

## VISIT FROM CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH PRIEST ON AUGUST 5/6

Father Edward Aigner, Jr. of Cross Catholic Outreach will be visiting our parish the weekend of August 5/6 to speak at all the Masses on behalf of the poor in developing countries. Cross Catholic Outreach was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America.



Father Aigner has served in parishes both in Delaware and Maryland's eastern shore, and has been Chaplain at a major state prison for over 25 years. For 15 years, he was Adjunct Faculty for the Loyola Institute of Ministry Extension program. During his time as pastor in Salisbury, Fr. Aigner often traveled to Nicaragua to maintain a sister-parish relationship with our Lady of Mercy parish in Managua.