



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.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 23, 2017

FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Parishioners,

Continuing with last week's theme of sowing seeds, the Gospel this week prepares those who hear with the knowledge that we are called to grow even in the face of struggles and evil in the world. Christ takes care to explain that the good seeds which grew strong would be gathered into the barn, meaning the righteous would be taken in by God. For those who turned away from God, they too will face the result of their actions on the last day.

It may feel uncomfortable to hear this parable as we are left on the earth to face the struggles of evil, but we can take strength from Christ's words. When the final judgement arrives, God's will shall be done and all will be separated, the wheat from the weeds. If we carry God's love in our hearts, if we follow God's call to peace, if we are servants to others, we too can follow Christ into God's Kingdom. The message of Christ that takes root in our hearts will open the doors. No matter the struggle, if we follow God's path, we will be called Home. We will not fear to suffer, but we will always seek to follow the path Christ made for us.

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 8th grade, 7th 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

*Alexandra Luksha and Marc Fitapelli
who celebrated their wedding ceremony at
OLC Church*

Friday, July 14, 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 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.

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.

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 23, 2017

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

Sunday, July 30, 2017

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

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.parishpay.com and follow the prompts.

For the weekend of July 15/16, 340 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$2,711. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$2,152.16 contributing to a weekend collection of \$4,863.16. This is \$1,137 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. Remember that although it is important to support your parish financially, your donation is ultimately a gift back to God for his blessings.

FAITH WORKS



Please remember to make a donation of non-perishable food items the first weekend in August 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!

As a reminder, we accept all non-perishable foods. We accept soups, canned fish and canned meats, gravies (Italian and brown), pasta, rice, cereals, oat meal, flour, sugar, condiments, cookies, crackers, etc.

We accept toiletries: soaps, shampoos, tooth paste, combs, hair products, etc.

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 or email: info@ihmconference.org.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	July 22, 2017 Ricky Ramos From <i>Marta Galarza</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	July 23, 2017 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
Monday 12:30 pm	July 24, 2017 Donald Puckey, 3 rd Anniversary From <i>Family</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	July 25, 2017 Intentions of Marita Burke From <i>Michael Burke</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	July 26, 2017 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	July 27, 2017 Graciela Bosques From <i>Evelyn Alpert</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	July 28, 2017 Graciela Bosques From <i>Norma Sanchez</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	July 29, 2017 Diane Wisniewski From <i>Rose Rokosz</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	July 30, 2017 Intention of Maria Luce From <i>Elena</i>
12:30 pm	John Joseph Columbo From <i>Kathleen Boyle</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

STEWARDSHIP



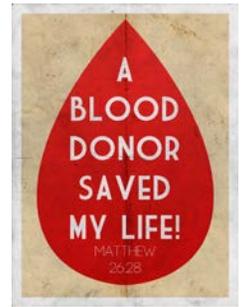
"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field...He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom." - MATTHEW 13:24, 37-38

As children of God, we are all "good seeds," blessed by God with the potential to accomplish much good in the world. We fulfill God's plan when we share our talents and our financial gifts to help build God's kingdom on earth. Through our stewardship we sow "good seeds" on earth to ultimately help each other get to Heaven!

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 for times and locations.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS



Our RCIA program (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is now beginning. This program is intended for adults who desire to become Catholic. It is also intended for adults who desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

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If you wish to join in the program, please contact the rectory. Completing the program, an unbaptized candidate will be baptized during the Easter Vigil, 2018. All others will receive their appropriate sacraments during the Easter season 2018.

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 or phone 973-232-2566 no later than August 3. 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.



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**NEW EXHIBIT AT THE DRAWING ROOMS -
DRESS REHEARSAL**



Drawing Rooms is pleased to host **Dress Rehearsal**, an exhibit featuring artists currently working towards their Master's degrees at New Jersey City University. This exhibition will run from July 28th until August 12th.

**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, call 973-374-226 or email 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. The group's overall goal is to foster friendships for moms and their families. They host a variety of family-friendly

events that include 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.

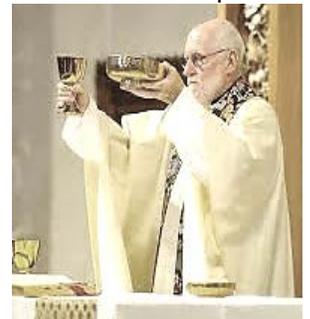
Cost is \$215 per person (8 years to adults) and \$140 per person (2-7 years). Maximum family fee is \$1,250 per family/\$950 per single-parent family.



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.capemarymarianists.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.

REGISTER WITH YOUR PARISH

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.



12 DAY PILGRIMAGE IN POLAND

Planning ahead for 2018, you can participate in a European Pilgrimage that will visit sites around Poland, the Czech Republic, Austria, and Hungary. The twelve day tour departs from New York and goes to Warsaw. Additional information is available through Estela Austria, 32-11 55th Street, Apt 1, Woodside, NY 11377, or by calling 347-605-8625.

