



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.

Fifth Sunday of Lent – March 22, 2015

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Lent is about Easter, and Easter is about life after death. In this week's Gospel reading, Jesus speaks abundantly about both life and death. During the Passover feast in Jerusalem, some Greeks approached Jesus' disciples and asked to speak with him. Jesus agreed and spoke to his visitors cryptically, "...The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified..." John 12:20-23 This meeting appears to be a signal for Jesus that the hour for his long-appointed task is near. He is, of course, speaking of his own death.

Jesus speaks of the mystery of life coming through death. "...Truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit..." John 12:24 Christ is the seed and the fruit he speaks of are the people who will become his followers. The people to whom the light of truth will be revealed by His death. Those who believe that we are all redeemed through Christ's sacrifice; the sacrifice that will redeem us all. When Jesus instructs us to follow him, he asks for us to emulate him. We should approach God with all the reverence, humility and self-sacrifice due to Him.

Although Jesus is briefly troubled by the knowledge of his imminent suffering and death, he ultimately fulfills his purpose here on earth: to die so that we all may live. He surrenders himself faithfully to his Father's will in the same way he wants us to surrender to God.

With love,



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 olcjc.org and reference "Formation and Sacraments." Follow the link to "Baptism of Children," or call the rectory. Upcoming dates are:

May 3, 2015, July 5, 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:

April 12, 2015, June 7, 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, March 23, 7:30 pm, in the rectory. Our tenth and final topic will be, "World Without End – The Last Things." We will explore the Church's conviction that life here and now is preparation for an extraordinary world that is yet to come: a supernatural destiny. We will explore the Catholic vision of death, judgment, heaven, hell and purgatory as our video takes us to Florence, Ireland and Rome.



The vision of the Church sees beyond this world and invites us to consider a world without end. Our presentation shows how this vision is supported by the mystery and truth of the Resurrection of Jesus.

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. We pray that it will also be inspirational.

EASTER FLOWER COLLECTION/ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO DECORATE CHURCH

We will conduct our Easter Flower Collection this weekend, March 21/22. Your generosity will enable us to decorate the church in a manner worthy of its beauty for our Easter Celebration. Please be generous when we take up this collection.

We will enlist the help of volunteers to decorate the church for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. Please call the rectory to volunteer, even if only for an hour. You may also sign up to volunteer after Mass.



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.

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@olcj.org.

2015 EVENTS AT OLC

OLC Seniors: Nashville, TN trip balance is due April 2. The April 8 Easter Celebration meeting will be in the Church Hall, 1 pm. Lunch will be served; cost TBD. April 20 trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse to see "Abie's Irish Rose"; \$55 per person fee due by April 13. 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@olcj.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, March 22, 2015

Jer. 31:31-34; Heb. 5:7-9; Jn. 12:20-33

Sunday, March 29, 2015

Mk. 11:1-10; Is. 50:4-7; Phil. 2:6-11; Mk. 14:1-15:47

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 March 15, 397 people attended Mass. The collection in church amounted to \$3,389. ParishPay donations for the past week were \$2,332, contributing to a weekend collection of \$5,721. This is \$ 279 below our weekly goal of \$6,000.

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.

ANNUAL EASTER GIFT APPEAL

As many parishioners know, the "Christmas Gift" and "Easter Gift" programs have been longstanding traditions here at OLC. Funds raised through the "Christmas Gift" are dedicated to a special capital project. Funds donated as the "Easter Gift" are dedicated to the operating budget. This year we will dedicate the Easter Gift to both. We are suggesting a gift of \$200. You may make your "Easter Gift" in one payment or in installments. Thank you so very much for your past financial generosity. It is a powerful statement of your dedication and love for Christ and for His Church. We at OLC are sincerely grateful. Regardless of your pledge amount, whether it is \$5.00, \$150 or more, you are always in our prayers. God bless you!



DOWNTOWN HARVEST COMMUNITY (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.

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. We collect canned vegetables, soups, meats, fruits, sauces and gravies, etc. Additionally, we collect pastas, rice, etc. Along with food products, we accept donations of toiletries, baby food and baby products.

We thank you for your donations. Please remember that we are not accepting winter coats or clothing at this time.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 5:00 pm	March 21, 2015 Stanislaw (57 th Anniv.) and Julianna Stapinski From <i>Terri and Ted, children</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	March 22, 2015 Frank Michael Flannery From <i>Reyes Family</i>
12:30 pm	Rev. Martin Piasecki, 6 th Pastor – (20 th Anniv).
7:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday 12:30 pm	March 23, 2015 Deceased Members and Friends of the Tran Family From <i>Kim Mom</i>
Tuesday 12:30 pm	March 24, 2015 Deceased Members of Siwik Family From <i>Donna and Mark Simon</i>
Wednesday 12:30 pm	March 25, 2015 Communion Service
Thursday 12:30 pm	March 26, 2015 Deceased Members and Friends of the Mom Family From <i>Kim Mom</i>
Friday 12:30 pm	March 27, 2015 Deceased Members and Friends of the Huynh Family From <i>Kim Mom</i>
Saturday 5:00 pm	March 28, 2015 Florence Kyc (2 nd Ann.) From <i>Family</i>
Sunday 10:00 am	March 29, 2015 Barbara Speck From <i>Pat Rubino</i>
12:30 pm	William Bromirski From <i>Theresa J. Smith</i>
7:00 pm	People of the Parish

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

STEWARDSHIP



"I will be their God and they shall be my people." – Jeremiah 31:33

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us.

It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our neighbors and the world, just as God cares for us.

OLC CHURCH'S 6TH ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

We will have our Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday morning, April 4, 10:00 am. The location is on the parish field at the end of Sussex Street. Children from the earliest ages to age 10 are invited. Bring your Easter baskets or bags. Raindate is Saturday, April 11. Bring your cameras and make certain that you arrive ahead of time. Even though we put out about a thousand eggs, the stam-pede of children usually collects all of them within about five minutes. We will need some volunteers to help the Easter Bunny put out the eggs on the field.



WANTED: USED OR NEW COMMUNION DRESSES AND SUITS

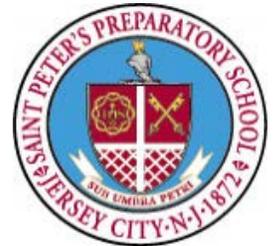
The Archdiocese of Newark will be organizing their second annual collection of gently used and new communion outfits. Last year, over 400 dresses and suits were donated! A child's First Communion is a special day for any family and the Archdiocese wants to ensure that financial hardship does not pose 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.

ST. PETER'S PREP OPEN HOUSE

Saint Peter's Preparatory School will be holding its 2015 Spring Open House on Sunday, May 3, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm at the school's campus in historic downtown Jersey City. Faculty and staff as well as coaches, students and parents, will be present to answer questions about the school, and tours of the campus will be provided. Founded in 1872, Saint Peter's Prep is an independent, college preparatory school for boys and it remains New Jersey's only Jesuit high school. For more information on the Spring Open House, please call **201-547-6389**.



TALENTED MUSICIANS!



Calling All Parishioners at OLC who can play a musical instrument, or are blessed with a wonderful singing voice, please contact Ben Rauch the OLC Music Director. We are in need of your musical ability here at our parish. Please don't hesitate to contact Ben Rauch at Directorofmusic@olcjc.org.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal

Who does the Annual Appeal serve?

Your gift to Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal funds vital ministries and programs in the Archdiocese of Newark, including YOUR parish and local Church services. The Annual Appeal provides funding for the following essential programs and ministries:

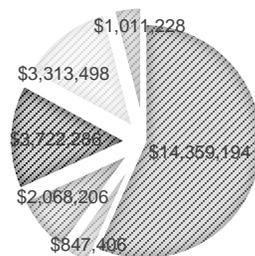
FISCAL YEAR 2015

This chart represents the total expenses for the services/programs listed below (excluding Catholic Charities). The Annual Appeal funds nearly 40 percent of the budget shown below. Other resources, such as parish assessments, fund the remaining balances.

The Annual Appeal rebates received by parishes that exceeded their Annual Appeal goal and funds raised through the Annual Appeal designated for Seton Hall University are included in the "Parish and School Subsidies."

Catholic Charities receives a gift in the amount indicated on the right from the Archdiocese of Newark.

- Parish and School Subsidies
- Youth and Young Adult Ministry
- Catholic Charities
- Priest Retirement Residences and Health Care Costs
- Seminarian Education and Formation
- Campus Ministry



Parishes: The Archdiocese of Newark is comprised of 219 vibrant parishes within Bergen, Essex, Hudson, and Union Counties. Many parishes would not be able to keep their doors open if not for the generosity of those who support the Annual Appeal. In addition, those parishes that exceed their Annual Appeal goal receive a rebate that may be used for repairs or assisting those in need at the parish.

Catholic Education: The 66 elementary and 28 high schools in the Archdiocese of Newark provide children with a quality education that utilizes modern technology. At the same time, students are instilled with something that never is too old-fashioned: Christ-centered values. Our Catholic Schools have a 100% graduation rate with over 97% of seniors pursuing a college education.

Seminarian Education & Formation: The Archdiocese of Newark is blessed with three seminaries in the Archdiocese of Newark that educate and train our future priests. These seminaries are currently educating and forming over 125 men for the priesthood. In several recent years, the Archdiocese of Newark has ordained more men to the priesthood than any diocese in the United States.

Priest Retirement and Health Care Costs: After dedicating their lives to the Church, many retired priests continue to serve local parishes. We currently care for and serve over 200 retired priests who have faithfully served our local Church. The Annual Appeal helps to supplement the increasing healthcare costs for our retired priests as well as provide funding for two retirement homes.

Catholic Charities: Each year Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark helps more than 80,000 individuals with food, clothing, shelter, special education and social programs from sites around the four counties we serve. This includes the 52,000 people served through its Emergency Food and Nutrition Food Pantry Network and nearly

6,000 people who were placed in temporary residences while they found jobs and were able to get back on their feet.

Campus Ministry: Campus Ministers are based at 10 different college campuses throughout the Archdiocese and are charged with the task of bringing our Faith to thousands of college-aged students. These campus ministers help to engage young people in their Faith and bring others to the Catholic Faith through retreats, special events, and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

Youth Ministry: CYO provides young people with the opportunity to attend retreats, increase their knowledge of the Catholic Faith, and participate in a wide variety of sports and recreation programs in both summer and year-round programs.

Pledge literature is found in the pews. Please use the pledge envelope to make a pledge or donation. Thank you in advance for your support of the Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

Tuesday, March 31, 2015

Parish Penance Service, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday, April 2, 2015

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 3, 2015

Stations of the Cross, 3:00 p.m.
Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 7:00 p.m. (Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion).



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Holy Saturday, April 4, 2015

Blessing of Food, 1:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday Night

Mass of Vigil, 8:00 p.m. (Service of Light, Liturgies of the Word, Celebration of Sacraments of Initiation, Eucharist and Confirmation).

Easter Sunday, April 5, 2015

Masses: 10:00 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

THERE IS NO 7:00 p.m. Mass

WEEKEND RETREATS AT THE MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER

Holy Week Triduum: Looking for a special way to celebrate the Triduum this year? Join other like-minded families, couples and individuals, from Holy Thursday April 2 to Easter Sunday April 5 for Holy Week liturgies, quiet time and community building. Meals included. Cost is \$145 for ages 8 and older; \$95 for children aged 2-7. Please call 609-884-3829 for more information or email: mfrfc@capemaymarianists.org.

Widows Retreat Weekend: If you are recently widowed, it may feel like no one will understand your grief. Join us April 10-12 and be with others who are willing to share their stories of loss and eventual hope. Cost is \$130 per person and includes accommodations, meals and activities. For more information, please call Madge at 856-848-5346 or Pam at 856-783-0218 or email: mfrfc@capemaymarianists.org.